

Weekly Video Update, January 29, 2024

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

1. The Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the SHS gym from 7AM- 8PM. The Secretary of the Commonwealth will be sending “Vote by Mail” forms to all voters. These forms are for voters to request a mailed ballot and should only be sending the form to the Clerk’s office if they do not intend to vote early in-person during the early voting period (Feb. 24th -March 1st) or on election day. The voter has the option to request a mailed ballot for a specific election or all elections in 2024. If a voter is “Unenrolled” (formerly called “Independent”) they must select a party’s ballot. Please be sure to read the instructions. In person “Early Voting” will take place at the Town Hall, 600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway, beginning on **Saturday, February 24 from 8am-2pm, and during normal Town Hall business hours from Monday February 26-March 1.**

If a voter needs to make changes to their voter registration, they may do so in the Town Clerk’s office or online at registertovotema.com. The deadline for the Presidential Primary is February 24th by 5PM.

All election information can be found on the Town website on the Town Clerk’s page at www.scituatema.gov.

2. The Harbormaster was grateful to receive a grant in the amount of \$128,000 from the Seaport Economic Council for a feasibility study. The study will investigate renovations or replacement of the existing Harbormaster building. We know we need to look at accessibility to the building as well as upgrades to the bathroom facilities. The issue is that if any work being done exceeds 50% of the value of the building, then the building would need to come into compliance with applicable flood zone requirements that could include raising the building on pilings.
3. 2024 Transfer Station and Beach Stickers information is live on the website. Please visit the Treasurer's page and click on 2024 Transfer Station & Beach Stickers on the left-hand side.

Resident beach and transfer station stickers will go on sale on **February 12, 2024, at 8:30 am** (online, at the counter, and mail-in). **Resident Beach Stickers never sell out.** 2024 stickers are valid from date of purchase to March 31, 2025. The Town of Scituate Select Board has unanimously approved a resolution for 2024 beach stickers, making them mandatory from Memorial Day (5/27/24) to Labor Day (9/2/24).

2024 Non-Resident Beach Stickers. New rates and days of use have been implemented for the 2024 season. Non-resident All Beach and Humarock only stickers will go on sale **online only** on February 12 promptly at 8:30 am.

Non-Resident All Access Beach stickers are valid only Monday-Friday, no weekends or holidays, for \$350.00.

Non-Resident Humarock Only Beach stickers can only be purchased online, are valid Sunday-Saturday, and can be used at Humarock Beach only for \$100.00
Transfer and beach stickers are non-refundable and non-transferable.

4. Burning Season opens 1/15/2024

Burning Permit Regulations

Open burning is prohibited in the following areas: Minot, Humarock and any location EAST of Hatherly RD.

The Scituate Fire Department will strictly enforce the following State regulations. All permit holders must agree to abide by these rules, with the understanding that the Scituate Fire Department reserves the right to refuse or revoke any permit that does not conform to these rules.

- a) The open burning season for residential properties will be from January 15, 2024, through May 1, 2024
 - b) Permit burning is only allowed between the daylight hours of 10:00am to 4:00pm and all fires must be started before noon and all fires must be completely extinguished by 4:00 pm
 - c) Burning sites will be spot checked and permits for areas not meeting these requirements will be refused or revoked
 - d) All fires must be at least 75 ft from any structure and you must have an available water supply, such as, a pressurized water pump, can, or hose and shovels or rakes for controlling the fire.
 - e) ONLY BRUSH MAY BE BURNED: LEAVES AND GRASS MAY NOT. All fires must be tended to at all times. Piles of brush must be kept small and manageable. If fire extends beyond the initial area the permit may be revoked.
 - f) If we receive a complaint that the fire is causing a smoke nuisance, the fire will have to be extinguished.
 - g) You must check online each day to verify and request burning.
 - a. Permission will be granted only on those days when winds, dryness of woods and atmospheric conditions warrant the issue of same.
 - h) Increases in wind velocity, or change in other conditions, will be cause for the immediate extinguishments of fires by all permit holders.
 - i) A fine of \$500.00 is applicable by Mass. Law for any illegal burning
 - j) The Scituate Fire Department will immediately revoke the permit if the above rules and regulations are not strictly adhered to. There will be no refund of fees if the permit is revoked for cause.
5. Scituate Sister Cities will be hosting their annual 2024 Sister City Film Festival at the Reel Harbor Theater on February 13 and March 5.
Cape Verde Santa Catarina do Fogo will present *The Volcano's Last Wish* will now be on February 13, at 7:00 pm. This is a change from the original date of February 1.
Ireland West Cork will present *My Left Foot* on March 5 at 7pm.

Suggested donation is \$10 and attendees can enter a raffle valued from \$50-\$100.

6. The Recreation Department's Summer 2024 job applications are now available on the Recreation Department webpage on the Town website for volunteers, counselors, directors and lifeguards. Go to scituatema.gov, go to the Recreation page (scituatema.gov/scituate-recreation-department) and the applications are on the left side of the page.
7. The Town has added a link to the Town web site for information on the proposed Cushing and Hatherly MSBA project. Residents seeking information about the proposal for a new elementary school here in Scituate can go to scituatema.gov and you will see the red banner with the link. Click and it will take you the link for the school page with information about the project.
8. The Scituate Food Pantry continues to see an increase in clients seeking assistance. The Food Pantry is deeply indebted and extremely grateful for the generosity of its donors. The pantry has a new list of most needed items as they are unable to get these items from the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Canned White beans	Mixed Vegetables (Canned)
Beef Soups	Sloppy Joe
Baked Beans	White Tuna
Jell-O and Pudding	Green and Herbal Tea
Hot Chocolate	

Items can be dropped off at the Pantry during operating hours or in the bins behind the Old Gates School. The Scituate Library, Village Market and Shaw's also collect items for the Pantry.

9. Meetings
 - Monday-Conservation and Economic Development Committee (remote meeting only)
10. Make sure to check out the Scituate Community TV YouTube Channel for Town of Scituate updates on news, school events & sports, and community programs. Also, make sure you register for Town of Scituate emails by going to the web-site and clicking on "Subscribe to News". Follow the Town on Facebook.