

# Hampden *Highlights*

Quarterly Newsletter, Town of Hampden • Issue 11, April 2008

## Join the Sea of Purple

*By Matt Arnett & Walt Cupples*

Last year Principal Yehle of Hampden Academy set a goal of having “A Sea of Purple” as the citizens and students marched in the Hampden leg of the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter’s Hike for the Homeless. The purpose of the annual hike was to raise awareness and funds for the Shelter. And the mission hasn’t changed.

The Shelter opened on Christmas Eve, 1986, as a 12-bed overnight only facility. In the first year, volunteers did most of the work alongside Shelter guests with the annual budget being less than \$100,000. Currently, the Shelter is open 24 hours every day with services ranging from 10,000 bed nights and 30,000 hot meals each year, crisis intervention, case management, to medical and psychiatric care. There is now a professional staff of 12 employees.

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### Hike for the Homeless, May 10 Leave from Hampden Academy at 9:30 AM

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With all that, the annual budget is approaching \$500,000. State and federal homeless funds account for only 27% of our annual budget. That’s why we have events like this hike, to advocate for homeless people and raise needed funds for the Shelter!

Last year the leadership and support of Hampden Academy students and faculty was overwhelming. There truly was a Sea of Purple as they proudly wore the school color in support of the Shelter. We are so proud of them and their commitment to do even more this year! Please join-in! If you can’t walk, please sponsor a hiker and buy raffle tickets.

Money is raised by the registration fee (forms are available in the Town Office or at [www.WLBZ2.com](http://www.WLBZ2.com) online). By purchasing raffle tickets you could possible win wonderful prizes including trips, a big screen TV and an LLBean kayak package (tickets are available at Edwards Family Shop N Save).

So get yourself, your family, your organization and join us on May 10 for the 9:30 start from Hampden Academy to the Bangor Waterfront. Let’s show the area how Hampden supports a worthy cause. ■



## MUNICIPAL BUDGET CHALLENGES FOR THE 2008/2009 YEAR

*By Susan Lessard*

The Town Council will begin work on review of the 2008/2009 municipal budget at the end of April. The budget workshop schedule is posted on the Town Website, at the Town Office, and on Cable Channel 7. All meetings will be televised on Cable Channel 7 as well.

The same items that are challenging our residents challenge the budget for the town. One of the most critical components of that is the escalation in the price of petroleum-based products. The rising cost of heating fuel for Town buildings, gas and diesel for Town vehicles, electrical costs for streetlights and buildings, as well as the trickle down effect of fuel prices on supplies such as salt and on materials from pavement to snowplows is making this budget one of the hardest in memory.

Contributing to the difficulty in addition to petroleum pricing and the downturn in the general economy is the additional public infrastructure that the town has to maintain as a result of

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# *Comprehensive Planning Report*

## MOVING TOWARD THE FUTURE

*By Matt Arnett*

The town's Comprehensive Planning Committee (CompPlan) has been meeting twice a month for nearly a year. The Comprehensive Planning process is intended to satisfy requirements of the State of Maine needed to qualify for state grants given only to towns with an approved plan and to enable the town to plan wisely as we move toward the future. The committee has never attempted to create a specific vision for Hampden's future but certain themes guide our thinking: preserve and connect open space; balance economic and residential development; encourage developments that support a walk-able community whenever practical.

Our goal has been to suggest ways to retain a rural flavor while also providing modern amenities and tax efficient services expected by our residents. One of the formidable challenges has been to do this while the SAD22 is independently developing its plan for a new high school in town.

CompPlan focused first on the "Triangle," the section of land bounded by I95, Coldbrook Road, Route 202, and the Bangor line that parallels I395 between I95 and Route 202 where the town's business park is located and where the town also owns the former LL Bean property. The planning project was subsequently expanded to include the entire town— considering not only economic development and open space planning but also how best to maintain and develop roads and bridges, natural, historic, cultural, and marine resources as well as how to promote affordable housing and recreational opportunities.

CompPlan is chaired by Councilor Thomas Brann with Councilors Arnett, Cox, and Cushing also representing Town Council. Members of the Council's Community Service Committee are also officially designated participants. Board and Committee representation from Planning Board and Conservation Commission have included David Caliendo, Mike Avery and Don Katnik. Town Staff support has been provided by Bob Osborne, Town Planner; Gretchen Heldmann, GIS/IT specialist; Bion Foster, Economic Development Director; Kurt Mathies, Recreation Director; and more recently, by Dean Bennett, Economic and Community Development Staff Specialist. The Eastern Maine Development Corporation/Penobscot Valley Council of Governments was contracted to supply professional facilitation of the process. Our facilitator is Chris Shrum. Other residents have participated from time to time.

### The Triangle

With regard to the Triangle mentioned above, the committee envisions a commercial corridor along Coldbrook Road that takes into account and protects existing residential housing; provides access to more interior locations behind Coldbrook Road that might be zoned for professional office space or compatible light industry and moving to a part of the LL Bean property that would be designated a Town Forest. Moving further northeast from the Forest toward the Business Park would be another section for professional office or business headquarters type development and then into our existing Business Park. Connectivity between the Business Park and the Ammo Park to the northwest is under discussion.

East of the Triangle, the land between Route 1A north and the Penobscot River from the Bangor city line down past the marinas holds promise for expanded marine/commercial uses such as a proposal by Hodgdon Yachts to acquire a 17 acre lot in Hampden currently owned by the City of Bangor where, if they win a contract from the U.S. Navy, they would build a high speed naval vessel constructed with innovative wood composite materials.

## Four Mile Square and the New High School Proposal

The committee considers the four mile square with its access to existing water and sewer lines as offering opportunities for higher density and more affordable housing mixed with a conservation corridor, a trail system, with existing housing, existing school facilities as well as the proposed new Hampden Academy campus.

One challenge in planning for the four-mile square is the renewed interest of the Maine Department of Transportation in retaining the option of constructing a continuation of Route 202 across the square, which may adversely impact the new Hampden Academy location. In order to better understand the proposal, the Town Council has scheduled a meeting for April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the old gymnasium with SAD22 officials, building committee members, and officials from Winterport and Newburgh.

Another outstanding consideration facing CompPlan is the future use of the existing Hampden Academy buildings and grounds. A subcommittee of the SAD22 building committee that will include additional representatives from the Hampden Town Council will be working on this issue over the next several months.

## Rural Areas

In thinking about rural areas of the town, the CompPlan group supports finding ways to preserve and protect some large blocks of natural habitat whether a farm, open fields, or forested terrain. One example is the recent action by the William Deighan family in conveying a conservation easement deed to the Heritage Landmark Land Trust, which will protect the property from incompatible development. Another option under discussion is to recommend the formation of conservation cluster subdivisions where small house lots with shared water and sewer facilities would be clustered on a large, natural block of land.

If you have questions or suggestions, visit one of our meetings, generally the first and third Tuesdays at 7 PM at the Town Office or call Bob Osborne or Dean Bennett at the Town Office. The Committee anticipates using a town forum, the town cable station, and the town website to provide further information and updates as we move closer to a formal presentation and public hearing, probably in the fall. ■

## Municipal Budget Challenges

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growth the Town has experienced over the past ten years. The Town has accepted twelve additional miles of road in that time period, developed a Business Park for which it has maintenance responsibilities, and expanded sidewalks in subdivisions and on Main Road North.

Changes in State and Federal regulations are also part of the mix of cost drivers we are experiencing. The Town is required, due to its population density as a community adjacent to the Bangor urban area, to adhere to stringent MS4 storm water regulations that add additional reporting, monitoring, and inspection duties for all storm water control mechanisms. We participate as part of a regional effort in complying with these regulations but despite that these regulations have added significant additional costs to the budget and take a considerable amount of staff effort on an ongoing basis.

There is also the unstable state of the State budget as a concern during our budget preparations. The shortfall at the State level impacts not only State agencies and social services – but also local government as well through reduced or delayed payments for revenue sharing and educational funding. With education comprising more than 62% of every tax dollar, fluctuations in the state's share of funding has a large and critical impact on the tax rate.

In spite of all the bad news and unknowns – the Town of Hampden has much in its favor in these troubled times. Due to excellence in the schools and conformity in student populations, SAD #22 was not required to be part of the formal consolidation process that has so many local schools in turmoil. The Town has worked hard to establish reserves that can help mitigate wild fluctuations in state funding and still allow us to continue to maintain good roads and infrastructure. The Town Council work on the Comprehensive Plan is nearing completion and we will have an updated working plan for the community's future as a result. The Town is reviewing its operations in all areas to make sure that we are operating in a fiscally responsible and efficient way. As evidenced by changes at the Transfer Station – finding ways to save money and still retain services that the residents want and expect are primary objectives of the Town Council. We look forward to preparing a workable and affordable budget for town services for the coming year. ■

# Transfer Station Schedule Changes Effective April 30, 2008

## **Household Trash, Recyclables & Swap Shop, Same Schedule**

Household trash, swap shop & recyclable items will be accepted Wednesday – Friday from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. This is the same schedule that the transfer station has operated under for many years.

## **All Other Waste, New Schedule**

All other waste including construction & demolition debris, wood, metal, shingles, computer parts, televisions, and appliances will be accepted only on the second and fourth weekends of each month, from 8 a. m. through 4 p.m. A schedule of dates for acceptance of these items for the remainder of 2008 is posted on the town's website, is available at the town office, and has been sent to all transfer station users.

## **\$15 Fee for Appliances with Refrigerants, New Policy**

There will be a \$15 disposal fee for all refrigerators, air conditioners or other appliances with refrigerants. This fee will be paid at the town office, which will issue a sticker that must be affixed to the appliance when it is taken to the transfer station.





# Arbor Day Proclamation

By Rick Briggs, Mayor

WHEREAS, in 1872, Sterling Morton proposed that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, the holiday called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in a single state, and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS, trees in our town increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

**Now, therefore, I Rick Briggs, Mayor of Hampden do hereby proclaim May 23, 2008, as Arbor Day in Hampden and I urge all citizens to support the efforts to protect our trees and woodlands.**

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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*Sue Lessard, Town Manager*

**OOPS! TAX DUE DATE FOR SECOND HALF OF PROPERTY TAXES WAS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2ND TO AVOID INTEREST.**

**TRANSFER STATION** changes take effect at the beginning of May. Check the website for updated information. Information packets have been sent to all transfer station users outlining the new rules.

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**PRIMARY ELECTIONS** are coming up on June 10th.

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Check out the new hosts and shows on Hampden Happenings and Hampden Highlights on Time Warner Cable Channel 7. For those without cable, copies of the shows for viewing can be obtained at the Town Office or the Edythe Dyer Library.

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**HIKE FOR THE HOMELESS** challenge. The Hampden Town Council has challenged the elected officials from surrounding Towns to 'take a hike' on behalf of this worthy cause. Check out the article in this newsletter to find out how YOU can also be a participant.

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Budget season is upon us once again and this year proves to be a challenging one due to the financial difficulties at the State level as well as the general condition of the economy. Tune in to Cable Channel 7 to watch the budget meetings – or come on down to the Town Office and view them in person. The schedule is posted on the town website at [www.hampdenmaine.com](http://www.hampdenmaine.com).

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**RECREATION** staff and volunteers are working on a project to relocate the gazebo from the field by the Town Office to the area adjacent to the playground at the Lura Hoit Pool. This will allow parents a place to sit and watch their children play as well as a central site for outdoor concerts, etc. This project is being done with assistance from a grant obtained by Recreation Director Kurt Mathies. ■

# A RAIN GARDEN DOES WHAT??

*By Staff*

The purpose of this article is to provide a better understanding of what a 'Rain Garden' is and why the Town Council has been discussing the possibility of building one in the drainage area in front of the Town Office building on Western Avenue.

A rain garden is a method of controlling storm water runoff and to filter out chemicals and pollutants before the water gets to another water body such as a stream, lake or river. As part of the Area Storm Water Group, Hampden is responsible for monitoring and inspecting all storm water control measures the urban area of our town. Federal and State EPA guidelines set strict standards for that process.

In order to meet the requirements, the Bangor regional group has been looking for pilot projects in the area that will highlight best practices in storm water management. A rain garden is one of those projects, Hampden was considered as a good site for two reasons: one, the Town Office is a highly visible location, and two – we have an unsolved storm water runoff problem in the drainage area in front of the Town Office.

The water runoff from the parking areas and from Western Avenue scours that area with such force that it is impossible to keep grass growing and soil from washing away despite annual efforts to add soil and re-seed the area. Heavy rainfall typically washes out each year's effort, which then flows with the runoff and eventually ends up in the Penobscot River.

A rain garden is constructed somewhat like a bowl with layers of different kinds of soil. Hardy indigenous plants that can survive Maine winters and which do not die from salt or other pollutants would be used to stabilize the soils. The garden would slow down the runoff and filter out the pollutants so that the water that ends up in the Penobscot is cleaner.

The Bangor Area group has earmarked some funds for the planning of such a garden and the Town has applied for a grant to assist in the construction of one. Once plans are developed and the Council has a clear idea of the out-of-pocket cost, the Council will make a final decision on whether or not to go forward with the idea. If the Council authorizes the project, the Public Works department will provide materials from the Town-owned gravel pit and will assist in the construction. ■



# *The Edythe Dyer Library Receives* **Cancer Survivorship Notebook**

*By Debbie Lozito*

**T**he Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) collaborating with the American Library Association (ALA) shipped LIVESTRONG Survivorship Notebooks to more than 14,200 libraries across the United States. The Edythe L. Dyer Community Library along with LAF and ALA are committed to making quality reference materials available to better serve those seeking health-related information, specifically cancer.

“Libraries are places of opportunity that make information affordable, available and accessible to all people,” said American Library Association President Lorienne Roy. “We are pleased to work with the Lance Armstrong Foundation to bring this information to our libraries and to highlight our efforts in keeping our communities healthy and well-informed.”

The LAF created the LIVESTRONG Survivorship Notebook to give cancer information access to everyone, especially low-income or uninsured citizens who don’t have access to a computer or are denied follow-up care after completing cancer treatment.

“As a cancer survivor and someone who grew up in a city where more than 95 percent of families use the public library, I recognize the importance of providing access to cancer resources through libraries,” said Doug Ulman, president of the LAF. “We created the Survivorship Notebook to help cancer survivors be inspired and empowered to live life on their own terms. I am proud that the LAF is partnering with the ALA on such a critical initiative.”

The LIVESTRONG Survivorship Notebooks are a free resource and are designed to help cancer survivors, their families and caregivers organize, keep and access important information related to their cancer experiences. The Notebooks are divided into four sections:

**Survivorship Tools** – These tools help cancer survivors organize physical and emotional health concerns; maintain a list of medications; keep track of medical, financial and insurance records; and keep a record of medical history after treatment.

**Survivorship Stories** – This section contains a booklet of stories told by real survivors about their experiences with cancer.

**Survivorship Topics** – This section features information about the physical, emotional and practical challenges cancer survivors and their loved ones may face throughout their battle with cancer. Topics addressed in this section include: the aftereffects of cancer treatment, the emotional effects of cancer, planning your financial future and how to communicate with your health care team.

**Survivorship Updates** – Cancer survivors can use the information in this section to request additional information about cancer survivorship to add to their notebooks. They can also add to this section information they receive from their own health care team, family members, support groups, caregivers and friends.

One notebook will be available to circulate and the other will remain in the reference collection. Individuals, groups and organizations can order the free LIVESTRONG Survivorship Notebook at [LIVESTRONG.org](http://LIVESTRONG.org) ■

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## **The Edythe L. Dyer Community Library is thinking about summer!**

**O**UR SUMMER READING PROGRAM is gearing up (pun intended) at the starting line, which is June 23. The theme this year is “START YOUR ENGINES” and the program is open to all children from pre-school through grade 8. Teens may also start their engines with a separate program just for them. Look for more details at the Library.

The Library has received a gift from the George Stern and Sara Stern Foundation and a grant from the Rose and Samuel Rudman Library Trust to help pay for some of this year’s Summer Reading Program activities. ■



## Hampden Historical Society Book and Bake Sale

*By Chip Mattson*

The Hampden Historical Society will hold a Book and Bake Sale on Saturday, June 7, 2008 at Kinsley House, 83 Main Road South in Hampden from 8:am to 3:pm (rain or shine).

Hard and soft cover books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, videos will be on sale and donations will be accepted. Homemade cakes, cookies and pies will also be featured. Contact: Bob or Alice Hawes at 862-4189 for more information including pick-ups of books and other items. Email at [haweshome@tds.net](mailto:haweshome@tds.net). ■



# Obtaining Town Office Services After Hours

*By Staff*

**A**s the lives of our residents have become busier and more consumed with work and family, the Town Council has set as a priority the development of ways for people to access Town services after normal business hours. The purpose of this article is to provide information on 'alternatives to in-person' for services generally offered at the Town Office.

### **MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION**

The State of Maine has now made it possible through its Rapid Renewal program for people to re-register their vehicles online. Payment is made with an electronic check and the receipt that is printed out serves as validation in case of a traffic stop until the stickers are received that are sent from the State. The link to this program can be found on the front page of our Town Website [www.hampdenmaine.com](http://www.hampdenmaine.com). People can also mail or fax in the renewal request. A phone call or email to the town office will provide information on the amount due and we will send the stickers and registration along once the check has been received. People who vacation or winter out of state commonly do this.

### **TAX & SEWER PAYMENTS**

All tax and sewer payments may be sent by mail or can be put in the drop box outside the front door of the Town Office and if requested a receipt will be mailed to you.

### **VITAL RECORDS/DOG LICENSES**

Call or email the Town Clerk [hampden@midmaine.com](mailto:hampden@midmaine.com)

### **HUNTING/FISHING LICENSES**

These may now be purchased in other locations than at the Town Office in your Town of residence such as stores and Town Offices in other municipalities. In addition – they can be purchased online. The link to the State website is located on the front page of the Town Website at <http://www.hampdenmaine.com>

### **TOWN BOARD & COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS**

The application for membership on Town Boards and Committees is available on the Town Website at [www.hampdenmaine.com](http://www.hampdenmaine.com) and will also be sent to you if you call the Town Office at 862-3034.

### **PLANNING/ZONING**

All of the Town's ordinances are on the Town website and it is possible for residents to review that information and then email/mail/call with questions to the Town regarding those ordinances or requesting additional information.

We are here to meet your Town services needs. If you have a question – call us. We will do our best to find a way to get you the service or information you require. ■



## Step up to the Tee and Support Hampden Children's Day

By: Vivian Gresser

Fund raising has begun for the 2008 Annual Hampden Children's Day to be held on Saturday, August 16th.

The Bowl-A-Thon held on Saturday, March 29th had eight (8) teams participating. The bowlers collected donations from Hampden citizens and netted \$4,900. This gave us a good start on our finances for the annual event.

Some of the expenses incurred to make this day happen each year are the cost of fireworks (which are the best around) and parade entries (yes, some do charge to take part in the parade). The entertainment provided during the day at the school grounds, such as the band, the singers, the dancers, the magician, and the science guy all charge for their services. We do not have a theme for the parade yet; we are hoping to get the school children to enter a contest to suggest a theme and a drawing for the cover of the program.

The next fundraiser will be the Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 17th at Hampden Country Club. We are looking for sponsors for 18 holes and as many golfers and teams as want to participate. One of our committee members will soon be asking businesses to support us by taking an ad in our program that will be printed in August 2008.

We also hope to schedule another supper and auction in the fall to begin raising money for the 2009 event. We can always use more help on the Children's Day Committee. If you would like to join us, come to our monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room and Edwards Family Shop 'n Save. For more information on any of the events, please contact Don Darling at 947-2866, or Vivian Gresser at 862-3676. ■

## Open Space Planning Project

By Gayle Zydlewski

The Town of Hampden, together with 11 other communities in the Penobscot River Valley, has elected to participate in a regional open space visioning project. Partly in response to the Brookings report, "Charting Maine's Future," these communities are coming together to protect their "Quality of Place," to plan for successful, sustainable development and to protect the most treasured features of their shared landscape. So that this will reflect the true priorities and concerns of these communities, the Town and its partners invite you to attend one of two public sessions, either Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, or Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, locations to be determined.

Other participating communities include Hermon, Orrington, Bangor, Brewer, Holden, Orono, Veazie, Eddington, Old Town, Bradley and Milford. The project is a joint undertaking of these communities, the Penobscot Valley Council of Governments, the Bangor Land Trust, and the Trust for Public Land. For more information, please contact Gayle Zydlewski at [cbwc@covebrook.org](mailto:cbwc@covebrook.org). ■

# How to Save Energy \$\$\$ and Increase the Value Of Your Property

By Jim Feverston, Chair, Hampden Tree City USA Project

The energy costs for many of us have literally “gone through the roof.” The stinging costs of fuel oil this winter has got many people weighing their options on how to reduce those costs.

Did you know that planting a tree could actually save you money? Here is what some of the experts have to say about the value of trees in a community setting like Hampden.

“If you plant a tree today on the west side of your home, in 5 years your energy bills should be 3% less. In 15 years the savings will be nearly 12%.” —*Dr. E. Greg McPherson, Center for Urban Forest Research*

“Trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30 percent and can save 20 - 50 percent in energy used for heating.”—*USDA Forest Service*

“Planting a row of conifer trees on the north and northwest sides of your property creates a wall against cold winter winds—saving your heating costs by up to 30%. The best protection from wind occurs when the windbreak is no more than the distance of one or two tree heights from the house. The down-wind side of the trees is where the most snow accumulates, so plant your windbreak a one or two tree-height distance from your rooftop and driveway if you can.” —*Arbor Day Foundation Research*

“Landscaping can reduce air conditioning costs by up to 50 percent, by shading the windows and walls of a home.” — *American Public Power Association*

“A mature tree can often have an appraised value of between \$1,000 and \$10,000.” —*Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers*

“In one study, 83% of realtors believe that mature trees have a “strong or moderate impact” on the salability of homes listed for under \$150,000; on homes over \$250,000, this perception increases to 98%.” —*Arbor National Mortgage & American Forests*

“Landscaping, especially with trees, can increase property values as much as 20 percent.”—*Management Information Services/ICMA*

“Trees can be a stimulus to economic development, attracting new business, apartments rent more quickly, tenants stay longer, and space in a wooded setting is more valuable to sell or rent.”—*The Arbor Day Foundation*

Planting trees is a simple thing everyone can do to reduce our energy dependence. No matter where you live in Hampden, you can plant trees...and take proactive, positive steps toward saving energy dollars, increasing your property value and keeping our planet healthy. ■



# Stream Cleanup Day is May 17 Lend a Hand and Help Keep Hampden Beautiful

*By Bob Osborne*

**T**he Town of Hampden Conservation Commission requests your help for this year's annual Stream Cleanup Day that will be held from 8:00 AM to Noon on May 17, 2008. The cleanup volunteers will meet at Hampden Marina. The designated cleanup area is Turtle Head Cove and Sucker Brook up to Main Road North. The event is a coordinated effort on behalf of the Hampden Conservation Commission and the Bangor Area Storm Water Group (BASWG) that includes the communities of Hampden, Bangor, Brewer, Veazie, Orono, Old Town, and Milford.

In addition to the direct benefits of cleaning up a local water body, this event seeks to involve and educate area citizens in the protection of water quality and increase awareness about the impacts of storm water pollution in our regional waterways. Last year was our third annual cleanup, and it was a success with over 20 volunteers participating in the collection of nearly 50 bags of trash along Turtle Head Cove and Sucker Brook.

In order to make this year's program possible, we are asking local businesses to partner with the Town to support the purchase of necessary supplies, such as trash bags, gloves and bottled water for all participants. The City of Brewer also hosts a barbecue at the end of the day to recognize volunteers and sponsors. It also gives the dignitaries a chance to address the local TV stations and newspapers.

We welcome any and all contributions, no matter how small. One hundred percent of all donations are used for the cleanup effort. No members of the coordinating committee or any of the volunteers receive any compensation for the program, other than a good lunch. No taxpayer funds are used for this project other than the trash disposal costs.

Thanks for your help with this project. Please call Town Planner Bob Osborne at 862-6527 if you have any questions. (NOTE: A rain date of May 31 is established in the event that the weather does not cooperate). ■



## HELP SPREAD THE NEWS!

*By Staff*

**H**ampden has a lot happening and the new addition to cable channel 7 will focus on the people and events that make Hampden the community of choice in central Maine. The Communications Committee began work in July by producing shows featuring the Hampden Garden Tour, a look at the Recreation Department offerings during Kid's Kamp and the family campout, the Children's Day parade, and Public Works Director Greg Nash's retirement party. We hope to offer new shows each month to bring you interesting programming on events in our community. Shows air weekly - check the link for channel 7 on [www.hampdenmaine.com](http://www.hampdenmaine.com).

If you do not currently get cable service in your area and would like to view the shows, we will offer copies for residents to view. You can stop by the Town Office or the Edythe Dyer Community Library and check out a copy. ■

# Getting The Word Out

## JOIN HIKE FOR HOMELESS SHELTER MAY 10 Save Hampden Town Councilors from Humiliation!!

*By Matt Arnett*



Your Town Council has challenged the councils of Bangor, Brewer, and Veazie to see which town turns out the most hikers for the homeless shelter on May 10. The losing town councilors must wear the color of the winner at their Town Council meeting following the hike! Join the hikers at Hampden Academy at 9:30 AM; wear a purple shirt or sweater and create a Sea of Purple as we march to the Bangor waterfront to support the work of the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter. ■

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TOWN OF HAMPDEN  
106 WESTERN AVENUE  
HAMPDEN, ME 04444

PERMIT NO. 201

POSTAL PATRON  
HAMPDEN, ME 04444