ST. GEORGE NEWSLETTER

October 2026

St. George Community Exchange: From Findings to Action



Over the past year, the St. George Resilience Committee has been taking a closer look at the challenges and opportunities facing our community—from our working waterfront and natural resources to town infrastructure, public safety, clean energy, and the connections that make St. George a strong community.

Now it's time to share what we've learned—and hear from you.

Join us for the St. George Community Exchange: From Findings to Action on Thursday, October 29, from 5–7 PM at the St. George Town Office.

We have information to share with you. You have perspectives we need to hear.

This is a drop-in event, not a formal presentation. Come when you can, explore the findings, ask questions, talk with committee members, and tell us what matters most to you. Your perspective will help us move from what we've learned toward the priorities and actions that will shape the St. George Resilience Plan.

Drop in anytime between 5 and 7 PM. Childcare and refreshments available. Everyone is welcome.

TOWN CALENDAR
October 2026

Oct 1st Conservation Commission, 4pm, downstairs
Oct 7th Cemetery Committee, 4:30pm, downstairs
Oct 7th Resilience Committee, 5pm, upstairs
Oct 8th Harbor Master Appreciation Day
Oct 8th TIF Committee, 5pm, downstairs
Oct 8th Sea Studio Public Hearing, 7pm, St. Geo. School
Oct 12th Indigenous Peoples Day, Town Office closed
Oct 13th Senior Luncheon, upstairs
Oct 13th Parks & Rec committee, 6pm, upstairs
Oct 13th Planning Board, 7pm, downstairs
Oct 14th Open Space committee, 4pm, downstairs
Oct 19th Select Board, 6pm, downstairs
Oct 20th Staff Meeting, Town Office opens @ 9:30am
Oct 27th Planning Board, 7pm, downstairs
Oct 28th Open Space committee, 4pm, downstairs
Oct 28th Marine water quality talk, 5pm, upstairs
Oct 29th Resilience planning open house, 5pm, upstairs

Meeting dates/times subject to change; please see our website for the most up-to-date info

Town website: www.stgeorgemaine.com

Town Facebook: www.facebook.com/TownofSaintGeorge

School website: www.stgeorgemsu.org

Parks & Recreation News

Seniors-
Our next luncheon is October 13th and we will be enjoying a pasta bar!

Youth-
Soccer season is underway and going well! A big thank you to this year's team sponsors: Midcoast Exterior House Wash, Tenants Harbor General Store, Long Plumbing Co. and RCA Excavation. Thank you for your continued support of our youth athletes!

Community-
We hope to see you at our First Annual Halloween Cornhole tournament fundraiser for the Snows Point Lodge! It will be held on October 24th at Leppanen Field, starting at 11am. Double elimination tournament with prizes for 1st place and best costume. There will be concessions, including cider, hot cocoa, snacks, lunch and more! Team fee is $40 and you can register on the town's website!

The St. George Fire Department trains at 6pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday. They have "truck checks" at 6pm on the 4th Wednesday. The second Wednesday of the month is their business meeting at 7pm. All events are at the Tenants Harbor Fire Station.

TOWN INFORMATION

Town Office: 372-6363 **Fax:** 372-8954
Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
Transfer Station: 372-6451
Hours: Tue through Sat 8am-4pm

Select Board

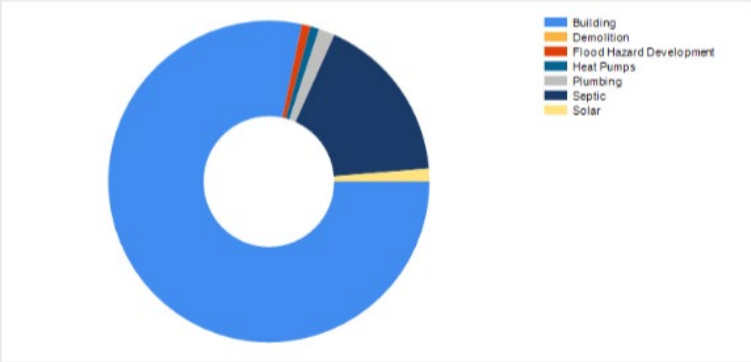
Bryan Morse	b.morse@stgeorgemaine.org
Tammy Willey	t.willey@stgeorgemaine.org
Steve Cartwright	s.cartwright@stgeorgemaine.org
Jane Conrad	j.conrad@stgeorgemaine.org
Randy Elwell	r.elwell@stgeorgemaine.org

Permit Type Report

Permit Date
08/01/2026 to 08/31/2026

Description	Fees	Payments	Permits
Building	$5,318.00	4,940.00	18
Demolition	$0.00	0.00	1
Flood Hazard Development	$60.00	40.00	4
Heat Pumps	$60.62	32.09	2
Plumbing	$110.00	110.00	1
Septic	$1,155.00	890.00	5
Solar	$87.83	87.83	1
Total	$6,791.45	6,099.92	32

Fees Breakdown



The St. George Planning Department would like to keep our residents informed regarding building, plumbing, and septic permits that have been approved by our CEO/LPI Terry Brackett.

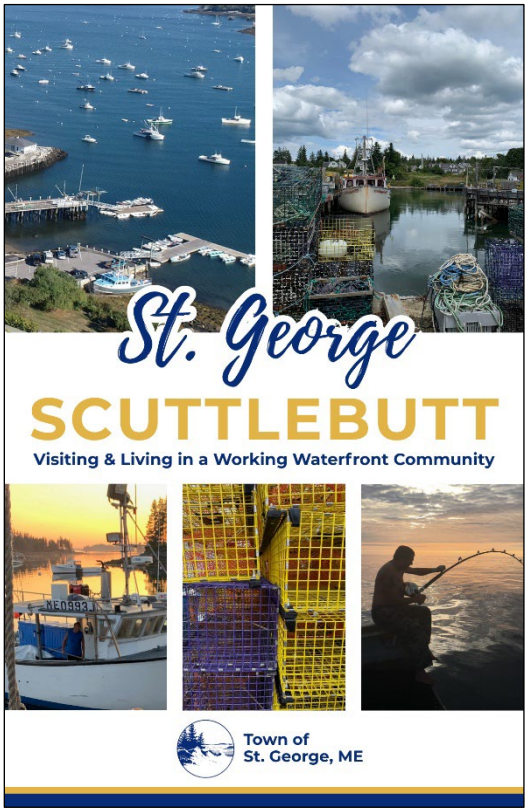
Each month in the newsletter, we will post a chart reflecting the type of permit, the fees, and the payment amounts. As always, the public may request to look at any application that has come into the office, or an approved permit.

Have you ever wanted to learn more about our local working waterfront? Check out the St. George Scuttlebutt! This little booklet is packed with information and photos about local fishing, clamming, aquaculture, the long history of our working waterfront, and how you can help support its future.
If you want to learn about…

- The annual value of local lobster & clam harvests
- The number of aquaculture leases in St. George
- New ideas for cooking with seafood
- When the Port Clyde sardine factory closed
- What a working waterfront covenant is
- How you can help protect water quality
- Tips for kayaking around fishing boats

…and more, then grab a free copy from the town office, or check it out online by clicking here.

Special thanks to the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association and the Herring Gut Coastal Science Center for contributing time, expertise, and funding to make this happen!



November 3d ballot to Include Question about Accepting Former Sea Studio Property for use as an Early Childhood Education & Programming Center; Public Hearing to be held October 8, 7 p.m. at the school

On November 3d, St. George voters will be asked whether the Town of St. George should accept the donation of two properties located at 107 Port Clyde Road (the former Sea Studio building and an adjacent lot) from the St. George CDC to be developed by the St. George Municipal School Unit as an early childhood education and programming center. Generous donors purchased the property for this purpose and gave it to the CDC, which is now offering it to the town for use by the school.

In addition to moving early childhood education and programming currently happening in the school to the renovated building, the school district plans to provide wrap-around services, including before and after-school programming and possibly childcare in the new building. Some of these services would be provided on a contract basis by independent organizations such as the Zero to School non-profit.



If voters approve the town's acceptance of this property, the town and the school district will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding stating that the school district will be responsible for all utilities, maintenance, renovations, insurance, etc., to be paid for out of the school district's budget. (Because our municipal school district is part of the town, all real property used for schools is owned by the town but operated and maintained by the school district.)



The school district projects that it will cost approximately $2 million to renovate the property for its intended use and intends to raise the money for renovations from donations and grants, as was done for the Grace Innovation Center. Future expenditures related to the maintenance and programming at the school would be handled through the usual school budget process. The school does not project a need for additional teachers in the building, although there will be a need for additional maintenance staff with the addition of the Grace building and this property.

The school projects that fundraising and renovations would take place over the next 2 – 3 years, with the building ready to open in Fall 2028. For more about the school's plans click here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/10lpgjb19gYcLBkObTnpWVQgp-6VlO3iP/view.

The select board will hold a public hearing on this referendum question at 7 pm on October 8th at the school auditorium, at which the select board and school officials will provide more details and answer questions.

EUREKA LODGE

No. 84

TENANTS HARBOR, MAINE

Rooted in History.
Committed to Community.





Eureka Lodge #84: Rooted in History, Committed to Community

For 170 years, Eureka Lodge #84 in Tenants Harbor has been part of the St. George community. While many residents recognize the historic Lodge building on Watts Avenue, they may be less familiar with the work taking place behind the scenes.

From January 2022 through June 2026, Eureka Lodge contributed more than **$74,000** to local schools, families, veterans, community organizations, disaster relief, and other worthy causes. Much of that support comes directly from familiar local fundraisers such as crab and shrimp roll lunches, pancake breakfasts, and community dinners.

Local people. Local effort. Lasting impact.





Habor Master Ryan Cline wants you to know…

Floats are coming out of the water October 13th!

PROTECTING OUR MARINE WATER RESOURCE

The Town of St. George has 125 miles of shoreline. Marine water quality, fishing and aquaculture industries suffer when our septic systems fail, we use herbicides & pesticides near the shoreline or don't pick up dog waste.

WEDNESDAY
OCT 28, 2026
5:00 PM

St. George Town Office - Big Room
Zoom option available (email webadmin@stgeorgemaine.com for the link)

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Sarah D. Oktay, PhD, Executive Director
Herring Gut Coastal Science Center

Jeff Schroeder
Shellfish Warden and Oyster Farmer

David Taylor
Chairman of the Georges River Shellfish Management Committee

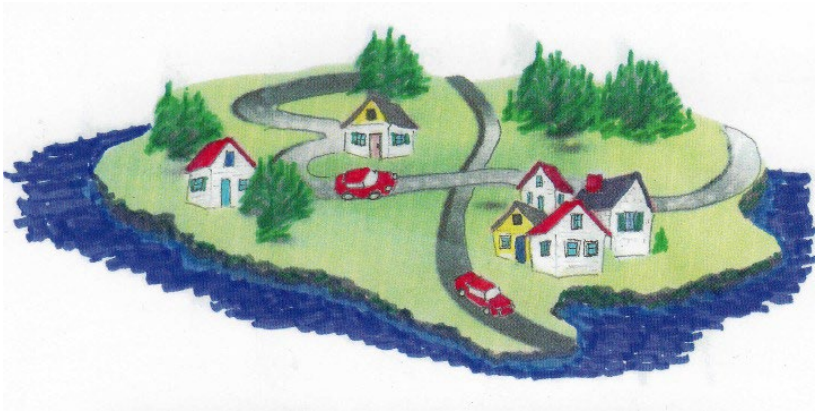
JOIN US TO LEARN HOW:

- human activity affects marine water quality & our working waterfront
- our shellfish warden, Herring Gut and citizen scientists monitor our water quality
- the Georges River Shellfish Management program works
- you can protect this precious resource & our local economy



HERRING GUT
COASTAL SCIENCE CENTER

Did You Know



That Neighbor to Neighbor publishes a bi monthly Newsletter? Visit this link to see our past newsletters and hit join to get it in your inbox!
https://bit.ly/WellGetYouThere

As we approach a new school year, remember that if you or a loved one needs a ride to an appointment, shopping or even a fun event, we are here. Please be sure to give us 24 to 48 hours notice.

For a ride or for information about volunteering or being a driver, call the number below.

Call 207-691-7069 to get all the details

Fingers Crossed for a wonderful Indian Summer

Community Pancake Breakfast Honoring Veterans - Saturday, 7 November

Eureka Masonic Lodge, 4 Watts Ave, Tenants Harbor will host a Community Pancake Breakfast (pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, donuts, coffee and juice) honoring Veterans from 7:30 to 10am, Saturday, 7 November. The price is $10 for adults and $5 for children under 12. Veterans Eat Free. Eat in or take away. Come join us.





Safe Charging Is a SUPERPOWER

Charge into Fire Safety™

Safe charging means making smart choices every time you plug in. Everyday charging habits can help prevent lithium-ion battery fires.
Safe charging is a SUPERPOWER!

USE YOUR CHARGING SUPERPOWERS

CHEAP CHARGER? DON'T CHANCE IT.

Use the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer.

Why it matters: Using the wrong charger can damage the battery and increase the chance of fire. Cheap or off-brand chargers may not meet important safety standards.

SOFT SURFACE? HARD PASS.

Charge on a hard, flat surface like a table, desk, or bare floor.

Why it matters: Devices and chargers create heat during normal charging. Soft surfaces like beds, pillows, and couches can trap heat and block airflow, which can cause a battery to overheat.

FEELS HOT? STOP USING IT.

Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, smells strange, leaks, smokes, or makes popping or hissing sounds.

Why it matters: A damaged battery can overheat and start a fire.

FULLY CHARGED? TIME TO UNPLUG.

Unplug your device when it is fully charged.

Why it matters: Leaving a device plugged in can increase heat and stress on the battery.

FOR TOOLS AND RIDES, CHARGE OUTSIDE.

Charge large items like e-bikes, scooters, and power tools outside when possible. Do not block exits when charging.

Why it matters: These batteries are larger and store more energy. Fires can grow quickly if the battery fails.

OUT OF SIGHT? NOT IN FLIGHT.

When on a plane, keep devices where you can see them while charging. Do not charge e-cigarettes or vapes on the plane. Tell a flight attendant if you notice a problem with your device, such as if it feels very hot, starts to swell, is smoking, or has a strange smell.

Why it matters: If a battery overheats or fails, it is important for the flight crew to be able to respond quickly.

— Working smoke alarms and a home fire escape plan can help make a life-saving difference. —

BATTERY SAFETY STARTS BEFORE YOU PLUG IN

Buy products listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as UL, ETL, or CSA.* Listed products meet important safety standards.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The Leading Information and Knowledge Resource on Fire, Electrical, and Related Hazards

nfpa.org/education | ©2026 NFPA®

*The listing of specific commercial products or services herein is solely for educational purposes and does not imply endorsement by NFPA, nor discrimination against similar services not mentioned.

Your Open Space Committee has been hard at work surveying your feelings and concerns about St. George open spaces – forests, fields, wildlife habitat, park lands, views and vistas - and their future. The results of the survey will help guide us as we draw up a plan for how the Town of St. George manages its open space over the next decade or so. You will learn more as we analyze the results, but we can say that you have let us know that the open spaces that surround us are deeply valued by you here for how they add to our quality of life by protecting clean water, providing places for recreation, creating access to the ocean, and supporting an economy that benefits from spectacular scenery.



And meanwhile, we've learned some interesting things about the parts of our town's open space that support wild animals that find their habitats in St. George. We learned that the remote islands of St. George are vital nesting habitat for some of Maine's most sensitive sea birds: Atlantic Puffins, Arctic Terns, Common Terns, Least Terns, and Great Blue Herons. Each of these is either a "State Threatened" or a "State Special Concern" species. We were surprised to learn that the coastal population of Great Blue Heron has declined 82% since the 1980s. Eastern Egg Rock, well-known locally as the destination for Puffin cruises, is considered one of the most productive seabird nesting colonies in the Gulf of Maine.

We actually have an especially rare habitat type in our town. The Meadow Brook Preserve is part of a Salt-hay Saltmarsh, recognized by the state as a kind of habitat that is increasingly threatened by development.

St. George is home to five types of significant wildlife habitat: inland and waterfowl wading bird habitat, tidal waterfowl and wading bird habitat, seabird nesting islands (19 of which are in St. George!) , shorebird areas that help migrating birds refuel on their journeys (4 of which are in St. George) , and at least one "significant" vernal pool, a temporary pool that is critical for frogs, salamanders, and fairy shrimp.

We always knew that we live in a special place, and these are just a few reasons to add to the list of reasons why.

Susan Merrow, Chair 860-367-1687

Conservation Commission News October 2026
Trails & Invasives

Fort Point Ash Tree Preservation

As we have reported in prior newsletters the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is working its way toward St. George. Once it arrives and infects the ash trees they will wiped out in 3 to 5 years. To preserve the ash trees along the trail and make it safe for walkers, the commission has embarked on a proactive multi-year project to the inoculate trees closest to the trail. Inoculation of trees has been proven to be 95% to 98% effective in keeping the trees healthy. Last month we reported that the Maine Forest Service treated a group of trees and in August our certified contractor treated additional trees closest to the trail. This proactive approach in the battle against the invasive Emerald Ash Borer will help maintain the character of the trail and keep it open for all users. We will continue to report progress on the project in future newsletters.

OCEAN VIEW GRANGE BEAN SUPPAH

SATURDAY, OCT 3RD 5 -7PM

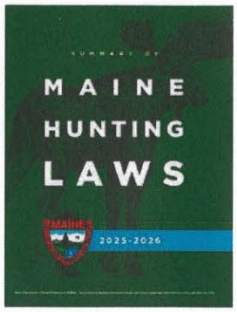
ADULTS $10 – CHILDREN $5

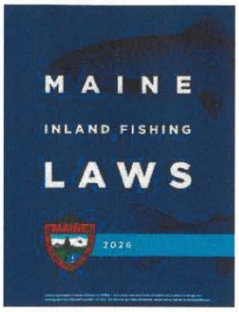
VETERANS FREE

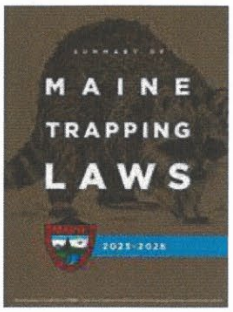


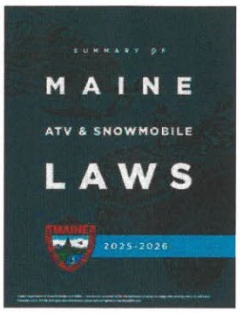
BAKED BEANS – HAM - BROWN BREAD -HOT DOGS - COLE SLAW - BISCUITS

LAWS OF THE MAINE OUTDOORS









Digital lawbooks allow you to review current laws, confirm legal hunting hours, look up best practices and more – from anywhere, anytime!

Download lawbooks directly to your phone or download the mobile app, ME Outdoors! All lawbooks can be found within the app.

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD:

LAWBOOK PDFs

APP (iPhone)

APP (Android)

MEFISHWILDLIFE.COM/LAWS

Tara's Tips



- Tax bills are now past due and interest on the first ½ is now accruing
- When registering your car you've been asked: "Do you need to file the SR-22 form?" What *is* an SR-22? The answer is here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SR-22_(insurance)
- 2027 Dog Licenses go on sale 10/15/26

Town of St George
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04860