



# Canaan Carrier

<http://www.canaan-vt.org>



JANUARY 2019

## TOWN OF CANAAN PARKING BANS



Effective December 1, 2018 through April 1, 2019 it is unlawful to park between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on all streets and roads in Canaan and Beecher Falls (this includes Town Roads and Vermont Routes 102, 114 and 253).

## SNOW REMOVAL

No person, other than an employee in the performance of his or her official duties as authorized by the Agency of Transportation or the Selectboard, shall plow onto the traveled way, shoulder or sidewalk of a State Highway or a class 1, 2 or 3 Town Highway (V.S.A. T23 Section 1126a.)

## NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

The Canaan Selectboard would like to remind town residents that, despite the best efforts of the town road crew not to do so, sometimes items within the town highway right-of-way get damaged, either by snow removal or other highway maintenance equipment. The town is not responsible for damages obtained within this 25 foot from center of road. The Selectboard is asking that residents beware before leaving or placing objects such as vehicles, fences, trees, signs, etc. within these boundaries. Objects may be removed at the owner's expense.

Gregory D. Noyes, Chairman

Haven L. Haynes, Jr.

Frank T. Sawicki, Jr.

## HOLIDAY HOURS

The Canaan Town Office will close at 12:00 p.m. on December 24th and reopen at 9:00 a.m. on December 26th and will close at 12:00 p.m. on December 31st and reopen at 9:00 a.m. on January 2nd.

## STUMP DUMP

The Stump Dump will be open on January 5th and 12th, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. allowing access to get rid of Christmas trees and other clean wood waste.

## REPORT FROM THE SELECTBOARD

### LED Lighting Update:

The project has been completed and the final Project Economics have been updated.

Cost of Efficiency improvements	\$18,025	Efficiency Vermont Incentive	\$10,300
Our net Cost After Incentives	\$ 7,725	Estimated First- Year Tariff Savings	\$ 5,360

Estimated Simple Payback Period 17 Months

Est. Ave. Lifetime of Efficiency Improvements 25 years

The est. monthly savings is est. to be \$447.00

We have already seen some savings on the town light bill.

### Solid Waste Update:

Removing food scraps from our waste stream. We have not come up with a viable plan that will work for the town. We will have to find a way to remove all food scraps from our waste stream by 2020. We will welcome all workable ideas to meet this requirement.

We have another deadline to meet by 2020. All asphalt singles will have to be removed from our waste stream.

All clean sheetrock materials will have to be removed from our waste stream. If the sheetrock has been painted it can still go into C&D container. If it is clean non-painted sheetrock left over from a construction job it cannot go into the C&D container.

Our options for disposal are to haul the materials to St. Johnsbury at their collection site.

These requirements are all part of the Materials Management Plan or Act 148.

The board has set in on several conference calls relative to the implementation of Act 148 to air our concerns. We have not heard of any action plans that will be favorable for the town .

On another matter when you are dropping off recyclables and trash be respectful of others and move your vehicle out of the way when you are through. Pull your vehicle out of the traffic lane if you have come upon a long lost friend that you must visit with.

## CHIEF'S CORNER

Winter is coming at us early this year. Don't be caught off guard. Be prepared. Have that emergency kit in your vehicle. You never know when you're going to need it.

I want to touch on a couple areas of concern for winter travel. Take the time to clear your vehicle of excess snow. You are responsible for anything that comes off from your vehicle. You don't want to cause damage to someone else's vehicle or worse injury.

Take extra time before you start your trip to make sure that your windshield is completely clear. Scraping a small area in front of the drivers' side is not safe. It's unsafe and illegal. You need to be able to see out of the entire windshield to assure that you can see oncoming traffic and pedestrians. Obstructed windshields are punishable by a fine of \$76.00.

Snowmobile season should be in full swing. Be sure before you ride. It is the riders' responsibility to know the laws and where they can ride. Anyone caught on a closed trail will be fined \$622.00. I would also like to remind you that ATV season is over and they should not be operated on any VAST trail.

As always please report all suspicious activity in a timely manner. If you need assistance and it's not an emergency call 266-9619.



## **Canaan Fire District #1 Project Update**

The Filtration System for Canaan Fire District #1 has been delivered and is installed. Final work on electrical, piping and controls is in progress and the plan to place the treatment facility in service is scheduled for mid-January. Testing, check out and approval from the State of Vermont Drinking Water Program staff is required before the facility can be put into service. As noted above, this is expected to happen in January 2019.

Holmes Street and Enid Circle have new water mains. Due to an early winter season, Nathan Street was not able to be completed this year. It will be completed Spring 2019 once the ground has thawed.

## **Canaan Wastewater Treatment Facility**

The Canaan Wastewater Treatment Facility will be making some upgrades due to the problem of excessive rags being run through our facility. A new "grinder system" will be installed for the sewage receiving at the treatment facility and new "grinder" pumps will be installed in the plant pump station to chew-up/shred the rags that create operational issues. It is expected that these upgrades will start over the winter and be completed in mid-summer 2019.

## **UPDATE ON FIRE DISTRICT #2 PROJECT**

The telemetry system has been installed and completes our projects. We want to thank everyone for their patience during our projects.

Starting in 2019, our Canaan Fire District #2 meetings will be held every other month. Check town bulletin boards for scheduled dates. We encourage residents to attend our meetings to be kept informed.

## **FIRE DISTRICT #1 & #2 ANNUAL MEETINGS**

**The annual meetings of the Canaan Fire District#1 & #2 will be held at the Canaan Community Office Building on January 7, 2019 starting at 6:30 p.m.**

## TOWN WARNING PETITIONS

Anyone wishing to place an article in the 2019 Town Warning or School Meeting Warning by petition, must have the petition in to the Town Clerk by January 17, 2019. The petition must be signed by 5% of the legal voters of the Town of Canaan. (This is about 35 signatures)

ATTEST: Noreen Labrecque, Town Clerk

## VERMONT ELECTION LAWS

Vermont Election Laws no longer require Vermont Towns to hold a yearly nomination caucus: The sole purpose of which is to have a candidate for each vacant office.

Interested candidates wishing to run for election as a Town Official must get a petition at the Canaan Town Clerk's Office. The petition must be signed by 1% of the legal voters of the Town of Canaan. (This is about 7 signatures)

The petition form must be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 28, 2019. If you are interested in seeing someone's name on the ballot, please do not hesitate to pick up a petition.

The following is a list of Town Officers on the 2019 Ballot:

Town Moderator	1 year
School Moderator	1 year
Selectboard	3 years
Lister	3 years
School Director	3 years
School Director	2 years
School Director	1 year
Auditor	3 years
Trustee of Public Funds	3 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Library Trustee	2 years
Library Trustee	1 year
Grand Juror	1 year
Town Agent	1 year
Sexton	1 year

If you have any questions regarding the positions, terms, and duties, please contact the Town Clerk's Office.

ATTEST: Noreen Labrecque, Town Clerk



## ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

The 2018 Annual Town Report will be available for distribution by February 23, 2019. If you are unable to pick the report up in person, call or write the Town Clerk and a report will be mailed to you or you can read the Town report on our Town website at <http://www.canaan-vt.org>

## TOWN MEETING

March 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. the Annual School Meeting begins. Followed by the Annual Town Meeting.

March 5, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. the polls open at the Canaan Town Office for the Election of Town and School Officers and the polls close at 7:00 p.m.

## CHANGE CLOCKS

Daylight Saving Time changes at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 10, 2019  
change clocks ahead one hour.

## CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY

### **Carbon Monoxide is known as the "silent killer."**

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the number-one cause of poisoning deaths in the United States, killing more than 3,800 individuals annually. CO is a colorless, odorless gas. Because you cannot see, taste or smell it, CO can kill you before you know it is there. Symptoms of CO poisoning include flu-like symptoms such as headaches, nausea, fatigue, dizziness, confusion and breathing difficulties.

### **If your carbon monoxide detector alarms, do not hesitate. Go outside and call 911.**

CO is a byproduct of incomplete combustion of fossil fuels such as natural gas, oil, wood or coal. Common causes of carbon monoxide poisoning include malfunctioning appliances, furnaces, stoves, ovens, water heaters, charcoal grills and motor vehicles.

#### **How to Protect Yourself:**

You should have a UL-approved battery operated carbon monoxide alarm on each level of your home. Batteries should be checked monthly and batteries replaced when you change your clocks.

To protect your family, have a qualified professional check all fuel-burning appliances, furnaces, venting and chimney systems at least once a year or as recommended by the manufacturer.

## SMOKE ALARM SAFETY TIPS

Did you know?

Each year, fire kills more Americans than all natural disasters combined. Stay safe by knowing the top four home fire risks:

1. The number-one cause of home fires is unattended cooking. Make sure ovens, stoves and other appliances are clean and well maintained.
2. Remember to keep flammable objects a safe distance from space heaters, fireplaces, and wood stoves.
3. Do not overload wall outlets with plugs. Use a power strip. Make sure cords on electrical appliances aren't worn, frayed or splitting.
4. Smoking is the cause of the most fire-related deaths. Use deep ashtrays and empty them often. Never smoke in bed. Keep smoking materials, matches and lighters away from children.

## The Importance of Smoke Alarms

- The death rate per 100 reported fires is twice as high in homes without working smoke alarms as in homes with working smoke alarms.
- A working smoke alarm increases your chance of surviving a house fire by more than 50%.
- An estimated 890 lives could be saved each year if all homes had working smoke alarms!

A smoke alarm buzzes when it detects smoke, warning you in time to escape. Smoke alarms can be house current, battery operated, or house current with a battery backup. NOTE: If your electricity goes out, you will not have smoke alarm protection if your alarm does not have a battery.

## IMPORTANCE OF NUMBERS ON HOUSES AND BUSINESSES

Every house has an assigned identifying number that displays your home address. Although these numbers are important for the mailman and guests visiting you, *house numbers are crucial for emergency personnel when responding to the location of an emergency.*

When 911 is called to report an incident or emergency, dispatchers receiving the call have a key job to do by determining where the emergency is taking place. The call takers must then relay the location to the proper emergency responder such as law enforcement, the fire department, or ambulance. While emergency personnel are responding to the location of the incident, they are relying on accurate information from the dispatcher to ensure that they are going to the correct address.

There isn't always someone available to wave down a police officer or a firefighter and direct them to the location of the emergency, so the emergency personnel responding are depending on those numbers in front of a residence or business. *It is difficult for emergency vehicles to find homes or businesses whose address numbers are not clearly visible or properly posted.* Searching for the location where the address is not appropriately marked can increase the response time and possibly affect the outcome of the situation.



## Vermont Income Tax Forms and Schedules

**Coming soon! Income tax forms for tax year 2018 will be available in mid-January.**

Visit [www.tax.vermont.gov](http://www.tax.vermont.gov) to find.....

- Income tax forms and schedules as fillable PDFs
- Electronic payment options through **myVTax**
- Free e-filing for eligible taxpayers through Free File
- The status of your tax return, tax refund, homestead declaration, property tax adjustment, or renter rebate
- Information and resources to help you file your taxes
- Vermont tax statutes, regulations, and technical bulletins

**Call, email, or visit Taxpayer Services or stop in the Town Office to get copies of forms**

Business hours: Mon-Fri, 7:45 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Phone: Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri 802-828-2865 or 866-828-2865 (toll-free in Vermont) Taxpayer Services Division does not take calls on Wednesdays in order to focus on processing returns.

Email: [tax.individualincome@vermont.gov](mailto:tax.individualincome@vermont.gov)

Address: 133 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont

## HOMESTEAD DECLARATIONS

By Vermont law, property owners whose homes meet the definition of a Vermont homestead must **file a Homestead Declaration annually by the April filing deadline**. If eligible, it is important that you file so that you are correctly assessed the homestead tax rate on your property.

In Vermont, all property is subject to a statewide education property tax to pay for the state's schools.

For this purpose, property is categorized as either nonresidential or homestead. A homestead is the principal dwelling and parcel of land surrounding the dwelling, owned and occupied by the resident as the person's domicile.

**BOTH HS-122 AND HI-144 FORMS MUST BE FILED ANNUALLY.**

**AVOID PENALTIES AND FILE ON TIME.**

### What is not a Homestead?

Property is considered nonresidential and therefore not a homestead if one of the following applies:

- Your property is leased for more than 182 days out of the calendar year.
- The property is used exclusively for a commercial, including rental, purpose.
- The property is used for a second home, camp, vacation, or summer cottage.



## Canaan Community Heart & Soul

The Canaan Heart & Soul Team took part in training to kick-off the Canaan community's entrance into Phase 3 of the Orton Family Foundation's Community Heart & Soul process on Friday, October 5th. The team was treated to the hospitality of Grace Community Church for the event and the Team wishes to thank the Church for sharing their wonderful facility. It is a true Canaan asset.

Now, it's up to You. Phase 3, 'Making Decisions', reaches out to include more members of Canaan's community to 1) identify options for the future, and 2) base decisions on what matters most to everyone that best enhance and preserve Canaan's Heart & Soul. A Community Summit is tentatively scheduled for late February and over 100 people invested in Canaan Naturally Connected are expected to participate.

#Shift Happens. The final Phase (4) of Community Heart & Soul, 'Taking Action', brings Canaan community partners and residents together to work on taking action and ownership for future decision-making that will become part of the fabric of the community. Advancing this positive change will have significant impact on the vibrancy of Canaan's community and economic development.

This Team training provided strategies for community engagement that have worked in other Community Heart & Soul towns across rural America that include everyone, hard to adapt techniques offered by Orton to work towards refining and pursuing actions to further the Canaan community's work on the five (5) Priority Values identified over time by the community: Youth Opportunities/Education, Community, Events, Outdoor Recreation, and Jobs and Businesses.

Canaan Naturally Connected team members Frank and Katie Sawicki, Diana Rancourt, Terrie Herr, Greg Noyes and Les Klinefelter participated in the training with the team's coaches Trish Sears and Steve Mason. The group welcomed three senior members of the Orton Foundation staff at the training; Dave Leckey, Leanne Tingay and Joan Wagner. They were there to support, encourage and celebrate the Team's many successes over the past 3 years.

Earlier in the day, Team members Greg Noyes and Frank Sawicki met with David Leckey/Executive Director, Orton Family Foundation, Kirsten Scobie/Program Officer, the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation, and Trish Sears & Steve Mason/NEKTI Consulting to discuss Canaan Community Heart & Soul program challenges, opportunities and successes. Ms. Scobie made clear to Mr Noyes and Mr Sawicki that the Tillotson Fund recognizes and appreciates the Team's accomplishments and that the Fund is committed to its continued support for Canaan Naturally Connected activities.

The Team wishes to offer it's sincere thanks to all the community members who have made commitments to this work and its successes. You are welcome to join the Team as the Canaan community continues to fulfill its destiny as the Kingdom's truest gem.



### Canaan Community Heart and Soul continued

The Canaan Heart & Soul team has been hard at work preparing for some exciting projects that will hopefully take place within the next year. We have finally moved into Phase 3 of the Heart & Soul process which is where we are planning projects, getting community input, making budgets, applying for grants, and getting ready for action. We are still sponsoring events like the Scarecrow building contest, helping community organizations, and creating welcome baskets for new families in the area. Be on the lookout for a winter event coming in the new year! We are always looking for new ideas and fresh faces at our meetings. Please consider joining the team!

Katie Sawicki

This past fall, I attended a meeting with the Alice Ward Library Board of Trustees to discuss possibly repurposing the barn into a community center. They were open to the idea, and seemed to believe that the project, with minimal restrictions, would be allowed under the National Registry of Historic Places as long as the exterior remained unchanged.

Jonah Cote

For more information on how you can be a part of the Team, please contact by email Greg Noyes [8grand@earthlink.net](mailto:8grand@earthlink.net).

Sincerely yours,

Canaan Heart & Soul Team

*Deep roots connecting families, friends, and neighbors*

*Across all borders and communities*

*Sharing, Engaging, Supporting*



253 Gale Street

Canaan, VT 05903

<http://www.nekcavt.org>

802-266-7134

Canaan's NEKCA office was able to provide Thanksgiving dinners for 50 local families. Many thanks to the individuals and businesses who helped to make this possible.

Christmas dinners were provided by Laperle's IGA thanks to a fundraiser they are doing at check out. At the time of this article's writing, 25 families had signed up to receive one of the dinners which includes vegetables, fruit, cranberry sauce, gravy, potatoes, stuffing, and a \$10 gift card to purchase a meat of their choice.

In the New Year, the NEKCA office hopes to be hosting a weekly Senior Sip on Tuesday mornings from 9-12. We invite our seniors to come in to the office for coffee and to discuss what things they would like to see happen on these mornings.



**PO Box 214, Canaan, Vermont 05903**

**canvthissoc@gmail.com or  
www.canaanvthishistoricalsociety.org**

**Museum hours: Monday—Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

We hope you all had an enjoyable holiday season from Thanksgiving through the New Year. Our wassail party, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December, was well attended and we entertained a few new members.

This past October, the Vermont Historical Society presented us with an Award of Merit for our "We Remember" video at the League of Local Historical Societies and Museums annual meeting. Added to the award was a special mention for Diana Rancourt, who was instrumental in the production. We are proud of the project and hope to find funding for a second video. A lot of good material was left off the first video because we did not want to make it too long.

The LLHSM annual meeting is a good chance for us to meet members from other historical societies and discuss projects and problems. We also get to meet former Canaan residents or their spouses. At this year's meeting the widow of Donald Gendreau bought a video to show to their children and grandchildren so they could see what Canaan was like. Donald was a basketball star for CMHS who led the Northeast Conference in scoring his senior year. His family owned a farm in Canaan and eventually sold the pasture that is now Ethan Allen Park.

Residents, former residents, and relatives of former residents continue to donate or loan photo albums, for which we are greatly appreciative. Earlier this Fall, a couple brought in photos of the Haynes family of Beecher Falls and promised to come back with more once they have been scanned. They have also indicated that they would share the genealogical information that has been amassed, which we appreciate. An album of photos of the Walter Heath family was found on my desk when I returned from vacation. Many of the people in the photos have yet to be identified but we are making progress. If you are related to either of these families or are familiar with them, please stop at the museum some afternoon to see if you can identify some of the unknowns.

Our plans for 2019 are incomplete at this time but we do hope to have a session at the Coos County Nursing Hospital in the Spring. We have taken photo albums and some of the miniature furniture from our Ethan Allen factory collection in the past and the residents seemed to enjoy them. Other projects and plans will be discussed at our January meeting. As always, our meetings are scheduled for 3 PM on the third Friday of the month and are open to the public. Also, please check out our website or Facebook page. It's free and we try to post an interesting old photo each week.



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of Veterans Affairs**

**White River Junction VA Medical Center**  
215 North Main Street  
White River Junction, VT 05009  
866-687-8387 (Toll Free)  
802-295-9363 (Commercial)

In Reply Refer to: 405/00

November 29, 2018

Dear Veteran,

The White River Junction VA Medical Center is attempting to contact all Veterans in our catchment area of Vermont and New Hampshire who are not enrolled or are enrolled and no longer utilizing our services. If you currently receive our services, please pass this note on to a Veteran who may benefit.

We offer a wide variety of services including assistance to Veterans who are homeless or unemployed to providing primary and specialty care. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support, group sessions, and more. There is a designated treatment area for our women Veterans at the Women's Comprehensive Care Clinic; a safe space.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community based outpatient clinics. They are located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. We are here to serve all Veterans, please do not hesitate to contact us, if for no other reason than to register/enroll with us in case of future need.

Our eligibility office in White River Junction can be reached at 802-295-9363 extension 5118. A single form - VA form 10-10EZ - and a copy of the DD214 is all that is needed.

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have full time service officers that are knowledgeable about our programs. These independent organizations serve all Veterans including nonmembers in processing disability and pension claims. They can be reached in White River Junction at:

American Legion	802-296-5166
Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168

Thank you for your service to our nation. On behalf of the White River Junction VA Medical Center team, we look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,  
  
Laura Miraldi  
Acting Medical Center Director