

Andover Fire Department Responds To Salisbury House Fire

Two die; Andover firefighter escapes injury

Rene Lefebvre
Andover Fire Chief

It would be a profound understatement to say we are living in very crazy times. Likely, you have read enough about COVID-19 to last a lifetime. I will only say that your fire department has changed the way we operate with the goal of keeping you and our staff safe. We are a very “out there” team and enjoy being with the people we serve. Now, we, like everyone else have had to separate from you and our own team. We must all take this terrible illness seriously; your fire team does. Working together, paying attention to the experts, we will prevail.

Andover fire was recently dispatched to a reported building fire on West Salisbury Road in Salisbury. The initial request was for an engine and engine company. As the crew responded the Salisbury chief arrived on scene and requested a second alarm. This called for an additional engine, engine company and the rescue from Andover with additional equipment from neighboring communities. Our first arriving engine company became part of an interior crew and headed into the building. The second company set up water supply in the Blackwater River. They would spend many hours at this assignment supplying water to tankers that trucked water to the fire scene. The rescue was assigned to fill air tanks the firemen use to breathe inside the building.

Interior firefighting is a job for the

well trained, well equipped, and not one for the faint of heart. However, the task creates a trust and a bond that is the heart of the fire service. This incident was in a large old building and required the skill of all present to safely extinguish this fire.

One of Andover’s assignments was to conduct overhaul operations on part of the roof. The roof was tested for soundness as the team advanced, but burned buildings can be unpredictable. One of our officers felt the roof give way and tried to back away but found himself hanging between floors. An Andover Captain sounded a May Day call on the radio. That call is repeated over the radio network and all firefighting stops. Teams evacuated the building and all efforts were directed to the trapped firefighter. The firefighter was lowered by a team inside the building and taken to Concord Hospital for treatment. Thankfully, he was not injured and was released.

In spite of all the great efforts of the many firefighters that were called to Salisbury that afternoon, two lives were lost. Fire moves fast and can be deadly. Beyond smoke detectors and a good plan, early evacuation leads to the best outcome.

I want to take a minute and thank Deputy Stephen Barton and the Andover firefighters for their support for me and my family while I was out of service following surgery. I am not one that wants help; however, the choice was not mine to make. From the bottom of my heart a big thank you to my entire emergency services family. You’re all the best!

Transfer Station Limits Recycling to Keep Public, Employees Safe

Only recycling metal, mixed paper, and glass

Marj Roy
Town Administrator

The Transfer Station remains open during posted hours. To protect employees and residents, the following changes have been made.

The Transfer Station can be a congregating area for people. While residents may normally stop to say hello and catch up, the Town asks residents not to linger or visit on the premises. Residents are asked to dispose of items quickly and maintain a six-foot distance between one another.

Cardboard, aluminum, and plastic require additional handling by the Transfer Station personnel and therefore, until further notice, need to go in the solid waste hopper instead of the Recycling Building.

We understand that many of you have your children home with you as the schools and daycares have closed, and you may not be able to leave them at home when you come to the Transfer Station. *Please* have your children stay in your vehicle while you are disposing of trash. This is for their safety.

We appreciate your cooperation!

Andover’s Cable TV Station Needs Recordings of Online Meetings

Public events can still be visible, even in these times

Charlie Darling
Andover Cable TV Station

First, a few words of background:

Andover has its own local video channel. On Comcast, it’s Channel 8; on TDS it’s Channel 16. Volunteers Tina Cotton, Bob Norander, and I work to keep as much Andover-specific video – committee meetings, concerts, lectures, and other local events – airing on the channel as possible.

We also post a link on the Town’s website at Andover-NH.gov, on the “Community Videos” page, to each Andover-specific video that we air on the cable channel.

The current pandemic has made it difficult or impossible for us to get the video around town that we need for the cable channel and the “Community Videos” page. In a time when maintaining physical distance is threatening to erode our community’s social connections and our ability to participate in

Town government, we’re asking for the community’s help.

If you’re running a meeting or an event online that would normally be open to the public, please consider clicking the Record button (in Zoom or whatever online meeting app you’re using) and saving the video to your computer. Once you’ve done that, our team can convert it, edit it if you like, and air it on the cable channel and post it on the Town’s website.

We’re all learning this technology together, so don’t worry if you “don’t know how to do it.” Neither do we! But we’re *very* good at figuring these things out. We can, and we will, figure out how to make it easy for you.

If you host public Andover meetings or events online, please contact me at Station@AndoverCableTV.com. We can discuss all your questions and concerns, and we’ll figure out how to make your important contributions to our community visible to the community once again. In this unprecedented time, it’s important that we do that!

Intent-to-Cut Form Must be Filed for Any Significant Logging

But the form is not a permit to cut

Marj Roy
Town Administrator

The following information is a reminder for anyone intending to do logging, that an Intent-to-Cut form must be completed by all parties and submitted before any work can begin. Exemptions to this rule include cutting up to 10,000 board feet of logs or 20 cords of firewood from your own land for your own use, not for sale.

The Intent-to-Cut form originates with the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) and is available online at Revenue.NH.gov/forms/timber-gravel.htm.

It is a tax document only. It is not a permit. Once the landowner and logger

have filled out the form and sent it to the Select Board’s office, the Select Board will certify with their signatures that:

- All owners of record have signed the Intent.
- The land is not under the Current Use Unproductive category.
- The form is complete and accurate.
- Any timber bond required has been received.
- The Tax Collector will be notified with 30 days of receipt pursuant to RSA 79:10.
- The form will be forwarded to DRA within 30 days.

After certification, an operation number is assigned to the Intent-to-Cut form prior to distribution. The original, signed copy is retained by the Town; a copy goes to the owner, a copy to the logger, and a copy to the DRA.

Transfer Station Supervisor

The Town of Andover is accepting applications for the part time position of Transfer Station Supervisor. Normal working hours are Wednesday 7 A.M. to 6 P.M., and Saturday 7 A.M. to 6 P.M., with additional hours as required.

This is a working position to oversee operations of the Transfer Station. Responsibilities include: assisting patrons, supervision of staff, managing the processing, transportation and sale of recycled materials, promoting the Town’s recycling program, and other duties as assigned.

We are seeking a self starter who can work with a minimum of supervision, has some mechanical ability, and is a problem solver. Successful candidates are expected to be certified as a Solid Waste Facility Operator through the State of New Hampshire or be willing to obtain certification as soon as possible. The starting salary is \$16.00 per hour.

Applications may be obtained and submitted at the Andover Town Office during its normal business hours of 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. Monday through Thursday. Applications also available at www.andover-nh.gov Please return applications to Marjorie Roy, Town Administrator, PO Box 61, Andover, NH 03216

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