

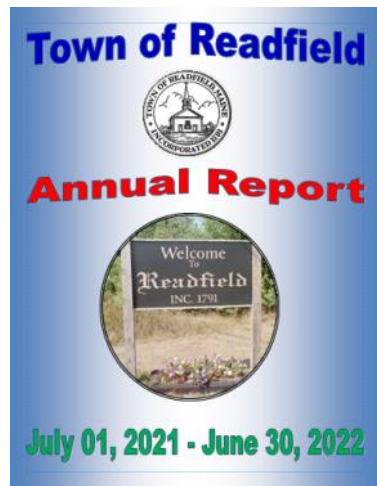


Readfield Messenger

Volume 20 Issue 07



www.readfieldmaine.org



2023 Town Report now available!

Scan the QR code for quick access;
also available online or pick up a
copy today at the Town Office



The June 13, 2023 Annual Town Meeting & RSU Referendum results can be found on the Town Website under “Voting” and are posted at the Town Office

Thank you to all who participated!



READFIELD
HERITAGE DAYS



The Town Office, Library & Transfer Station will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in observance of the Independence Day Holiday! Have a safe & happy 4th of July!

Readfield: Looking Ahead

By: Kathryn Mills Woodsum

Greetings from your new Chair of the Select Board. I would like to begin by thanking Dennis Price for his six years of service to the Town. His input and direction in leading the Select Board was valued by the Board and led us to accomplishing several important goals including opening the town beach to all residents without a user fee, the adoption of an updated Comprehensive Plan and approval to move forward with an athletic fields proposal at the Fairgrounds. His wisdom and enthusiasm will be missed.

Our most recent meeting in June included a presentation from our auditors who stated that Readfield is doing great financially with responsible spending, healthy and reasonable reserve account balances, appropriate long-term planning, good management procedures and excellent value for services with a tax rate held low during inflationary times.

We had a large group of residents in attendance and experienced the highs and lows of public communication. I would remind everyone wishing to participate, be they members of the public, the Select Board, or Town employees, that there are rules for discussion that must be followed. These rules were formalized in 2013. This policy can be found on the town website under Select Board, Ordinances & Policies, Policies, Public Communications Policy. I draw your attention to item 8. ‘No personal attacks on any individual or firm, including Town employees, Town officials, or members of the public, will be tolerated during any meetings.’

It was wonderful to hear from several residents about the accomplishments of various committees and individuals as well as to hear concerns from folks about issues that affect residents. What was inappropriate were two speakers who spoke to employee and committee personnel issues. There are state laws that prohibit these conversations from taking place in the public forum and they must be followed. Readfield has a policy, previously mentioned, that provides guidance for what can be addressed when and where and this policy must be followed.

There are several times for communication throughout each Select Board agenda:

- Select Board communication for Board members to offer praise and inform of upcoming events.
- Public Comment to allow residents to offer praise, raise general concerns, or ask questions that will be addressed in the days following the meeting.
- Agenda Items for discussion among Board members and to hear related concerns from the public.
- Future Agenda Items where Board members may raise concerns and ask for inclusion in a future meeting.

Please rest assured that in my position as Chair I will do a better job going forward with enforcing the Communications policy.

On another note, I had the pleasure of attending a meeting on Sunday the 25th for the official beginning of Readfield’s participation in Neighbors Driving Neighbors. This program has been active for eight years in six neighboring communities and consists of an enthusiastic and dedicated group of folks. This program offers rides for any person in town who has a need for a planned outing (at least 5 days’ notice is required) at no cost to the rider. It is a wonderful way for vetted drivers to assist others in their towns by building connections through providing a much-needed service. Please see the flyer in the Messenger and on the Town website. Many thanks to the Age Friendly Committee and the Town Manager, Eric Dyer, for bringing this program to our town. Please consider joining as a driver and get to meet your neighbors!

Lastly, I would like to again extend congratulations to our newest Select Board member, David Linton; we look forward to your input and working with you. The Town Manager and I will hold a new member meeting with David in July and we’ll include any additional training needed in our Select Board retreat workshop to be held sometime in September.

Please enjoy all that Readfield has to offer this summer including Heritage Days August 11th and 12th and the public beach on Maranacook Lake.

News from the Town Manager

Town Meeting Policy Highlights

Thank you to everyone who participated in developing the Town Meeting Budget and Warrant. And of course thank you to everyone who voted! All of the individual articles were passed and so I am providing a quick refresher on two key policy documents and what comes next:

[The Comprehensive Plan](#)

The Town of Readfield has had an active Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) since 1993. The 2023 update of the Comp Plan builds on the work over the past 30 years and takes stock of where our town is and sets goals for where the town's residents want it to be in the future. Readfield's Comp Plan has sought to protect the Town's rural residential character while making efficient use of public services and encouraging managed growth. Our newly updated Comp Plan helps us understand what has happened in town over the past decade and sets new goals. In the most condensed form the Comp Plan can be described using the vision statement, which is broad and like the Comp Plan itself speaks to economic diversity and sustainability as much as natural diversity and sustainability.

The Town of Readfield is a scenic, dynamic, and diverse community committed to fostering an inclusive, vibrant way of life for people of all backgrounds and ages. This vision commits to preserving the rural character of our community with a plan for a sustainable future.

It is also important to know what the Comp Plan is not. The Comp Plan is not a mandate, does not force any spending, and does not require any action be taken. The Comp Plan is just that - a plan. The Select Board and Town Meeting votes are ultimately responsible for any future implementation. Now that the voters have approved the Comp Plan one of the next steps in the process is to establish a Comp Plan Implementation Committee to ensure that the important issues considered in the Comp Plan receive further discussion and if appropriate, action. We are looking for volunteers so please join us in thoughtfully moving our community forward!

[The Beach Ordinance](#)

The purpose the Beach Ordinance is to “provide for the enjoyment, health, welfare and safety of all persons using the Town Beach; to provide a means of maintenance, operation and protection of the Town Beach; and to provide a family-oriented atmosphere for lawful users of the Town Beach. The Town of Readfield is further committed to maintaining accepted environmental standards to preserve the ecological quality of the Town Beach and waterways for future generations.”

The Beach Ordinance essentially codifies existing policy that was developed with the evolution of the Town Beach itself over time. While there are a few key changes intended to more actively promote public access, improve the quality of resident experience, and ensure wise-use of the Beach, the operation of the Beach is little changed from prior years.

The Beach remains free to Readfield residents and taxpayers, and users of the Beach are expected to follow reasonable rules for the safety and enjoyment of all. Special use of the beach for events and certain other activities requires additional fees to offset additional impacts and costs. So although we have a new Ordinance in place the same principles apply; know the rules, be considerate and respectful of the property and other users, and of course take some time to enjoy one of the treasures of our Town!

For more information visit www.readfieldmaine.org

Readfield Boards/Committee Openings (As of June 28, 2023)

- Board of Appeals: 1 Member (2026)
- Cobbossee Watershed District: 1 Alt. Member (2024)
- Connectivity Committee: 3 Members (2025)
- Conservation Commission: 1 Member (2026), 2 Alt. Members (2025 & 2026)
- FirstPark: 1 Representative, 1 Alt. Representative (2024)
- Heritage Days Committee: Multiple Positions Available
- Library Board of Trustees: 1 Member (2025)
- Local School Board Advisory: 3 Members (2024, 2025 & 2026)
- Maranacook Outlet Dam Committee: 1 Alt. Member (2024)
- Planning Board: 2 Members (2028), 2 Alt. Members (2027 & 2028)
- Recreation Committee: 1 Member (2026)
- Road Committee: 1 Member (2025)
- Solid Waste & Recycling Committee: 1 Member (2025)
- Trails Committee: 4 Members (2-2024, 1-2025 & 1 Alt. Member-2026)

If you are interested in joining any of the above committees please complete the Appointment Application on our website under Volunteer Opportunities or stop by the Town Office.

For more information: 207-685-4939 or clerk@readfieldmaine.org

Select Board Contacts

<u>Kathryn Mills Woodsum:</u>	(207) 685-9094	kwoodsum@readfieldmaine.org
<u>Steve DeAngelis:</u>	(207) 931-5001	sdeangelis@readfieldmaine.org
<u>Carol Doorenbos:</u>	(207) 446-7535	cdoorenbos@readfieldmaine.org
<u>Sean Keegan:</u>	(207) 446-8725	skeegan@readfieldmaine.org
<u>David Linton:</u>	(207) 441-7394	dlinton@readfieldmaine.org

Upcoming Select Board Meetings

July 24, 2023

August 21, 2023

September 18, 2023

Starting at 6:30 PM unless otherwise stated



Free Event

Hosted by your Town

July 9th, 2023 at the Readfield Transfer Station

14 Recycle Rd, Readfield 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Household Hazardous Waste collection for Readfield, Wayne, Fayette, Belgrade and Mt. Vernon

Do Bring:



All Battery Types



Unwanted mixed and unmixed fuels. (Gasoline, Diesel, Kerosene, etc.)



Unused Liquid Paint (Paint does not need to be mixed with sand or sawdust)



Household cleaners, chemicals and pesticides.



TV's Computers, and other electronic waste



Fluorescent bulbs (CFL's)

Please Do Not Bring:

- Explosives & Ammunition
- Recyclable Items (Cardboard, all Plastics #1- 7, Glass, Metal, Aluminum)
- Solid Waste/Trash
- Textiles (Clothing, Shoes, Bags, Bedding, etc.)
- Asbestos Containing Materials
- Large quantities of waste (ask first)
- Commercial waste or waste from a business

Pre-registration at your Town Office is required!

You will be assigned a time to arrive at the Transfer Station. Early arrivals may need to wait. Questions on accepted materials can be directed to your Town Office or the Readfield Transfer Station:

207-685-3144



Town Of Readfield
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Pre-Registration Form

Sunday July 9, 2023, 9AM-12 Noon

Collection taking place at the Readfield Transfer Station 14 Recycle Road, Readfield, ME

Pre-Registration is Required. Pre-Register at your Town Office

Resident Name:	
Physical Address:	
Telephone Number:	Assigned Time-Office Use Only:

Actual Volume: Estimate	# Units: 5 gal/20 lbs=1 unit	Garage and Workshop Related
gallons		Water-based/Oil-based/Latex Paints, stains, and primers in cans
gallons		Anti-freeze
gallons		Cleaners/Degreasers e.g., acetone
gallons		Flammables such as Gasoline, Kerosene, Charcoal Lighter Fluid
gallons		Aerosol cans/flammables
gallons		Misc. e.g., Brake/Transmission Fluid, waxes, polishes
gallons		Solvents, Paint Thinners, Paint Strippers
gallons		Adhesives
gallons		Driveway Sealer
gallons/lbs.		Other List:
		Kitchen/Bath/Home
		Cleaners:
gallons		-Bleach- based
gallons		-Alkaline such as Lye, Sodium Hydroxide, Drain Cleaners, Oven cleaners
gallons		-Ammonia-based such as Windex
gallons		-Acid such as Muriatic acid
gallons		Other: Toilet Bowl cleaner, drain opener, mildew remover, lime/rust stain remover, hydrofluoric acid, ammonium bifluoride
gallons/lbs		Other List:
		Lawn and Garden
gallons/lbs		Pool cleaners
gallons/lbs		Pesticides/Herbicides/Fungicides-solids or liquids
gallons/lbs		Poisons: rat/mouse poison, arsenic, strychnine, cyanide, formaldehyde, mothballs
gallons/lbs		Other List:
		Miscellaneous
gallons/lbs.		Photography chemicals
Per item		Fire Extinguisher-Carbon tetrachloride only
		Other List:
		Electronics
Per item		Televisions/Monitors/Household Electronics-LIMIT OF 2 Per Household
		List Electronics:
		Batteries-All types
gallons		Waste Oil
		TOTAL ESTIMATED UNITS

Questions?? Call your Transfer Station or Town Office

Transfer Station News - July 2023

**Sunday July 9th
9:00am - 12:00pm**

**See pages 4 & 5
for more info!**

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event At the Readfield Transfer Station!



SUMMER Sunday Summer Hours Are Back!



June 4th through August 27th

Food Composting Now that the snow is gone it's easier than ever to bring your food waste to compost!



8 AM - 12:00 Noon

How much of a difference does it make to separate your paper from the trash?

Recycling 2 bags of paper a week keeps 8 trees in the forest, saves 100 gallons of fuel, and keeps 4 tons of carbon dioxide out of the air each year. Aside from wasting valuable resources, the undiverted trash costs our towns thousands of dollars each year. The Readfield/Fayette/Wayne Solid Waste and Recycling Committee asks you to put a bag next to each trash can for all your paper and cardboard. A little effort makes a big difference.

Please Remember to Practice Kindness

Please remember to be patient with everyone while you are at the Transfer Station. There are many challenges presented to using the space safely and efficiently and everyone handles those in their own way. Please try to be patient and understanding of other patrons and our employees. Everyone is doing the best they can and deserves to be treated respectfully and with kindness. Thank you for your efforts to make this town operated facility function well.

General Operation Practices

All vehicles must stop at the Attendant Booth to speak with an employee about what materials you are bringing in, to receive directions on where to dispose of these materials, and to pay any required fee.

Please leave when you are finished to avoid making the space congested.

**Now Open! Please
bring items in and
feel free to take
items you can use.
Recycling Through
Re-Use**



Transfer Station Hours

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

**Saturday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Sunday Summer Hours
June 4th through August 27th
8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**

**WASTE LESS
SAVE MORE**



**RECYCLE
COMPOST**

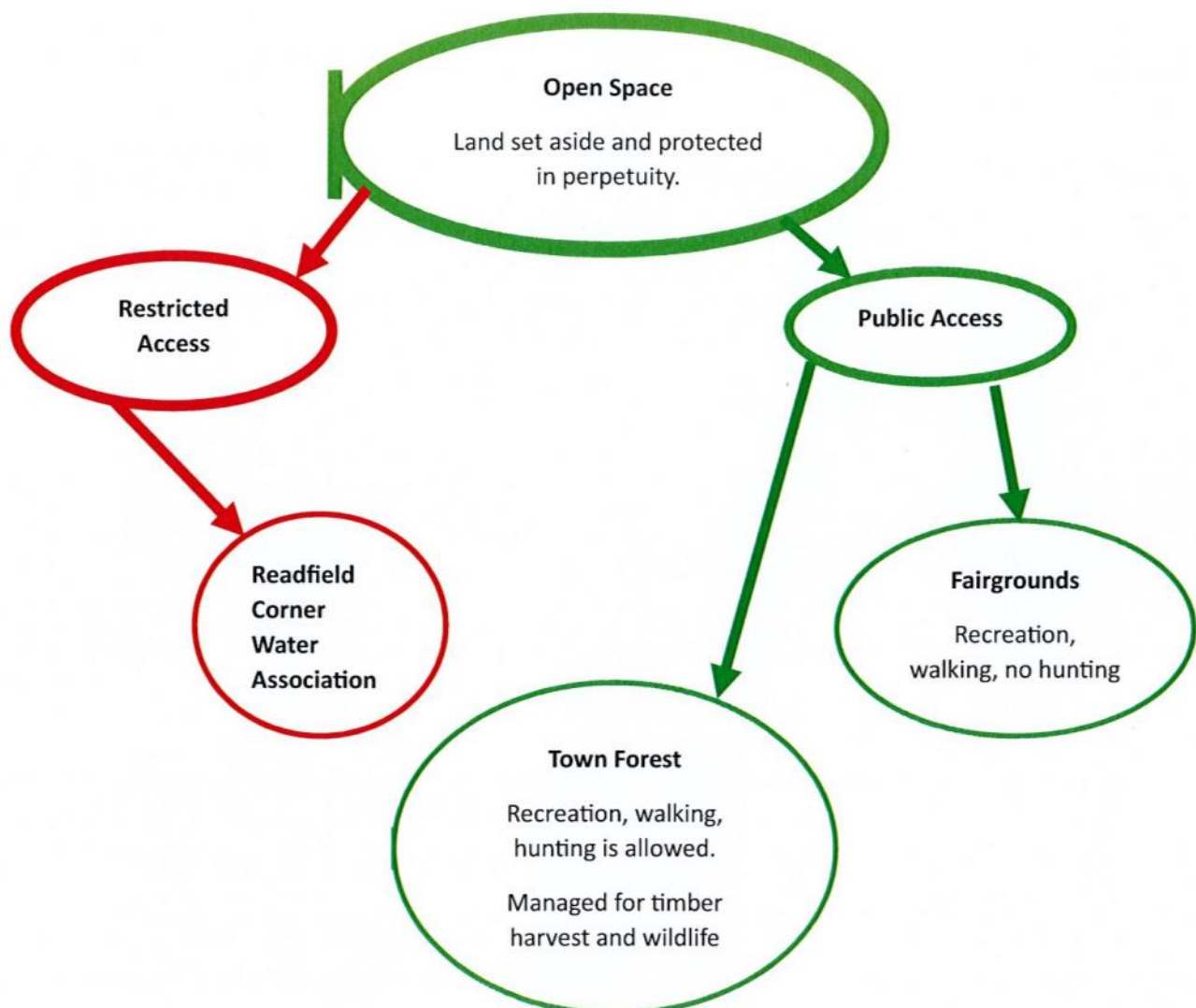
Readfield Solid Waste and Recycling Committee

News from the Conservation Commission: What is Open Space? Part 1

There has been a lot of discussion about open space over the past year. So, just what is open space, anyway? The Comprehensive Plan Survey defined it as:

Open space is land which is set aside, either in a natural state or for recreational and/or passive purposes and is protected from future development in perpetuity. Open space may include nature preserves (i.e. wildlife habitat, natural resource areas), wetlands (tidal and inland), farms, cemeteries, forests, parks, beaches and other recreational facilities. It may be privately owned (by a land trust or a neighborhood association, for example) or publicly owned (by the town or the state). Some open space land is available for public use, while access to other land is restricted. Open space planning can link land parcels to form wildlife corridors or protect important wetland systems, or provide trails for passive recreation.

That definition is a little confusing, because the authors were probably trying to include all varieties of open space. Readfield contains almost all those varieties. Well, there are no tidal wetlands. Here are some examples, just from land that is owned by the Town of Readfield.



2023 Readfield Beach Pass Application

RESIDENT PASS: (Readfield Residents & Non-Resident Taxpayers) **FREE / year**
Includes couples and their unmarried dependent children 21 & younger living in household, and grandchildren.

NON-RESIDENT PASS: **\$100 / year**
Includes couples and their unmarried dependent children 21 & younger living in household, and grandchildren.

GUEST PASSES: Guest Passes are required for those who do not have a Resident or Non-Resident Pass.

- **DAY GUEST PASS:** Max. of 10 guests: _____ **\$5 / guest**
- **WEEK GUEST PASS:** Valid for seven (7) consecutive days starting: _____ **\$20 / guest**

NAMES: _____ **MAILING ADDRESS:** _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ **TOWN:** _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TEL#: _____ **CELL#:** _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

LICENSE PLATE # 1: _____ **LICENSE PLATE # 2:** _____

I am a legal resident of: _____, I am the legal parent/guardian or grandparent of all the children listed below and they are all 21 or younger. They will be using the Town Beach under this permit and I will be supervising any under the age of 15 at all times.

	Name	Age	Name	Age
1		5		
2		6		
3		7		
4		8		

I am interested in learning more about **Swim Lessons** (price TBD) ___ Yes ___ No, for a child age __, __, __, __

I am interested in learning more about **Canoe / Kayak Launch & Rack Rental Permits** ___ Yes ___ No

I hereby acknowledge that the Town of Readfield does not provide lifeguard services or supervision at the Readfield Beach and therefore users must exercise constant observation and supervision of children and guests at the facility. I understand that this permit can be revoked at any time if Town Beach Rules are abused or inaccurate information provided. Town Beach Rules are attached.

- CHILDREN UNDER 15 MUST BE SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT ON THE PROPERTY AT ALL TIMES.
- You will be issued **ONLY two (2) permits per family**.
- Permits **will not be issued** without license plate numbers.
- **ALL Passes are non-transferable and non-refundable.**

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Town Clerk Initials: _____ Payment: _____

**** Staff Use Only ****

Permit # A _____ B _____

Payment Type: () Cash Amount: _____ () Check # _____ Amount _____

() Visa / MasterCard #: _____ Exp Date: _____ Security Code _____

****All Credit Card transactions will incur a 2.95% convenience fee****

Make Check Payable to "Town of Readfield" • Send application with notation "Attn: Beach Pass"

RULES OF THE READFIELD TOWN BEACH

As established by the Town Beach Ordinance, the purpose of these Beach Rules is to provide for the enjoyment, health, welfare and safety of all persons using the Town Beach; to provide a family-oriented atmosphere for lawful users of the Town Beach; to support the maintenance and operation of the Town Beach; and to maintain accepted environmental standards to preserve the ecological quality of the Town Beach and waterways for future generations.

- All users of the Town Beach are required to have a season pass or purchase a guest pass.
- All users of the Town Beach assume all risk. There is **NO LIFEGUARD** at any time.
- Town Beach Hours: 5:00 am – 9:00 pm. No after-hours activity is allowed.
- All users of the Town Beach must follow the direction of Beach Staff. Beach Staff have the right to stop any behavior which they feel is disruptive, dangerous, or damaging.
- Children under 15 must be supervised by an adult remaining on the property at all times.
- When arriving at the Town Beach you must drive slowly and use caution in parking area, show your pass to Beach Staff on duty (or purchase guest pass from attendant), and keep your pass visible on the dashboard at all times.
- No bicycles are allowed outside of the parking areas.
- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs is prohibited.
- No glass of any kind is allowed at the Town Beach.
- No domestic animals are allowed at the Town Beach. Documented Service Animals by written permission of the Town Manager.
- No fishing allowed within 100 feet of the beach or buoyed swim area.
- No swimming beyond the buoys and no rough play anywhere.
- The use of any floats in the swim area will be limited by the discretion of the Beach Staff on duty.
- Swimming diapers are required for all children wearing diapers. Soiled swimsuits or diapers may not be rinsed out in the lake.
- No bathing with shampoo, soap, or other compounds.
- Trash and recycling cans are available at the Town Beach but we encourage a “carry-in, carry-out” policy to reduce the risk of attracting nuisance pests like wasps, rats, and skunks.
- There is absolutely no smoking, vaping, or tobacco use allowed anywhere on the property.
- All holes dug in the sand must be filled in when play is finished.
- No inappropriate language of any kind will be allowed.
- All noise must be kept to a level as to not to disturb others using the beach.
- All grill fires need to be doused with water before leaving. No fires outside of the grills.
- Sun umbrellas and shade canopies are allowed, no enclosed tents.
- No camping without written approval of the Select Board.
- Pass holders wishing to have any group function should call the Readfield Town Office at 207-685-4939 in advance to arrange fees and schedule times.
- Non-recreational use of the Town Beach is prohibited outside of designated non-recreational use areas.
- The Town of Readfield and our authorized representatives reserve the right to revoke any Beach Pass for violation of any of the above rules.

Thank you for keeping your beach safe and enjoyable!





**READFIELD TOWN BEACH
CANOE/KAYAK RACK RENTAL & LAUNCH PERMIT**
2023 Season (May 1 – November 1, 2023)



Please Print Clearly

Owner's Name: _____

Residential Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: (day): _____ (evening): _____ (cell): _____

E-mail address: _____

Canoe/Kayak Color: _____ Canoe/Kayak Length: _____

Preferred Rack #(s): _____ (if applicable)

**TERMS OF AGREEMENT
FOR RENTAL OF CANOE/KAYAK STORAGE RACK & LAUNCH - READFIELD BEACH**

1. **Rack space & launch permits are available to current Town Beach Pass holders over 14 years of age for non-motorized vessels only.**
2. Cost of one rental rack space is \$50 for May 1 – November 1. Fee must be paid prior to the start of storage.
3. Maximum length/width for the canoe/kayak racks is 18'0" / 2'4". Paddleboards, sculls, etc. may also be stored.
4. Cost of single vessel launch ONLY (no rack) is \$20 for May 1 – November 1. Fee must be paid prior to first launch.
5. **Rack rental & launch is not allowed for any watercraft used to access a moored or anchored vessel.**
6. Rack rental is on a first come, first served basis. Upon receipt of completed application and payment, racks will be assigned by number. Rack rental and assignment is at the discretion of the Town Manager or designee.
7. Before storage, Owner must attach their assigned rack number to the canoe/kayak by a secure means.
8. Owner agrees to remove canoe/kayak by November 1. Failure to remove canoe/kayak from rack by date stated will result in the inability to rent during subsequent seasons.
9. Owner must ensure the canoe/kayak is reasonably secured in its assigned rack and will not pose any danger to any passersby. Owner must provide locking mechanism.
10. Owner must ensure the canoe/kayak rack space is clean and tidy at all times. Nothing other than one canoe/kayak can be left on, in, around or by the rack at any time (e.g., paddles, floatation devices, etc.)
11. Canoe/kayak may not be left outside the designated storage area and should be carried (not dragged) to the launch.
12. The storage rack unit & launch may only be used for the one canoe/kayak listed above. Eight rack spaces are reserved for paired use. **There is a two space (or single paired space) limit per household.**
13. **Owner acknowledges that canoe/kayak launch and rack rental are at their own risk. The Town of Readfield accepts no responsibility for user injury, or loss of or damages to the canoe/kayak. Failure to comply with any terms will result in termination of this agreement with no refund of fees.**

I agree to abide by the rules and regulations stated above and I hold myself solely responsible for any mishap/injury to users of, or damage to, the canoe/kayak listed above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**** Staff Use Only ****

Payment Type: () Cash Amount: _____ () Check # _____ Amount _____
 () Visa / MasterCard #: _____ Exp Date: _____ Security Code _____
****All Credit Card transactions will incur a 2.95% convenience fee****

Assigned Rack Space(s): _____ *Applicants will be notified of their rack assignments*

Make Check Payable to "Town of Readfield" • Send application with notation "Attn: Rack Rental"



JULY 2023 — LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

Library Hours

Mondays	3pm-7pm
Tuesdays	10am-4pm
Wednesdays	1pm-7pm
Saturdays	10am-4pm

Welcome back SUMMER RESIDENTS!!

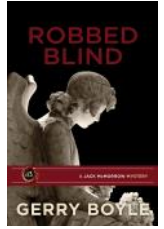
A warm "welcome back" to our Summer Residents! Please stop by soon!

CLOSED ON TUESDAY JULY 4th—The Library will be CLOSED on TUESDAY July 4th in observance of Independence Day

AUTHOR EVENT WITH MAINE CRIME NOVELIST GERRY BOYLE on June 28th!



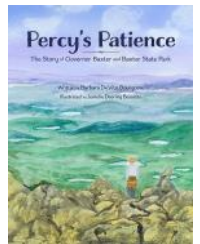
The Readfield Community Library is excited to host **Maine crime novelist Gerry Boyle** this summer! Please join us **outdoors behind the Library on Wednesday June 28th at 6:30pm** for this amazing author event! Rain location will be the Readfield Union Meeting House. Boyle will read from his latest book, *Robbed Blind*, and will answer audience questions and sign books. Oliver and Friends Bookshop of Belgrade will be on hand to sell copies of Boyle's books. Don't miss this event! Boyle is the author of over a dozen novels, including the acclaimed [Jack McMorrow mystery series](#), featuring ex-*New York Times* reporter Jack McMorrow and his social-worker girlfriend Roxanne Masterson. Boyle is also the author of a second mystery series featuring rookie Portland cop Brandon Blake. A former newspaper reporter and columnist, Boyle was the long-time editor of the alumni magazine of Colby College, his alma mater.



Join local **Maine author Barbara Bourgoine** and **illustrator Gemelie Bessette** as we enjoy their book *Percy's Patience: The Story of Governor Baxter and Baxter State Park* together along the Readfield Library's Story Walk trail. **Event is on Wednesday, July 19th at 6:00pm outdoors behind the library** (rain date of Thursday, July 20th at 6:00pm). Learn all about former Maine Governor Percival Baxter and the history of Baxter State Park! Event is free, open to the public, and a perfect summer family outing. Appropriate for all children up through age 12 or so!! Barbara and Gemelie will have copies of their book available for sale and signing after the event. This event is part of the Library's 2023 Environment & Sustainability Program/Speaker Series and supported by a Maine Public Libraries Fund Grant.

STORY WALK® EVENT with Author/Illustrator on July 19th

Join local **Maine author Barbara Bourgoine** and **illustrator Gemelie Bessette** as we enjoy their book *Percy's Patience: The Story of Governor Baxter and Baxter State Park* together along the Readfield Library's Story Walk trail. **Event is on Wednesday, July 19th at 6:00pm outdoors behind the library** (rain date of Thursday, July 20th at 6:00pm). Learn all about former Maine Governor Percival Baxter and the history of Baxter State Park! Event is free, open to the public, and a perfect summer family outing. Appropriate for all children up through age 12 or so!! Barbara and Gemelie will have copies of their book available for sale and signing after the event. This event is part of the Library's 2023 Environment & Sustainability Program/Speaker Series and supported by a Maine Public Libraries Fund Grant.



MOUSEVERSARY EVENT on July 15th

Join local author and postal worker extraordinaire Justine Fontes and her mousy crew of helpers for a now-annual "Mouseversary" event **at the Library on Saturday July 15th from 1-3pm**. The theme this year: ballerinas, pirates, princes/princesses! Costumes optional but welcomed! Enjoy stories, crafts, and activities related to the theme! If kids would like to create a mini-pirate boat before the event, we have materials available at the library!



ROCK PAINTING WORKSHOP for KIDS/TEENS on July 26th

Join us for a creative **ROCK PAINTING WORKSHOP** on **Wednesday July 26 at 6:00pm outside behind the library**. This is a free workshop and all supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring a favorite rock or two if you'd like. Limited numbers for this workshop, so please register early! Kids and teens of all ages are welcome. Register with the Librarian 207-685-4089 or librarian@readfieldmaine.org

DEMENTIA INCLUSIVITY PROJECT Grant

The Readfield Community Library, in partnership with Age Friendly Readfield, has received a grant in the amount of \$500 for a Dementia Inclusivity Project. Grant funds will be used to host a speaker and add materials to our library's collection for persons living with dementia and their care partners. More details forthcoming.

DID YOU KNOW?...the library stopped ordering Mylar library book covers for adult books beginning September 2022? This has avoided the use of plastics, and has saved money as well!

SUMMER READING PROGRAM—"All Together Now"—for children/teens, and an adult program too!

The Summer Reading Program at the Readfield Community Library has begun and runs for 10 weeks this summer from June 14th through August 21st. Open to all ages, children, teens, and adults! **It is not too late to sign up**—simply stop by the Library or email librarian@readfieldmaine.org. Readers can log their minutes read on paper logs available at the library. Each hour read earns a free small prize or book (all donated), as well as a ticket for a chance at great raffle prizes from local businesses!

Save the Date! Summer Reading Final Celebration & Raffle Drawing:

Chewonki's "The Bugmobile" program on **Monday, August 21, 6:00pm** at the Library

Many thanks to the **Friends of the Readfield Community Library** for providing funds to purchase these awesome (and local!) end-of-summer RAFFLE prizes for our Summer Reading Program:

Raffle Prizes FOR KIDS/TEENS:

- \$25 Gift Card to [The Apple Shed Kitchen](#) in Kents Hill
- \$25 Gift Card to [Fielder's Choice Ice Cream](#) in Manchester
- \$25 Gift Card to [Oliver & Friends Bookshop](#) in Belgrade
- \$25 Gift Card towards LEGO set of choice

Raffle Prizes FOR ADULTS:

- \$25 Gift Card for [Weathervane Restaurant & Lounge](#) in Readfield
- \$25 Gift Card for [Cake Deliberately](#) in Readfield



Thanks also to **Library Board** members for the ice cream and for helping to register the 30 kids and 18 adults who signed up on opening night! We are now up to 70 kids/teens and almost 40 adults!

NEW! LIBRARY CAFÉ! Tuesdays at 10:00am in June and July

Please drop in on **Tuesdays between 10:00-11:00am at the Library** (indoors or outdoors, based on weather) **for coffee, lemonade, and a muffin/scone from the Apple Shed Kitchen (Kents Hill)**. This informal "coffee chat" offers time and space to gather and visit with neighbors. All are welcome! NOTE: We will NOT meet on Tuesday July 4th due to the holiday. If you are in need of a ride, please register with Neighbors Driving Neighbors www.neighborsdrivingneighbors.org The Library Café is offered as a collaborative project of the Readfield Community Library and Readfield Age Friendly Committee, with support from the New England Small and Rural Libraries Grant (through the Association for Rural and Small Libraries) received by the library.

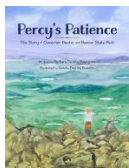


NEEDED: Volunteer LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES Member

The Town of Readfield is seeking a volunteer member of the Library Board of Trustees. The Library Board meets monthly, generally on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm. We hope you will consider serving our library/town in this way. If you are interested, please complete the Appointment Application on the Town website or stop by the Town Office. <https://www.readfieldmaine.org/volunteer/pages/boards-committees-volunteer-information>

STORY WALK® --Two sites in Readfield for families to enjoy in July!

July STORY WALK® at the Readfield Community Library—*Percy's Patience*



The Library StoryWalk® is always open for all to enjoy! The walk begins on the trail behind the Library and goes about ¼ mile to the Readfield Union Meeting House. **The picture book featured for July is *Percy's Patience: The Story of Governor Baxter and Baxter State Park* by local author Barbara Bourgoine and local illustrator Jemelle Bessette, sponsored by a Maine Public Library Fund grant.** Please feel free to walk the StoryWalk® at any time that works for your family, regardless of whether the Library is open. And, be sure to stop by the Library to pick up the take-home craft that accompanies the story.

July STORY WALK® at Readfield Elementary School—*Big Truck, Little Island* The RES StoryWalk® is always open for all to enjoy! The RES Story Walk is located along the edge of the back soccer field behind the school. **The picture book featured for July is *Big Truck Little Island* by Chris Van Dusen.**



Weekly In-Person Outdoor STORY TIME on Tuesday Mornings!

Join us outside on **Tuesdays at 10:00am** for theme-based books, songs, and crafts. Watch Facebook for weather cancellations or call the Library. Note locations below.

July 4th: no meeting due to holiday

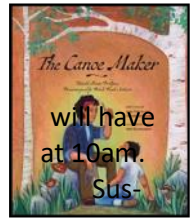
July 11th, 18th, 25th: meet at the Readfield Town Beach for Story Time

Story Time NOTE: On **July 18th, we will have 2 special guests** join us—Kate from the Alford Scholarship Foundation and Marie from Fame Maine. Kate and Marie will have some fun books and activities for the children and will be available after Story Time for questions from parents/guardians about the great programs their organizations offer! The rain date for our special guests will be Tuesday July 25th at 10am at the beach.



SAVE the DATE: Maine Children's Book Author JEAN FLAHIVE on August 1st

We are delighted to host Maine author Jean Flahive, whose stories capture interesting and important pieces of Maine history. Join us outdoors at the Readfield Library for an Author Event, Story Walk, and related activities on **Tuesday August 1st at 10:00am**. The Story Walk will feature Jean's book, *The Canoe Maker*, and Jean books available for sale/signing after the event. More details forthcoming. Rain date will be August 3rd FMI about Jean: <https://www.jeanflahive.com> This event is part of the Library's 2023 Environment & Sustainability Program/Speaker Series and supported by a Maine Public Libraries Fund Grant.



SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL SUMMER BOOK SALE on Saturday August 12th



The Annual Library Book Sale will be held during Readfield Heritage Days weekend on **Saturday, August 12th from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Readfield Fire Station**. If you would like to donate books for the Sale, please save them and drop them off at the Fire Station **the morning of the sale starting at 7:30am (best if before 9:00am)**. Unfortunately, we do not have space at the library to store donations ahead of the sale date. Please do NOT place donations in the Book Drop. We appreciate donations of items in good condition; please no ripped/musty/moldy items and no textbooks. All sale proceeds benefit the Readfield Community Library; thanks to the Library Board of Trustees for organizing this annual event!



SUMMER "Read ME" PROGRAM, HIGHLIGHTING MAINE AUTHORS (for Adults)

The Readfield Community Library will participate again this summer in the statewide "Read ME" summer reading program highlighting Maine authors. **We have multiple copies of these two books available at the library for anyone to check out, thanks to a generous donation from the Friends of the Readfield Community Library.** Please note the following online event with the authors. These events are free and open to all, using the Zoom platform.



Statewide Virtual Events

Online Author Talk with Meghan Gilliss (*Lungfish*): Wednesday July 12, 2023 | 7:00pm | [Register now](#)

Online Author Talk with Morgan Talty (*Night of the Living Rez*): Wednesday August 9, 2023 | 6:30pm | [Register now](#)

Additionally, we are excited to announce that the Readfield Community Library has been selected by the Maine Humanities Council to offer facilitated Book Discussion Projects this summer featuring these 2 books!! We invite you to participate in one or both of these Book Discussions. Please feel free to invite a friend you think may be interested. Each participant will receive their own copy of each book to KEEP! These discussions are **free and open to all**, but **please register by July 7th/August 7th** so that we may get you a copy of the book. Copies of these titles are available now at the Library. Our discussions will meet in person outdoors behind the library if the weather cooperates. In case of rain, we will meet indoors just down the Library Path at the Readfield Union Meeting House. Please let us know ASAP if you would like to participate.

Limited to 15 participants; please register soon!

Book Discussion: *Lungfish* by Meghan Gilliss: Monday | July 31 | 6:30pm | Outside behind Library

Book Discussion: *Night of the Living Rez* by Morgan Talty: Monday | August 28 | 6:30pm | Outside behind Library

MAINE AUDUBON NATURE EXPLORER BACKPACKS (Themes: Birds, Plants, Wildlife)

The Library has 3 themed backpacks available for checkout by families, filled with books and activities about the theme! Go on a family adventure and explore Birds, Plants, or Wildlife with a Maine Audubon NatureExplorer Backpack! These backpacks are made possible by ARPA 2021 grant funds administered through the Maine State Library and received by the Readfield Library.



Outdoor "LAWN LIBRARY" and 24/7 WiFi Access - Do you need a **great outdoor space to read a book/magazine, have coffee or lunch with a friend, or check your email?**

- Behind the Library we have a picnic table as well as Adirondack chairs and café-style tables and chairs to sit and read, relax, work, and/or connect with friends and neighbors. The outdoor furniture was purchased last year with funds the town received through an **AARP "Community Challenge Grant."**
- **We offer 24/7 WiFi access to the library yard, parking lot, and library park area**, thanks to free equipment upgrades received last year through ITDRC Project Connect. The WiFi network name is "Readfield Community Library" with no password required. We also have **free magazines** (oldies but goodies) for the taking available outdoors all summer.

Three FREE Library Passes available for your summer fun!!

NEW!! BOOTHBAY RAILWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM Library Pass for Free Admission



The Library is pleased to offer this summer a new pass for Readfield library cardholders to **enjoy the Boothbay Railway Village Museum in Boothbay for FREE!** This pass program is made possible by a **New England Small and Rural Libraries grant** that the Library received through The Association for Rural and Small Libraries. Please call the Library at 207-685-4089 or email librarian@readfieldmaine.org to reserve a date. The pass is good for up to 2 adults and unlimited number of children. The Railway Village is open for the season of June 18 through October 8. Note they are closed on Mondays.

COASTAL MAINE BOTANICAL GARDENS Library Pass for Free Admission



The Library is pleased to offer again this summer a wonderful opportunity for Readfield library cardholders to **enjoy the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay for FREE!** This pass program is made possible by a **New England Small and Rural Libraries grant** that the Library received through The Association for Rural and Small Libraries. Please call the Library at 207-685-4089 or email librarian@readfieldmaine.org to reserve a date. The pass is good for up to 2 adults and unlimited number of children. Gardens are open May 1 through October 22, 2023.

MAINE STATE PARKS—Vehicle Pass Available to check out



Visit a Maine State Park for FREE with the Vehicle Pass from the Library! Checkout period is for one week maximum. If you are planning a trip, you may be able to reserve the pass in advance. This pass is offered this year **in memory of local resident Will Harris**, who for many years donated the pass to the Library so that Readfield residents could enjoy the great outdoors and Maine's beautiful State Parks. This pass program is funded this year by a **New England Small and Rural Libraries grant** that the Library received through The Association for Rural and Small Libraries.

Maranacook Area Food Pantry (MAFP) Thank You Note!

Hello to everyone reading this. The MAFP wishes to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the residents of Readfield for their continued support of the pantry starting with the Readfield Select Board, Readfield Budget Committee, and Town Manager Eric Dyer for responding to our request to place an article on the town warrant to financially support our mission for \$1,000. The secret ballot town meeting in June overwhelming gave a thumbs up to the request and the pantry will certainly use the whole amount to purchase food, fresh vegetables, and eggs for those in our communities who seek assistance.

The towns of Wayne and Manchester also supported the same request made by the pantry committee and the total of \$3,000 will be put to good use in the coming weeks. We did not seek Mt. Vernon's financial support as there is a food pantry already located there to help their residents.

To better facilitate our delivery / pick up options that includes fresh vegetable availability by Farmer Kev's of West Gardiner Readfield delivery schedule and new fresh egg delivery from a local farm, we are open from 3:00-4:00 pm every Thursday at the Maranacook Middle School lower parking lot.

And there is more good news! The Readfield Masons have voted to donate the proceeds of their annual Heritage Days pancake breakfast to the pantry. The breakfast is scheduled for Saturday morning, August 12 so please mark your calendars. The Masons also donated the proceeds from last summer's breakfast along with a matching grant for a total of \$3,000 to the pantry. Again, we are fortunate to live in a community that looks beyond personal needs and volunteers to support their neighbors and friends.

Once again, MAFP appreciates all the support it receives in so many forms from Readfield residents and organizations.

Thank you!

Greg Durgin for MAFP

Maranacook Food Pantry

Every Thursday / 3:30-4:30 PM / Call 207-685-4923



Update from the Readfield Age-Friendly Group

We are so happy to see the expansion to Readfield of the Neighbors Driving Neighbors program to Readfield. In our surveys over the past five years transportation has been high on the list of concerns for Readfield residents. The Age-Friendly committee approached NDN and happily over the past year much work was done by many people from Readfield and from the organization to bring this expansion to fruition. The official kick-off on Sunday 25th was a joyful and inspiring time. Any of us may need to be a rider at some time no matter what our age. We can get signed up and everything in place so that when we need it everything's ready to go. Drivers can drive as often or as little as suits their schedule. Those who have experience as drivers find it a wonderful way to get to know their neighbors. The benefit is mutual. Check out NDN's website for details of the program and don't hesitate to sign up either as a driver or a rider.

The Age-Friendly committee has started planning to put together welcome packets for new residents. We hope to include information about community resources, town committees and organizations, and some welcome gifts. Do you run a business in Readfield? Would you like to take part by offering something that introduces people to your business and offers some small incentive for them to visit you – perhaps a sample or a coupon for one of your products? We look forward to partnering with the library on this project.

Another collaboration with the library is the Library Café. The first gathering was on Tuesday June 20 with 15 people in attendance. A big thanks to our librarian Melissa who is so responsive to needs in our town. If you haven't taken part yet be sure to drop in to the library on Tuesdays any time between 10 and 11. If the weather is good we'll be outside, otherwise things will be set up inside. Everyone is welcome. Those of us who enjoyed the Senior Café during the school year might particularly enjoy this opportunity. We look forward to working together with the library on other projects this summer including a program raising awareness of the need to be inclusive of people with dementia in the community.

We are also looking forward to having a booth at Readfield Heritage Days in August.

And finally the committee hopes Readfield U will be an ongoing activity in March of each year. It's a great way to get to make new friends, to get to know our community better, to learn something new and a boost to help us get through that final part of winter. We have so many interesting people in our community (and surrounding communities) with skills and stories and interests to share.

You can visit the website readfieldu.org any time to check it out – visit the gallery page for pictures taken at presentations. And if you have any ideas for programs for the coming year email readfieldu@gmail.com or fill out a presenter form online any time during the year.

News & Notes from the Readfield Trails Committee

Maine folks, and perhaps Readfield residents and our summer visitors, seem more prone to “weather” the weather. Nature throws our way and take to the outdoors. June weather has been somewhat heavy on precipitation and below normal temps but people are out and about on our trails, sidewalk, and roads. We often see cars parked at the fairgrounds by hikers and bikers, the sidewalk alive with walkers, strollers, and dogs on leashes, and local roads with cyclists. On many weekdays and weekends our newest trail at Carleton Pond has a car or two parked off the road with hikers enjoying pond views that trail has to offer. Again kudos to the Greater Augusta Utility District (GAUD), Brian Tarbuck Readfield resident and General Manager at GAUD, and Rob Peale chair of our Trails Committee for their hard work and diligence from getting the trail out of the “wouldn't be nice to have a trail there” stage to what has become a favorite trail for locals. Several years of hard work went into this project and involved many who put their muscles and volunteerism to work completing the trail that exists there now.

As many of you know Readfield has partnered with the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) for several years to gain access and easements to help build and maintain trail areas in town such as Torsey Pond Nature Preserve and Fogg Farm Trails area. KLT is sponsoring what looks to be an exciting opportunity with a trail challenge from July 1 to August 13. In a nutshell (I believe there will be a more informational article in this Messenger) local businesses will donate \$1-\$5 for every mile logged walking on area trails. For more info and an easy sign up, check out www.tkl.org/trail-challenge.

Trails committee member Steve Hayes recently did some Fairgrounds trail maintenance ensuring enhanced safety for trail users as did two hikers who notified the committee of a barbed wire hazard along the McDougald trail that posed a potential threat and was removed. I point these out to remind folks to report anything they see on any town or KLT trail that might be a hazard. Calling the town office (685-4923) to report the hazard is a good start to get the issue rectified by a committee member.

The refrain “Rain, rain go away come again another day” will hopefully reach the powers that be to provide some warmer weather along with more sunshine. Until then, grab a rain jacket, umbrella etc. and get out and enjoy what Readfield has to offer.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Durgin (durgie@roadrunner.com), Vice Chair Readfield Trails Committee

Readfield Historical Society

3RD GRADERS DAY IN A 19TH CENTURY SCHOOLHOUSE

More than thirty 3rd graders walked from Readfield Elementary School to visit RHS on June 2nd, to experience a window into what it was like to attend school in the 19th century. Included in their day was instruction by teacher, Miss Lydia Robinson (aka Nancy Plourde) who first set the scene by explaining what the lives of 8 year old boys and girls were like in the 1800s. Their lessons included writing on slates with chalk, on paper with quill pens and reading from some old text books dating back as far as 1800. The scholars were also expected to conduct themselves with behavior that was appropriate for the day. Subjects included arithmetic problems, penmanship and recitation. Students were also given tours of the RHS museum by our president, Bob Harris. This was especially wonderful because the 3rd graders had not come since 2019, due to the COVID shutdowns.



Photos (Left & Right)
Readfield 3rd graders visited RHS on June 3rd to experience a day in a 19th century school. More photos and videos can be seen on the RHS Facebook page.



TWO VISITORS “FROM THE PAST” ON OPENING DAY

Guests on opening day, May 27th were treated to a visit by Relief Savage Gordon (aka Dale Potter-Clark) and her 13 year old granddaughter Mary Gordon Adell (aka Miah Coffin). Relief told stories from her life which began in 1769 in Hallowell as a daughter of Fort Western soldier, Capt. Daniel Savage. She told about when she was age 6, some of Benedict Arnold’s men slept over at the Savage home, on their trip up the Kennebec River to Quebec. Among Relief’s stories was her engagement to a sailor gone wrong; her courtship and marriage to Daniel Gordon; her life on the Gordon homestead in East Readfield as a mother of six children and grandmother of thirty-one. As always, Relief was entertaining and used humor, while her granddaughter kept her on track. The 45 minute program was recorded and can be viewed on the RHS Facebook page.



Relief Savage Gordon and her granddaughter Mary Gordon Adell visited RHS on opening day.

The Readfield Historical Society (RHS) is open on Thursdays and Saturdays 1:00-2:00 until Labor Day weekend, and by appointment. RHS was founded in 1985 to preserve the rich history of Readfield and its people. Annual dues are \$5 for seniors or \$10 for others or \$100 for lifetime memberships. Checks made out to the Readfield Historical Society can be mailed to PO Box 354 Readfield 04355. Visit us on Facebook to see posts of a historical nature and updates from our organization. To make an appointment call (207) 377-2299 or readfieldhistorical@gmail.com



Just a friendly reminder that the final day to pay your 2022 property taxes was June 30, 2023. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Town Office 685-4939 during regular business hours or email info@readfieldmaine.org

Readfield Union Meeting House

The Board of Directors of the RUMH extends a sincere thank you to the Readfield community for their support in passing article #30 that requested \$5000 for the continued restoration of the Readfield Union Meeting House. The town's forefathers would be pleased that today the historic, cultural, and artistic meeting house is still valued by the townspeople. With our continued fundraising, grant writing, and donations the major tower, belfry and spire project is now in sight!

Strawberries, strawberries everywhere! Stop in for a delicious strawberry shortcake (still only \$5.00) on July 1st at our annual event. This year we are offering the festival as a "To Go" or "Enjoy It on the Front Lawn" of the Meeting House. It's a rain or shine event so the weather should not stop you from stopping by. Parking is available at the former Maple Tree School for those who will be staying to enjoy their dessert on the lawn.

Other July events at the RUMH include The Sandy River Ramblers on Sat. the 15th at 7:00pm. They are a favorite local bluegrass band that plays all over the state.

Our second annual Crafters' Fair will be held on Sat. the 22nd from 9:00 to 2:00pm. There will be over 25 vendors spaced around the Meeting House showcasing their creative wares. Please note that attendees are not allowed to park on the road. The Readfield Fairgrounds parking lot is just a short distance from the Meeting House and space is available behind the former Maple Tree School on Church Rd.

There are calendars available of all summer and fall events at the Readfield Post Office, the Readfield Town Office, on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/readfield.union.meeting.house or web site: unionmeetinghouse.org

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Durgin, Pres. RUMH Board of Directors

Events Schedule for the Meeting House & Friends of the Vestry. Be sure to mark your calendars!

- ⇒ Open to the public- Free tours 10:00- 12:00 Noon
- ⇒ Saturday July 1, Strawberry Shortcake Festival 1-3pm
- ⇒ Saturday July 15, Sandy River Ramblers 7pm
- ⇒ Saturday July 22, Crafters Fair 10-2 Light food and drinks
- ⇒ Saturday August 5, Baroque music quintet 6pm
- ⇒ Saturday August 12, Members & Family Ice Cream Social 2pm
- ⇒ Tuesday August 22, Stan Davis 6pm
- ⇒ Saturday August 26, Pie Sale 10-12noon
- ⇒ Friday September 29 Turkey Pie To Go 4:30 – 6pm
- ⇒ October Chili To Go TBD
- ⇒ Saturday October 28 Pumpkin Carving 10-12noon followed by Pumpkins Aglow at Readfield Fairgrounds (time TBD)
- ⇒ Tuesday November 21, Quiche To Go
- ⇒ December 9, Christmas Through the Ages Sponsored by Readfield Historical Society and the Readfield Union Meeting House



Scan the QR Code
or click the link to take the
survey!

<https://forms.gle/Ds5uPyXuEUV3qHx9>



"Building a Better Board" Survey

RSU 38 School Board asks for your feedback

The RSU #38 Board of Directors is looking for your perspective to gather honest and open feedback about the 2022–2023 board meetings and deliberations. It would be helpful to the board if you would take the time to complete this survey.

Please note that all responses are anonymous and confidential unless you indicate your identity through your written response.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful, careful, and considerate evaluation of our board of directors.

Take the survey online!

Thank you for participating by July 21, 2023.

Paper copies can be found at our town offices, libraries, or the RSU #38 Central Office. Please return paper copies by July 21, 2023, to RSU 38 Central Office at 45 Millard Harrison Drive, Readfield, ME 04355.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!
Please return paper copies by July 21, 2023 to:
RSU 38
45 Millard Harrison Drive
Readfield, ME 04355



Maranacook Area Schools



Readfield Play Group

Summer Thursdays 10:00-11:00am
@ Readfield Town Beach
beginning June 15th

Come join the fun!
Learn through play!



What:

For toddlers/preschoolers in the community, & their caregivers

When:

Summer Thursdays, 10:00-11:00am, beginning June 15, 2023

Where:

Readfield Town Beach

Why:

Offers children and caregivers a time to play, talk, and connect

FMI:

Contact Patricia Clark 207-685-4101 or pclark@maine.edu

Sponsored by the Readfield Recreation Association

Torsey Pond Association Annual Meeting, July 8, 10 a.m. at the Readfield Town Office

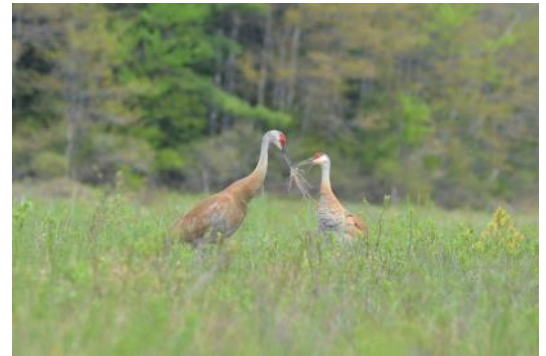
The Torsey Pond Association (TPA) will hold its annual meeting at 10 a.m. on July 8 at the Readfield Town Office. Anyone interested in helping to preserve this pristine pond is welcome to attend. To become a member of the TPA, or to make a donation, go to www.torseypond.org/membership.

One of the main goals of the association is to keep invasive plants out of Torsey, which is surrounded by ponds infested with variable-leaf milfoil and other invasive plants. Torsey is a shallow pond, and any infestation would quickly take over, destroying native wildlife and plants, ruining fishing and other recreation on the pond, and devastating property values.

Half of the annual membership dues (\$50) go toward funding our invasives protection program. This includes paying for annual plant surveys of the pond and for Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBI), who check for plants on any watercraft entering or exiting the pond. These essential services are managed by the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, but volunteers are also needed and much appreciated. If you would like to volunteer to be a CBI, please visit torseypond.org for more information.

At the annual meeting, Bill Monagle, executive director of the Cobbossee Watershed District, will talk about a grant the TPA has received to help protect the pond from erosion and runoff. Board members and officers will also be elected.

We hope that if you live on the pond, or boat, fish or swim in Torsey that you will consider joining us. Torsey is at the head of the Cobbossee Watershed, which makes it especially important, since other ponds in the watershed take in what Torsey sends out! FMI email: TPAinfo@torseypond.org



Sandhill cranes build their nest in a marsh on Torsey Pond. Photo by: Keith Coulling

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MOUNT VERNON FOOD BANK

Food Bank Update & Information on Heating Assistance

With the high price of food in the grocery stores and reduction in SNAP benefits, you may be having a hard time feeding your family. If that sounds like you, please come to the First Baptist Church – Mt. Vernon Food Bank at 321 Pond Road, Mount Vernon any Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30. The food bank has excellent selection of fresh, frozen, canned and dry foods. A local church purchases farm shares from a local farm to provide the freshest produce during the summer for customers.

In addition to food, the food bank provides a wide array of personal care items, clothing and school supplies.

Though summer has just begun, it is time to begin applying for HEAP (home energy assistance program). Applying early means that you will have heat once cold weather arrives.

KVCAP is the organization that coordinates this program in our area. The best way to start the process is online. Go to their website kvcap.org, go to For the Home tab, then Heating Assistance. If you do not have internet at home, do not despair. The Mt. Vernon, Readfield and Fayette libraries all have fast internet and public computers.

**Donations can be dropped off at the
Readfield Town Office**



Neighbors Driving Neighbors Celebrates its Volunteer Drivers

On May 25, Neighbors Driving Neighbors (NDN) held a celebratory luncheon to honor its volunteer drivers at the Viles House in Augusta. Several drivers, their guests, and NDN board members were in attendance on a picture perfect day for a delicious lunch, program of recognition and much community spirit.

NDN President Harald Bredesen welcomed everyone to the event, thanking the drivers—whom he called “the heart of NDN”—for their dedication and commitment to helping others in the communities served by NDN.

While it was the intent of the lunch to honor and thank the drivers, it was clear that the feeling was reciprocal. When asked why they volunteer for NDN, driver responses included “connection to the community,” “wanted to give a little back,” “it’s a lot of fun!,” and “I’m paying it forward and glad to do it!”

NDN’s Executive Director Joe Austin shared updates, highlighting the recent addition of Readfield to their service area. Neighbors Driving Neighbors provides 60 to 70 rides each month to residents of Belgrade, Fayette, Mount Vernon, Rome, Vienna, and now, Readfield. Fifty drivers are on board to volunteer their time and gas to this service.

Austin commented that riders often tell him how grateful they are, and drivers thoroughly enjoy the time they spend with their community neighbors. He further stated, “Rides are not only provided to medical appointments and grocery stores—NDN takes residents to lectures, lunches, and other social events—even to work. And this past year, NDN was proud to say that we reached the 100,000 miles driven mark.”

The Viles Foundation generously provided the house for the event, and after lunch, guests were invited to learn more about the estate, adding a bit of history to the program. Several door prizes were also awarded to the deserving drivers adding to the celebration.

There are several more upcoming NDN events including the Readfield Launch Party, Readfield Town Hall, June 25, 2-4 pm, Annual Community Breakfast, Mount Vernon Community Center, July 22, 9—11 am, Online Auction Fundraiser, biddingowl.com/neighborsdrivingneighbors, July 1—28. All are invited to these community events.

For more information, to become a volunteer driver or to register as a rider, please visit neighborsdrivingneighbors.org.



Photo caption: NDN Executive Director Joe Austin, left, and President Harald Bredesen, center, join volunteer Sue Squires as she discusses her positive experiences as a driver for NDN.

Need a ride?

For residents of Belgrade, Fayette,
Mount Vernon, Readfield, Rome
and Vienna.



Phone 207-860-0677
Email neighborsdrivingneighbors@gmail.com
Website neighborsdrivingneighbors.org



You're invited to the

Neighbors Driving Neighbors Community Breakfast



**Please join us for our annual
Community Breakfast!**

**Mount Vernon Community Center
Saturday, July 22, 9—11 am**

**Come by for a delicious breakfast buffet and
to catch up with your neighbors!**

www.neighborsdrivingneighbors.org





2023 Neighbors Driving Neighbors Online Auction Fundraiser



Don't miss this FUNdraiser that you can attend from the comfort of your own home!

www.biddingowl.com/NeighborsDrivingNeighbors

Find a special piece from one of the many talented artists and craftspeople in our area. Last year, we had art and homemade items, desserts, gift cards, and adventures—including a ride of a lifetime in a 1968 Amphicar!

Bidding will be open from July 1 to 28. Pickup on July 29 at 120 Belgrade Rd, Mt. Vernon.

www.neighborsdrivingneighbors.org





READFIELD
HERITAGE DAYS

READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY HISTORY WALK # 63

Saturday, August 12 th
10:00-11:30 a.m.

Meet behind the Masonic Hall at Readfield
Corner. Our co-hosts will do a
Walk n Talk starting from there...

Walkers will first learn about the water source for several 18th and 19th century homes at Readfield Corner , as told by Dale Potter-Clark. From there we will venture to the Readfield Corner Water Association on Bill Bourret Drive to hear from Bill Bourret and Ed Dodge, two of the original board members of the Readfield Water Association, about how the Water District came to be.

Readfield Historical Society

759 Main Street

Opening Day is

Saturday, May 27th

10:00-2:00 p.m.

Open 10-2 every Thurs. & Sat. through Labor Day weekend

FMI or to make an appointment contact



Kennebec Land Trust to Launch 35th Anniversary Trail Challenge

The public is invited to help the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) celebrate its 35th anniversary by participating in a community trail challenge. From July 1 to August 13, 2023, visitors and community members alike are encouraged to explore area trails and properties by hiking, walking, running, biking, swimming, or paddling!

Local businesses will donate a dollar for adults and five dollars for kids for every mile explored. The donations will be used for the stewardship of KLT's existing 57 miles of trails, including the Mount Pisgah Conservation Area, as well as for the development of new trails.

Participants can log their miles on KLT's website and will be entered to win weekly prizes donated by local businesses. Kids under 13 can stop by the KLT office for a special prize. No cost or registration is required, and participants can follow KLT on Facebook or Instagram for updates throughout the challenge. There will be a final trail challenge celebration at KLT's 35th Anniversary Annual Meeting on August 20.

KLT's goal is for participants to log 10,000+ miles, the equivalent of \$10,000 for area trails. KLT would like to thank all the generous businesses that have sponsored the challenge, especially our lead sponsors: Kennebec Savings Bank, Maine Evergreen Hotel, Performance Foodservice – Northcenter, Franklin Savings Bank, Lake & Denison Attorneys and Maine State Credit Union.

For more information or to log your miles, please visit www.tklt.org/trail-challenge.

The Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) works cooperatively with landowners and communities to conserve the forests, lakes, streams, wetlands, fields, and wildlife that help define central Maine. KLT protects and stewards land permanently, offers access to conserved properties, provides opportunities for people to learn about and enjoy the natural world, and works with partners to support sustainable forestry and farming.

Moss Walk / Thursday, July 6, 4:30 PM / Wakefield Wildlife Sanctuary, West Gardiner

Join botanist and author of Mosses, Liverworts and Hornworts, Ralph Pope and Kennebec Land Trust to learn more about moss identification and ecology. There will be a short walk, followed by a more in-depth moss identification session.

RSVP required. For more information or to RSVP, contact Marie at mring@tklt.org or 207-377-2848.

Reynolds Forest - Diehl Addition Dedication / Wednesday, July 19, 5:30 PM / Reynolds Forest Sidney

Kennebec Land Trust is pleased to announce that we have added another eight acres of field habitat on the Goff and Dinsmore Roads to the Reynolds Forest. This additional conservation land, donated by Leann Diehl, a former Sidney resident, will enhance the conservation values of the contiguous Walter W. and Alice B. Reynolds Forest.

Join KLT, generous land donor Leann Diehl, and friends to celebrate this conservation accomplishment on July 19 at 5:30 PM. Reynolds Forest provides visitors excellent birding opportunities, interesting wildflowers and floodplain species, and views of the powerful brook (now called Goff Brook), with its foaming water roaring over exposed rocks into stone-lined pools. The 8-acre addition will protect an adjacent field.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Marie at mring@tklt.org or 207-377-2848

Directions: From Augusta, take the River Road (Route 104) north towards Sidney. Once in Sidney, look for the Dinsmore Road on your left. Turn onto Dinsmore Rd. and then turn right onto Goff Rd. Please park on Goff Rd.

**Camille Davidson
'Chance Illuminations'
Opening July 1st 1-3**



**The Gallery
1138 Main Street, Readfield
gallery hours Friday 10-12
Saturday 10-12
or by appointment 522 7325**



JOIN NELLIE FROM CAKE DELIBERATELY FOR

WINE & CHEESE CAKE CLASS

Saturday, July 15th 4:00-6:00pm
The Gallery in Readfield 1138 Main St
..... \$45 per person

Includes a 6" cake for you to decorate & take home
in Vanilla, Strawberry or Chocolate Buttercream
Wine and cheese board
Must be 18 to join class

Text or Email to reserve your spot!
Nellie@cakedeliberately.com
207.530.0736

Readfield United Methodist Church

1564 Main St. Readfield, ME
Phone number: 207-685-4211
Email: office@readfieldchurch.net
Website: readfieldchurch.org
The church is handicap accessible

Public Supper

July 8th 4:30-6:00 pm

Baked Beans, pot pies, casseroles, salads & desserts
Adults \$10.00, Children 5-12 \$5.00, Under 5 free

Our next kindness food box giveaway is scheduled for July 15th from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Jesse Lee church. Anyone is welcomed to come get a box of non-perishable food. You just pull up in the parking lot and we put a kindness box in your vehicle. No questions asked. If you would like to help us with filling these boxes there is a list of items, we suggest on our website or you can call or email the office and we will get the list to you. For more information visit our website or call the office.



JULY 2023!

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Join us at Readfield United Methodist Church in July for a **WHOLE CHURCH Vacation Bible School (VBS) experience** Sundays @ 10am

Court Tales with Joseph and Esther

Take a trip with us to the Royal Kingdoms of the First Century. Where we will be learning from the Bible through words, videos, and sermons. During the service we will be singing VBS type songs and having an interactive worship. Following stay for court crafts for all ages and themed snacks. Invite your neighbors and Let's GO!

Readfield UMC 1564 Main St. Readfield, ME 04355

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We're Back!!!
Are you up for the Challenge?

Central Maine Amazing Race

**THE AMAZING
R A C E**

Hosted by the Manchester Lions Club

**Day full of FUN &
EXCITEMENT!**

Save the Date

8/19/2023

New Challenges!

**100% of Pledges for
the Community**

Sign up or more info: debrahmaddox@yahoo.com or call 207-441-9906

Tel: 685-4064



Visa/Mastercard

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Rt. # 135, Readfield, Maine

Used Auto and Truck Parts • Auto Repair
Used Cars and Trucks • Buying Junk Cars

Ken Edgecomb

Mark Edgecomb

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An easy way to keep up-to-date with Town
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Go to www.readfieldmaine.org and
click on E-Alerts to sign up.



Town Office Staff Contacts

Town of Readfield

www.readfieldmaine.org

8 Old Kents Hill Road
Readfield ME 04355

Phone: 207-685-4939

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Town Manager, Eric Dyer: manager@readfieldmaine.org
 Finance Officer, Teresa Shaw: finance@readfieldmaine.org
 Town Clerk, Kristin Parks: clerk@readfieldmaine.org
 Code Officer, Chip Stephens: ceo@readfieldmaine.org
 Front Desk Clerk, Anjelica Pittman: info@readfieldmaine.org
 Maintenance, Matthew Seems: maintenance1@readfieldmaine.org
 Animal Control, Eric Johnson: 207-931-7684
 Sexton, Ben Rodriguez: sexton@readfieldmaine.org
 Assessor, David Ledew: assessor@readfieldmaine.org

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Transfer Stations Summer Hours 8:00 AM-12:00 PM	3	4 Independence Day Holiday All Town Offices Closed	5	6	7 Assessor In (By Appointment)	8
9 Transfer Stations Summer Hours 8:00 AM-12:00 PM Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	10	11 Conservation Commission 6:30 PM Planning Board 6:30 PM	12 Age Friendly 9:00AM Solid Waste & Recycling at Wayne 5:30 PM Library Board 6:30 PM	13 Fairgrounds Working Group & Potluck Cookout at Beach 5:30 PM Cookout 6:30 PM Meeting Road Committee 6:00 PM	14	15
16 Transfer Stations Summer Hours 8:00 AM-12:00 PM Heritage Days Meeting 1:00 PM	17 Cemetery Committee 10:30 AM	18	19	20	21 Assessor In (By Appointment)	22
23 Transfer Stations Summer Hours 8:00 AM-12:00 PM	24 Select Board 6:30 PM	25 Planning Board 6:30 PM	26 Trails 6:30 PM July Messenger Articles Due	27	28	29
30 Transfer Stations Summer Hours 8:00 AM-12:00 PM	31					