



THE

Gill Newsletter

October 2014 Issue

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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

- Pam Shoemaker
Editor
- Harry van Baaren
Layout
- Anne Baker
 Dorri Beaubien
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 Barbara Watson

Town Hall News

Fall “Clean Sweep” Bulky Waste Collection

The Franklin County Solid Waste District is holding the fall “Clean Sweep” bulky waste collection on Saturday, October 18 from 9 AM to 12 noon. The three drop-off sites are: the Buckland Recreation Facility on Rt. 112 South, the Northfield Highway Garage on Caldwell Road, and the Whately Transfer Station on Christian Lane. Please note that this fall the Buckland collection is back at the Buckland Rec. Center (from the temporary location at Mohawk last spring).

District residents may bring a wide range of items that are typically difficult to get rid of such as tires, appliances, scrap metal, furniture, mattresses, carpeting, construction debris, computers, televisions, propane gas tanks, and other large items. Materials will be recycled whenever possible.

NEW! Clean, dry textiles, and books will be accepted for free recycling or reuse. Please do not put textiles in the trash as 95% of all textiles can be recycled or reused. Put textiles in a Salvation Army or Goodwill Drop Box or bring to this event. Textiles must be contained inside a sturdy plastic bag. DO include clothing

that is torn, stained, with missing buttons or broken zippers as damaged textiles can be recycled into insulation. Acceptable items include CLEAN & DRY: mismatched socks, shoes, and gloves; all clothing and accessories including belts, ties, bras & purses; and clean and dry linens such as curtains, pillows, comforters, sheets, towels and stuffed animals in any condition (except moldy or wet!) Books can be of any condition except moldy or wet, and can be hardcover or paperback. No encyclopedias.

You do not need to pre-register for the collection. However, there are charges for disposal. Disposal fees, cash only, will be collected during check-in at each site. Businesses may participate. A complete list of prices for the most common items is available at the Town Hall, the District office at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield, and online at: www.franklincountywastedistrict.org/cleansweep.html



Gill, Massachusetts
THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE TOWN OF GILL

Check in with the
 Gill Website
www.gillmass.org
 for up to date news,
 announcements and
 contact information!



Wood Pellet Bag Recycling – FREE

The Franklin County Solid Waste Management District has been awarded a Massachusetts Community Innovation Challenge Grant and a grant from MassDEP to implement a recycling program for wood pellet bags.

For Gill residents, the collection point is the Greenfield Transfer Station at 86 Cumberland Road (off of Wisdom Way), during their normal hours.

Step #1: WOOD PELLET BAGS ONLY! Other plastic bags are not acceptable. We cannot accept feed bags, soil bags, pesticide bags, or stretch film. These will put a halt to our recycling program.

Step #2: All bags must be dry. Wet bags will cause the entire load to be rejected by the recycling company.

Step #3: Shake out all wood pellets before recycling. You can cut the bottom off the bag to release pellets. Wood pellets and plastic bag recycling do not mix. Empty your bags!

For more information, contact Jan Ameen, Franklin County Solid Waste District, Greenfield, 413-772-2438.

Ag Plastics Collection

The Franklin County Solid Waste Management District has received

grant funding to conduct a recycling collection for agricultural plastic (bale wrap, silage cover, greenhouse film, maple tubing, drip tape). Permanent collection sites should be operational by December in Charlemont, Deerfield, Greenfield, and Wendell.

In the meantime, there will be a collection event on Monday, October 20, at the Greenfield Transfer Station, 11:30AM–1:30PM. You must enter through the back gate off Petty Plain Road to Cumberland Road. Petty Plain Road is off Wisdom Way near the Fairground's Main Gate. Go to the end of Cumberland Road and through the gate. Collection will be across from the main building.

Materials that are NOT acceptable: twine, netting, black plastic mulch, fumigation plastic, row cover, pots, and trays.

Please follow these directions to ensure we can recycle your plastic:
Step #1: Shake it out, shake off gravel, sand, and loose dirt. Shake off organic material.

Step #2: Cut greenhouse film, maple tubing, and drip tape into 4' lengths so it will fit in the baler. Cut all taps and connectors off maple tubing.

Step #3: Keep your plastic dry. You can deliver your plastic in sacks or loose, but we must be able to unload and handle it.

For more information, contact Jan Ameen, Franklin County Solid Waste District, Greenfield, 413-772-2438.

Franklin County Bikeway Maps

With its scenic foliage, crisp air, and cool temperatures, autumn can be a great time to get out for a bike ride. If you are looking for ideas on places to ride, the Town Hall still has free copies of the 2013 maps of the Eastern, Central, and Western Franklin County Bikeway Routes. Stop in and get one!

Free Tick Testing

Autumn weather also brings a resurgence of creepy, crawly ticks in our woods, fields, and lawns. As reported in the June 21, 2014, issue of *The Recorder*, more than one-third of ticks collected in Franklin County this spring tested positive for Lyme disease. To learn more about reducing your exposure to ticks, visit www.TickEncounter.org/prevention. The UMASS Laboratory of Medical Zoology provides tick-testing services to help families and physicians identify and map the distribution of ticks and the many disease-causing pathogens they carry. The tick and pathogen identification service normally costs \$40 per tick, but because of a state grant, Gill residents can have this testing done for FREE.



(up to 100 ticks for the Town). To learn more, visit the LMZ's website: www.tickdiseases.org. To submit a tick for testing, visit www.tickreport.com.

Right to Farm—Annual Disclosure

In accordance with the Right to Farm bylaw adopted by the Town in January 2009, we remind our residents of the following:

“It is the policy of this community to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products and for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers or occupants that the property they are about to acquire or occupy is within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include but are not limited to activities that cause dust, noise, and odors. Buyers or occupants are also informed that property located within the town may be impacted by commercial agricultural operations.”

Winter Parking Ban... coming soon!

We are not trying to rush into the cold, snowy frigidness of winter, but it is time for the parking ban reminder. Please be advised that from November 1 through April

15, there is NO on-street parking allowed between the hours of 1AM and 6AM. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

*Ray Purington,
Administrator Assistant*

Town Clerk

State Election 2014

Voter Registration – New voters may register at the Town Hall on October 15 from 2 to 4 PM and 7 – 8 PM.

Absentee Ballots – These ballots will be available to be completed at the Town Clerk's Office until noon of the day before the election or November 3, 2014.

State Election – Voting will be at the Gill Fire Station, 196 Main Road, on November 4, 7AM– 8PM.

Board of Assessors and the Tax Collector

A reminder to all land owners: The due date for payment of FY2015 Preliminary Tax Bills is November 3, 2014. The bills were sent out on August 19, 2014. If you have any question about your bill, please call:

Tax Collector (863-2105) or Board of Assessors (863-8103).

Friends of Gill

Come and enjoy the Friends of Gill's 2014 Pancake Breakfast with blueberry and regular pancakes, sausage and bacon, and real maple syrup.

This popular community event benefits our college scholarship program. Save the date – Saturday, October 25 from 8 to 10:30AM at the Gill church. Adults - \$6.00. Children under 10 years - \$3.00 and children 4 years and under—free.

Kleeberg Sugar House will sell maple syrup at the event. In addition, the Friends of Gill's famous apple pies (frozen and uncooked) will be sold for \$12.00. To pre-order pies, please call Ronnie (863-9240) or Kathy (863-2212). The supply is limited so pre-ordering is helpful.

News from the Gill Cultural Council

Each fall, the council reviews proposals for community-based projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences. The Mass. Cultural Council gives Gill's council approximately \$4,500 in grants to distribute each year. Some of the projects funded last year include the popular summer concerts on the town common, a theater program at the elementary school with a final performance at town



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hall, a writing workshop for seniors, a geological tour of the Connecticut River, and events for children at Gill's Slate Library. This year's awards will be announced after the mid-October applications are reviewed.

Energy Commission

The Gill Energy Commission has been offering many wonderful free workshops that are being funded with the Green Community grant money. So far this fall, we have had a workshop on Solar Hot Air Heating with Peter Talmage and Gardening, Season Extension with Daniel Botkin. The fully subscribed workshops were well received. Two of the next three remaining fall workshops are Root Cellars with Alden Booth and Winserts with Peter Talmage; they are now filled, but there is still room in the Weatherization workshop with Peter Talmage on October 25, from 9 – 12 noon. Sign up soon to learn how to save money; be more comfortable in your own home, and reduce your carbon footprint before the heating season really comes. If you are interested in signing up or being notified about the 2015 workshops, please contact Janet at 413-863-8694 or jmasucci@msn .com.

Remember to look at the Gill Energy Commission Facebook page or the Town of Gill Energy page for winsert information and other tips.

Slate Library News

Slate Library invites you to come in and check out a good book to read as the nights get colder. We have new titles for adults, including *The Book of Life* by Deborah Harkness, which completes the "All Soul's Trilogy" as well as the latest from David Mitchell, *The Bone Clocks* and Haru Marukami's *Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki*. In non-fiction you may find *The Human Age* by Diane Ackerman and *In the Kingdom of Ice* by Hampton Sides. Stop by soon, pull up a chair, and tell us what you would like to see on the library shelves.

Story hour has returned to Friday mornings at 10 AM. All children and their caregivers are welcome to join

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us on the cozy rug to hear autumn tales and enjoy popcorn with friends. We will continue to create fun art projects at the children's table, and we welcome new faces to join us! In the children's room, the new books for little ones include *Have You Seen My Dragon* by Steve Light and *Deer Dancer* by Mary Ray Lyn. We also have new CD's for listening including classics such as *Ramona* and *Henry Huggins* by beloved author Beverly Cleary. For our youth readers, we have the latest by Gregory Maguire, *Egg and Spoon* and *A Creature of Moonlight* by Rebecca Hahn. More is coming new to the shelves all the time at Slate Library.

Public Health

All Ages Flu Clinic – Gill Elementary Cafeteria

Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year. Annual flu vaccine is recommended for most persons over 6 months of age. Young children, older adults, pregnant women, and people with certain underlying illnesses are most vulnerable to complications from the flu.

Wednesday, November 19 from 3:30-6:30PM, flu vaccine will be available at no cost (insurances accepted if available but not required) at a public clinic held at the Gill Elementary School. This clinic is brought to the residents of Gill through the Board of Health's membership in Franklin Regional Council of Governments Cooperative Public Health Service and is being conducted for the third year in collaboration with the School. Please contact Regional Public Health Nurse Lisa White for more information at 413-665-1400 x 114.



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HONOR ROLLS for Gill Students

Fourth Quarter

Pioneer Valley Regional High School

Grade 11

High Honors: Malcolm Crosby and James Elliott

Grade 10

Highest Honors: Julia Wallace

Honors: Bradley Hastings and Eric Shutta

Grade 8

Highest Honors: Max van Baaren

Grade 7

Highest Honors: Audrey Corrigan

High Honors: Rylie Zager

Honors: Tyler Hastings, Christopher Urgiel, and Jake Wallace

Turners Falls High School

Grade 12

First Honors: Brittany Rawson and Kaleb Warren

Second Honors: Elliott Bertini Franseen

Third Honors: Morgan Marron and Sarah McCune

Grade 11

First Honors: Lexi Griffin, Alexander Morin and Nicholas York

Second Honors: Zachary Demars

Third Honors: Stephanie Robertson

Grade 10

First Honors: Krystal Cloutier and Mackenzie Phillips

Second Honors: Nadia Hasan

Grade 9

First Honors: Gabrielle Arzuaga, Bryn Kruzlic, and Kaili Lynch

Second Honors: Tahner Castine and Jeremy Wolfram

Great Falls Middle School

Grade 8:

First Honors: Kyle Kucenski and David Tricolici

Second Honors: John Wheeler

Third Honors: Branden Chapin

Grade 7

Second Honors: Reilan Castine

Third Honors: Noel Kocsis and Emily Minor

Grade 6

First Honors: Alyson Murphy

Second Honors: Lilia Kocsis and Mason Kucenski

Franklin County Technical School



Frontier Regional High School

Grade 9

High Honors: Ashley Levasseur

**Franklin County Technical School
2013-2014 Trimester Honor Roll**

Grade 12

Honors: Shelbi Williams

Grade 11

High Honors: Ryan Bezio

Grade 10

Honors: Fallyn Adams

Grade 9

Honors: Jozyan Gonzalez

College Graduation

Benjamin Lawton graduated from Greenfield Community College with honors this spring and is now attending George Washington University in Washington, D.C. While at GCC, Ben was secretary for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Dean's List

Leandra Raymond, a nursing major, was named to the spring semester dean's list at American International College in Springfield.

Northfield Mount Hermon

Graduating Class of 2014

High Honors: Cooper Hemphill, Elizabeth McClellan and Haley Short

Honors: John Arena

If you are a Gill student who has not been included in this list, please let us know so that we may commend you in the future.



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★ ★ ★

**Tuesday, November 4,
7AM to 8PM,
at the Gill Fire Station**



Copy for the next newsletter should be sent to pshoe27@gmail.com no later than December 2, 2014

Business Advertisements

The Gill Newsletter will include business card size advertisements of local businesses for a year (six bi-monthly issues) for \$60.00. Please send a copy of your business card and a check for \$60.00 payable to 'Town of Gill' to Barbara Watson, 143 River Road, Gill, MA 01354.

Disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors, the organizing committee or town officials and should not be construed as such. Although we work to produce accurate and typographically correct copy, we and our advertisers cannot be responsible for errors or the accuracy of materials submitted to us.

The costs of mailing the newsletter have increased so that our budget is very tight. If you would like to make a contribution to help us meet expenses, we would appreciate your sending a check, payable to "Town of Gill", to Barbara Watson, 143 River Road, Gill, MA 01354.

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