TOWN MANAGER’S UPDATE

As we find ourselves more than halfway through this unprecedented year, the Town of Acton continues to provide high-quality service for the community. As many of you know, many of our buildings are closed to the public, which makes conducting the daily business activities with our various departments challenging. Thanks to the efforts of our Finance and Land Use departments, we are now offering Walk-Up Window Service behind Town Hall, Monday through Thursday from 10 AM to 12 PM. Members of the community can interact with Town staff for various activities, including paying tax bills, accessing building permits, and much more. For more information, please contact each department at the information provided on page 8.

We are also continuing to operate the Acton Town Services (ATS) Hotline. This service is staffed by trained Town employees available to answer questions related to Town services, guidelines or policies in effect, and more. The hotline is available during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, and can be accessed by calling 978-929-6619. The Town is also providing an online COVID-19 Information Center, which provides the latest information related to from local, state and federal sources, and can be found at actonma.gov/covid19.

There will be a State Primary election Tuesday, September 1st, and a State General Election Tuesday, November 3rd. The polls will be open at RJ Grey Junior High School located at 16 Charter Road from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Early voting is available for both elections. For more information, or to receive an early voting application, please contact the Clerk’s office at 978-929-6620, or visit actonma.gov/election.

Last month, the Board of Selectmen established its annual goals for the upcoming year. There are nineteen short and long-term goals, ranging from the establishment of an Equity and Diversity Advisory Commission to creating a town-wide climate action plan. Much of the work required for these goals are well underway by Town staff and our boards and commissions. To view the Selectmen’s goals, please visit actonma.gov/BOS.

On June 29th, more than 240 voters attended Annual Town Meeting. This year’s meeting was held inside and outside and was very successful. Thanks to the efforts of Assistant Town Manager Mark Hald and Town Moderator Jo-Ann Berry, along with many other Town staff and volunteers for putting this together. The results of the Town Meeting can be viewed by visiting actonma.gov/townmeeting.
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NARA PARK IS NOW OPEN
All patrons are required to follow Social Distancing Guidelines: Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people; do not gather in groups. Face coverings or masks are required where social distancing is not possible. This applies to both indoor and outdoor spaces. No gatherings of more than 12 people.

- **Beach:** Open - Daily hours of operation are 9AM - 6 PM. Please visit actonma.gov/beach for more information.
- **Walking Perimeter:** One way only, counterclockwise from the Bathhouse.
- **Playground and Upper Fields:** Open, fields soon for organized play, Volleyball Courts: Open
- **Picnic Rentals:** Rentals now available (limited group size). Application can be found online at actonma.gov/recreation.
- **NARA Summer Camp:** In operation from June 29 through August 28. You may enroll for NARA Camp for youth ages 4-15 online at actonrec.com. Weekly themed sessions are offered with pre and post care options.

UPDATE ON OTHER TOWN RECREATION AREAS

**Town Fields** including School Street, Great Hill, Little Great Hill, Jones, NARA, Robbins Mill, Veteran’s, Hart, MacPherson, Elm Street and Concord Road are open with restrictions. Fields will be opening soon for organized play.

**Elm Street Tennis Courts:** Open - Reservations are required for use. To reserve a court visit: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CABAD29AAFC1-elmstreet](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CABAD29AAFC1-elmstreet) Court use is by reservation only. Reservations are free. Court times are reserved by 2 hour increments, from 7AM and 9PM.

**Elm Street Basketball Courts:** Open for conditioning training only.

**Town Playgrounds:** All playgrounds are now open.

**TJ O’Grady Memorial Skatepark:** Open

**Camp Acton:** Open. Accepting Permit Applications.

**Community Gardens** Open-Uses must follow the Acton Water District’s Watering Policy.

Please email recreation@actonma.gov with any questions or call (978) 929-6640. The office staff is working remotely and is able to assist you. Any forms may be dropped off at the Town Hall 24/7 mail-drop located at the outside ground floor entryway.

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**NARA SUMMER CAMP**
At NARA Park now through Aug. 28 from 8AM - 4PM, M-F.

**MIGHTY MINIS:** AGES 4-5 - AM or PM or Full Day  
**NARA YOUTH:** AGES 6-13 - Full Day  
**NARA COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING (CIT):** AGES 14-15 - Full Day

Camp weeks are limited in size. Please register now as week are filling up. Pre and Post Care Option Available. Sibling discount available.

REGISTER ONLINE AT ACTONREC.COM

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![Session 7, Aug. 3-7](image1.png)

![Session 8, Aug. 10-14](image2.png)

![Session 9, Aug. 17-21](image3.png)

![Session 10, Aug. 24-28](image4.png)
Although the Senior Center/Council on Aging continues to be closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff is available to offer assistance and we have a variety of virtual programming opportunities.

Upcoming virtual programs include: History of 1950s Folk Music, baseball show with Howie Newman, “At the Piano with Sivan” a classical music concert/lecture, new session of watercolor classes, a lecture on the history of Prohibition, continuation of chess classes, Computer Club meetings, Tuesday Tips with Terri at Ten, a new daytime Laugh for Your Health/Laughter Yoga. There are several new exercise class recordings, for a total of 12 exercise/movement classes with COA instructors available through ActonTV’s cable and YouTube channels.

There are two drive-through events this month: a shredding truck and brunch by VSO James MacRae and COA staff. Last month’s drive-through BBQ prepared by members of the Acton Fire Department was a big success! We loved seeing so many familiar (and masked!) faces. Please view our August newsletter at [www.actoncoa.com](http://www.actoncoa.com) for details on upcoming events.

Meals continue to be delivered through the Meals on Wheels program and pick-up options for lunch are also available. You can reach Council on Aging staff at 978-929-6652 or seniorcenter@actonma.gov.

Above photos taken at July’s Drive-through BBQ prepared by members of the Acton Fire Department and signs made by the staff to our great citizens of Acton!

NARA Beach, July 28, 2020

NARA Campers Social Distance Water Fun!
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
Transfer Station & Recycling Center

The Transfer Station & Recycling Center has adjusted operating hours and is open Monday – Saturday 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM (excluding public holidays). The first hour is open to seniors only (65+). We ask that residents maintain social distancing while using the facility.

The Transfer Station office is closed to the public. The Swap Shop remains closed.

The following stickers can now be purchased online:
• First Household
• Senior (65+)
• Recycling Only
• Non-Resident Stickers

Second stickers and replacement stickers must be purchased directly through the Acton DPW.

The new stickers effective September 2020-September 2021 will be available for purchase September 1, 2020.

Questions may be directed to the Acton DPW/Highway Division (978) 929-7740 or the Transfer Station (978) 929-7742.

MAILBOXES: The DPW would like to remind residents to inspect their mailboxes and posts prior to the winter season. The mailbox policy can be viewed at by clicking here.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY: On July 17th the Acton Police Department held a graduation ceremony for the cadets who participated for this year’s annual Youth Police Academy. The kids worked hard for a full week and learned a lot about how their hometown police do their jobs. Congratulations to this year’s Cadets!! A big thank you to the School Resource Officers Det. Campbell, Det. Penney, and Det. Russell, for coordinating and organizing the youth academy! #ActonMa

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

facebook.com/ActonMAPolice

• Traffic Alerts
• Fraud Alerts
• Missing Persons
• Department Updates and More!
**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**ALL REMAINING 2020 CONCERTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS AT NARA PARK HAVE BEEN CANCELLED THROUGH 2020.**

2020 CONCERTS ARE BEING RESCHEDULED TO 2021!

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**VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT**

Do you want to get involved in making Acton a better place to live? There are many boards and committees in Town run by volunteers many of them in need of new members. This is your chance to make a difference! There are both Ad Hoc and ongoing committee slots available. Examples include the Volunteer Coordinating Committee, the Historic District Commission, The agricultural Commission, and the Recreation Commission. There is sure to be a board that can use your knowledge and skills. To learn more, visit the Volunteer Coordinating Committee page on the Town website: [http://www.acton-ma.gov/111/Volunteer-Coordinating-Committee](http://www.acton-ma.gov/111/Volunteer-Coordinating-Committee). There is no better way to give back to your community than by volunteering.


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**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY CURBSIDE PICK UP**

**STEP 1**

- **find.minlib.net**
- **Acton Items ONLY**

Search for materials at find.minlib.net

Items must be available at Acton Memorial Library

Need help or don’t know what to read?

Call 978-929-6543 (Adult)

Email: reference@acton-ma.gov

978-929-6655 Option 4 (Children & Teen)

Email: ACTChildrens@minlib.net

Do not place a hold online - you must call the library to place holds

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**STEP 2**

- **978-929-6655**

Call Circulation at 978-929-6655 Option 2

To place your hold & schedule a pickup time

Call between 10:30 am and 5:30 pm Monday-Friday or 10:30 am and 1:30 pm on Saturdays

Tell library staff members the materials you would like to check out - up to 5 Adult, Teen, or Media items and 5 Children’s books

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**STEP 3**

**Pick up your materials at your designated time**

Materials will be in a paper bag on a table in front of the library’s main doors

Look for a bag with:

• The last 4 digits of your library card number
• The first 4 letters of your last name

Please pick materials up on time

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**ActonMemorialLibrary.org**

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**VOTE 2020**

**LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VOTER REGISTRATION OR VOTING?**

For more information visit: [http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele)

or contact the Town Clerk’s Office

clerk@actonma.gov

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**MUNICIPAL MONTHLY, AUGUST 1, 2020**
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

KRISTIN GUICHARD, AICP - PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Krysten is the Senior Planner for the Town of Acton, MA. Her primary focus is implementation of the Town’s Comprehensive Community Plan, Acton 2020. She served as local project manager for federally funded transportation projects, Assabet River Rail Trail and currently for the complete streets project in Acton’s main center, Kelley’s Corner. Krysten works closely with the Regional Housing Services Office, which assists eight communities, including Acton, with the municipal function of affordable housing. She enjoys working collaboratively to advance public participation and education about the connection between housing, transportation and economic development. She has been working in Planning and Community Development in the Metro-West Boston Region for over ten years. Krysten holds a master’s degree in Public Administration and a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Clark University.

JAMES BYRNE - ACTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
Jim was born and raised in Maynard and graduated from Springfield College with a degree in Emergency Medical Services Management (EMSM). Jim and his wife Michelle have a six year-old son named Tofer and a three year-old daughter Savannah. He has worked for the Acton Fire Department for the past 11 years; the past two of which as a Lieutenant.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

SCOTT ROBB - ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
“Acton has been my home for over 27 years and I value the community and the strong commitment to education. My family and I have benefited from being in Acton and I want to contribute to the town’s future success. I feel my business experience can be applied to the economic development needs of the town and am optimistic I can contribute to strengthen our community”

DAN MALLOY - ECOMONIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
“Acton has been my home for over 27 years and I value the community and the strong commitment to education. My family and I have benefited from being in Acton and I want to contribute to the town’s future success. I feel my business experience can be applied to the economic development needs of the town and am optimistic I can contribute to strengthen our community”

JUDY HODGE - ACTON COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION
“I am happy to serve on the Acton Community Housing Corporation as we work to increase the variety of affordable housing options to make Acton a more inclusive community. Having worked for 30 years as a social worker who sometimes was able to help people with housing needs, including homeless people, I am committed to reducing the stress that housing problems bring to lives.”
IMPORTANT VOTER INFORMATION

The Board of Selectmen, on July 20, 2020, voted to change the polling locations for the 2020 Elections. All precincts will vote at the RJ Grey Junior High School located at 12 Charter Road, Acton, MA 01720.

Vote by Mail

Please consider the option to vote early by mail. The application can be found at the link provided.  https://www.acton-ma.gov/598/Elections-Voting

| Last day to register to vote and change party enrollment for the State Primary: | Saturday, August 22, 2020 |
| Last day to apply for an Absentee or Early Vote Ballot **BY MAIL** before the State Primary: | Wednesday, August 26, 2020 – 5 PM |

View Sample Ballot:  https://www.acton-ma.gov/598/Elections-Voting

In-Person Early Voting

Town Hall ~ 472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

**In Person** Early Voting prior to State Primary:
Saturday, Aug. 22, 2020 – Friday, Aug. 28, 2020

Hours:
Saturday, August 22 & Sunday, August 23 from 9 AM to 1 PM
Monday, August 24 – Friday, August 28 – 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Vote on Election Day – Tuesday, September 1, 2020

RJ Grey Junior High School located at 12 Charter Road, Acton.

Hours from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

There are three ways to apply for an Absentee or an Early Vote by mail ballot:

https://www.acton-ma.gov/598/Elections-Voting

Fill out an Absentee / Early Vote by Mail ballot application, sign and return:

*by mail* to Town Clerk’s Office, 472 Main Street, Acton Ma 01720
Fax to (978) 929-6340  e-mail to clerk@actonma.gov

Thank You and Stay Safe!
Eva K. Szkaradek, CMMC, Town Clerk

472 Main Street, Acton Ma 01720  Phone: 978-929-6620  Fax: 978-929-6340  Email: clerk@actonma.gov
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