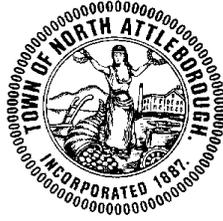


Michael D. Borg
Town Manager



TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
43 South Washington Street
North Attleborough MA 02760
508-699-0100

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: Monday, June 10, 2024
TO: Town Council
FROM: Michael D. Borg, Town Manager
RE: Town Manager Report

Below are key activities, that I think would be of interest:

1. Emergency Management Updates

- **Webster Mill Building:** Updated FAQs available [online](#). The remaining structure is secured; debris disposal plans are in progress with property owners.
- **FEMA Disaster Relief:** Updated FAQ's available [online](#) @ <https://www.nattleboro.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=382>

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE IS JULY 15, 2024

2. Community Events and Communications

- **Communications:**
 - **Podcast: Town Hall Talks-(June 4, 2024) FEMA Flood Assistance- Discussion for FEMA's Individual Assistance Process-**Town Manager Borg, Fire Chief Chris Coleman, FEMA Joint Information Center Manager and Spokesperson Kim Fuller, and Media Relations Specialist and Spokesperson Lorriane Valle Rodriguez

Find the Town Hall Talks podcast [HERE](#) on Spotify

- **Fish Advisory:** Town Officials Announce Fish Advisory Following Discovery of PFAS in North Basin of Falls Pond. Mercury Found in Fish at Falls and Whiting's Pond
- **Residents are advised that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection notified the town that it is safe to swim in Falls Pond even with the current PFAS level.** For additional information, please call the MA Department of Public Health at 617-624-5757 or the North Attleborough Health Department at 508-699-0100

- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Farmers Market:** Every Wednesday until September 11, 2024- 5:00PM- 8:00PM
 - **Richard’s Memorial Library’s Summer Reading Program:** Read, Renew, Repeat Begins today June 10, 2024. To read more please go to <https://www.rmlonline.org/summer-reading-read-renew-repeat>
 - **Happy 130th Birthday Richards Memorial Library:** Saturday, June 15, 2024 12:00PM-2:00PM; Pop-Up Exhibit/Cake/Scavenger Hunt and More!

3. Operational and Economic Development

- **PFAS Update:**
 - Congress Auchincloss hosted a PFAS Summit at Boston College on May 30th and heard from speakers from the Regional EPA office, DEP, and industry leaders. Mark Hollowell and I both attended this conference. I would request an opportunity for Mark Hollowell and myself to address the Town Council and provide an update on our current efforts regarding PFAS at the next Town Council meeting.
- **DPW Updates:**
 - **2024 Water Restriction:** Updated FAQs available [online @ https://www.nattleboro.com/DocumentCenter/View/7478/2024-Water-Restriction-Notice-PDF](https://www.nattleboro.com/DocumentCenter/View/7478/2024-Water-Restriction-Notice-PDF)
 - **North Washington Street Sidewalk Reconstruction Project:** Replacement of concrete sidewalks on both sides of North Washington St. from Fisher St. to East Washington St. and Park St.
 - **North Attleborough Partners with Black Earth Compost to Offer Food Waste Composting Initiative.** The first 150 Applicants to Receive Free Kitchen Scrap Toter. More information available [online @ https://www.nattleboro.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=385](https://www.nattleboro.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=385)
- **Bristol County Mosquito Control Project now accepting resident’s Adulticide Requests:**
 - To make a request, residents can call (508) 823-5253, fax (508) 828-1868, or e-mail a spray request to: RequestBristolMCP@comcast.net.
- **Recreation Signups:** <https://northattleboroughma.myrec.com/info/activities/default.aspx>

4. Financial Matters

- **Funds Transfer Notification:** Funding to cover Salary Expenses in the amount of \$18,000.00 for the Human Resources Director’s Retirement Payout. (see attached)

5. Personnel Updates

- **NAFD Captain Brian Kelley** recently graduated from the managing Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD
- **Tammy Baillargeon Assistant Town Accountant** is now a Certified Governmental Accountant (CGA). She passed both the Legal & the Practical tests. 63 people took the exam and only 11 passed.

5. Employment Opportunities

- **Current Openings:**
 - Veterans Agent (Regional) (Full-time)-closes June 22, 2024
 - Municipal Utility Inspector, Water & Sewer (Full-time)-open until filled
 - Water Quality Supervisor, DPW (Full-time)-open until filled
 - Bus Driver, Parks & Recreation & Senior Center (Part time)-open until filled
 - Recycling Center Attendant, Solid Waste (Part time)
 - Numerous opportunities in the School Department ([view listings](#)).

Massachusetts Storms and Flooding

Sept. 11-13, 2023

Key Messages

On May 15, 2024, President Biden issued a major disaster declaration for the severe storms and flooding that took place September 11-13, 2023 in Bristol and Worcester counties.

- As of May 31, 2024, 601 survivors have been approved for more than **\$3.5 million** in FEMA assistance:
 - Total assistance: **\$3,563,895**
 - Housing Assistance: **\$2,120,344**
 - Other Needs: **\$1,443,551**

Federal Assistance may include grants for temporary housing, uninsured or underinsured home repairs and personal property, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the disaster.

The deadline to apply for federal disaster assistance is **July 15, 2024**.

FEMA Funding can Assist All Eligible Applicants Who Apply

- Survivors who had loss or damage from the severe storms and flooding that occurred September 11-13, 2023 may have already reported their damages to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, spoken to someone from FEMA, or registered for assistance with a community organization. That does not mean they have applied for federal assistance with FEMA Both renters and owners are eligible to apply for housing assistance.
- Apply to FEMA in one of the following ways:
 - Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
 - Download the [FEMA App](#)
 - Call **1-800-621-3362**. Help is available in most languages. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or another relay service, give FEMA your number for that service when you call. Phone lines operate from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week.
- Once you complete the application for FEMA assistance, you will receive a FEMA registration number which will confirm your registration.



- Though FEMA needs to know your insurance information, you can apply for FEA assistance even before your insurance claim is processed. FEMA by law cannot duplicate assistance provided by insurance. You can later report any settlement or denial letter from your insurance company to FEMA.
- FEMA's Individual Assistance may be able to help with:
 - **Serious Needs Assistance:** For immediate household needs (e.g. food, clothing, transportation)
 - **Displacement Assistance:** For short-term housing needs (up to 14 days)
 - **Lodging Expense Reimbursement:** Assistance for short-term hotel/motel stays due to the disaster
 - **Rental Assistance:** For temporary housing needs (more than 14 days)
 - **Housing Repair:** For disaster-caused damage to your home
 - **Other Needs Assistance:** To repair or replace personal property

FEMA May Help with Recovery Expenses Already Paid

FEMA may be able to reimburse survivors for repair, rebuilding or replacement expenses already made for the September storms. As survivors pay for repairs and replacements, they should save their receipts.

FEMA will only approve home repairs that are necessary to restore the home to a habitable condition. This may include drywall, flooring, insulation, roofing and HVAC.

Applicants must meet the following conditions to receive Personal Property Assistance:

- The item needs to be repaired or replaced due to disaster damage.
- The occupants of the household have an unmet need for the damaged item. FEMA may not provide assistance if the applicant can meet that need with another similar item in their possession or available to the household. This need can be related to employment or self-employment.
- The item was owned and being used by occupants of the household. FEMA does not provide assistance for furnishings and/or appliances provided by a landlord. Items used by guests and relatives who were not members of the pre-disaster household are not eligible for assistance.

Massachusetts Renters Can Apply for FEMA Assistance

- FEMA Individual Assistance is available to renters, including students, as well as homeowners. Federal grants can help pay for temporary housing.
- Renters may also qualify for a grant under FEMA's Other Needs Assistance program for uninsured essential personal property losses, such as childcare, medical/dental, transportation repair or replacement, moving/storage assistance, and other disaster-related expenses.

What to Expect After You Apply for FEMA Assistance

- Within 10 days after registering, a FEMA Inspector may call you to schedule an appointment.
- During the appointment, inspectors will:
 - Wear official FEMA ID badges.
 - Confirm your disaster registration number.
 - Review structural and personal property damages.
- Inspectors will not:
 - Determine eligibility.
 - Take any money or ask for credit card information.
 - Take the place of an insurance inspection.
- You should keep your scheduled appointment. Appointments will take 10-20 minutes and you or someone you choose to represent you must be present. Contact your insurance agent if you have insurance.
- Within 10 days after the inspector's visit, you may receive your decision in the requested format, such as for the visually or cognitively impaired. If eligible for assistance, you will receive a check or an electronic funds transfer. A follow-up letter will explain how the money can be used.

Disaster Assistance Teams

- DSA teams from FEMA are canvassing neighborhoods and helping storm-affected residents apply for FEMA disaster assistance. They are visiting homes, schools, and nonprofits. They are also meeting with local officials and community leaders to identify disaster-related issues and unmet needs.
- DSA teams never ask for a fee or accept money for disaster assistance or help filling out applications. DSA teams wear a FEMA identification badge with a photograph – a FEMA shirt, vest or jacket is not proof of identity. With an applicant's permission, DSA team members may ask for personal information to help them register onsite through a tablet. Residents are encouraged to ask for federal identification before providing any personal information.
- If you do not speak English well or need an interpreter, a DSA team member will be able to contact an interpreter to provide you with one.

Disaster Recovery Centers

- **Locations:**

- Leominster City Hall, 25 West Street, Leominster, MA 01453
- Bristol Community College, 11 Field Road, Attleboro, MA 02703

DRC Hours: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- Disaster Recovery Centers provide information from Massachusetts state agencies, FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Survivors can visit to get help applying for federal assistance, update applications and learn about available resources and speak to someone in person.
- Centers are accessible to people with disabilities or who may not speak English well or need American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation services. The facilities are equipped with assistive technology equipment, including, Video Remote Interpreting, large print or braille material and amplified listening systems.
- If you need a reasonable accommodation, sign language interpreter, or translation or interpreter assistance, please let a FEMA specialist at the center know. If a disaster survivor cannot travel to the DRC, FEMA will arrange a home visit.

Understanding Your FEMA Letter

- If you applied for assistance, you will receive a letter from FEMA in the requested format explaining the status of your application.
- Review your letter carefully. If you are found ineligible, the letter will explain why, and how you can appeal.
- Questions about your letter can be answered by calling FEMA's Helpline 800-621-3362 or visiting a Disaster Recovery Center.
- If you do not agree with FEMA's decision about your eligibility, you may file an appeal.
- Appeals can be made in person at a Disaster Recovery Center, or over the phone within 60 days of the date of the determination letter. Supporting documents may be submitted to FEMA by fax, mail or via a FEMA online account. To set up an online account, visit [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/assistance), click on "Apply Online" and follow the directions. **By mail:** FEMA National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville MD 20782-7055. **By fax:** 800-827-8112 Attention: FEMA.

Beware of Fraud and Scams

- FEMA encourages survivors to be aware of fraud and scams.
- Common tactics used by these criminals include phone calls from people claiming to work for FEMA. The caller might ask for the survivor's Social Security number and income or banking information. Giving out this type of information can help an unscrupulous person make a false claim for assistance or commit identity theft.
- If you suspect fraud, call the FEMA Disaster Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721. If you suspect identity theft, visit the Federal Trade Commission's website at [identitytheft.gov](https://www.ftc.gov).

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- SBA disaster loans are the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds for survivors. Businesses, homeowners, renters and certain nonprofits that were affected by the disaster may apply online for low- interest disaster loans at lending.sba.gov. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov for more information.

FEMA Assistance Won't Affect Other Benefits

- FEMA assistance is not taxable, and it will not affect eligibility for other federal programs, such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency or economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, you can call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.

Spotlight

Posted on: May 31, 2024

North Attleborough Partners with Black Earth Compost to Offer Food Waste Composting Initiative

First 150 Applicants to Receive Free Kitchen Scrap Toter

The Solid Waste Department has partnered with Black Earth Compost to offer a food waste composting initiative for residents on the Town's trash and recycling program.

As part of the program, three 64-gallon food waste toters will be stationed at the Recycling Center, 777 Mount Hope St., for residents to drop off their food waste at no cost. Residents who participate in the Town's trash and recycling program and have a current 2024 Recycling Center Sticker affixed to their vehicle can take their food waste to the Recycling Center during their normal business hours. These toters will be emptied every Wednesday by Black Earth.

The first 150 residents who fill out an online form on the town's website (<https://www.nattleboro.com/foodwaste>) will receive a free kitchen scrap toter and liner. Once registered, the first 150 residents to sign up will then be contacted to schedule a date and time for them to retrieve their toters and liners from the Recycling Center.

Module Tools

[RSS](#)

[Notify Me®](#)

[View Archived](#)

Category Pages

- [All Categories](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Spotlight](#)
- [Spotlight - Economic Development](#)
- [Snow](#)

Please note that residents with a 2024 Recycling Center Sticker who don't receive a free bucket may still drop off their food waste at the Recycling Center but must use their own container to transfer the scraps from their homes to the 64-gallon totes.

Curbside Program

In addition to dropping food waste off at the Recycling Center, Black Earth also offers curbside pickup for residents for a fee. However, the Town will need roughly 100 or so participants to sign up before Black Earth will offer the curbside program in North Attleborough. Please note that if offered, the curbside pickup will not be covered by the Solid Waste Department and that those who would like this service must pay for it themselves.

To pre-register for curbside food scrap collection, visit <https://blackearthcompost.com/residential-curbside-compost-pickup/>.

The first 150 households that sign up for the curbside program will receive a free starter kit, including a curbside bin and liners, courtesy of the Solid Waste Department via MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) grant funding. Residents should note that while the starter kit is free, receiving the starter kit does not equate to free curbside service. Residents will be required to pay for the curbside service themselves upon receiving their free starter kit.

Those with questions can contact the Solid Waste Department at 508-699-0100 ext. 6537.

###

TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH

**REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS
BETWEEN OR WITHIN DEPARTMENTS**

Date: _____ 5/31/2024

Department: _____ Human Resources Department

Amount Requested: \$ _____ 18,000

1. To be transferred from:

Account Name: Salary Reserve

Account Number: Org=019498 OBJ 518000

Present balance in appropriation: \$ _____ 211,284.84

2. To be transferred to:

Appointed Department Head

011-1-152-0000-8-0000-00-510101

Present balance in appropriation: \$ _____ 11,277.36

3. Reason for request

HR Director is retiring and will be paid out for all
appropriate benefits

Request submitted by:



Department Head Signature

Catherine Calicchia

Printed Name

 07JUN24
approved