



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

STAFF DIRECTORY

DEPARTMENT	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
Animal Control	Rob Pekins	582-5150	rpekins@gardinermaine.com
Assessing	Curt Lebel	582-6892	clebel@gardinermaine.com
City Clerk & Register of Voters	Kathleen Cutler	582-4460	kcutler@gardinermaine.com
City Manager	Andrew Carlton	582-4200	acarlton@gardinermaine.com
Code Enforcement Officer	Kris McNeill	582-6892	kmcneill@gardinermaine.com
Code Enforcement, Assessing & Economic Development Assistant	Anglia Christopher	582-6892	achristopher@gardinermaine.com
Deputy City Clerk	Hailee Lovely	582-4460	hlovely@gardinermaine.com
Deputy Tax Collector	Lacy Raccio	582-4200	lraccio@gardinermaine.com
Economic & Community Development	Melissa Lindley	582-6888	mlindley@gardinermaine.com
Finance Director & Human Resources	Denise Brown	582-6891	dbrown@gardinermaine.com
Fire Chief	Richard Sieberg	582-4535	rick.sieberg@gardinermaine.com
General Assistance	Angelia Christopher	582-1000	ga@gardinermaine.com
Library Director	Dawn Thistle	582-3312	dthistle@gardinermaine.com
Police Chief	Todd Pilsbury	582-5150	tpilsbury@gardinermaine.com
Public Safety Assistant	Tara Miley	582-5150	tmiley@gardinermaine.com
Public Works Director	John Cameron	582-4408	jcameron@gardinermaine.com
Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer	Kathleen Cutler	582-2223	kcutler@gardinermaine.com
Utility Clerk	Kelly Hare	588-4070	khare@gardinermaine.com
Wastewater Treatment Director	Doug Clark	582-1351	dclark@gardinermaine.com

More Information Online: www.gardinermaine.com

Subscribe to email alerts on our website for up-to-date information about the city. Type of announcements you will receive: City Council meeting agendas, library announcements, parking bans and snow removal notices, etc. City Council and Planning Board meetings are available to stream live from our website. If you are unable to watch the meetings live, meeting streams are archived to watch at a more convenient time.

Services available online:

Dog licensing, boat renewals, ATV renewals, snowmobile renewals, fishing and hunting licenses, car registration renewals, absentee ballot requests, resident comment form, committee interest form.



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



This 2022 City of Gardiner Annual Report was created by Public Information Officer Melissa Lindley and respectfully submitted by City Clerk Kathleen Cutler.

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In Dedication To:

James M. Toman



The City Council is pleased to dedicate the 2022 Annual Report to our retired Police Chief James M. Toman. Chief Toman joined the Gardiner Police Department as a part-time officer in April 1990, was promoted to full-time officer in December 1990, then to sergeant in 1999, and to chief in July 2003. As Gardiner's top law enforcement official, Chief Toman brought respect, honor, and integrity to the Gardiner Police Department through leading by example, exhibiting the highest level of ethics, and maintaining a superior moral character for 32 years. Throughout his service, Chief Toman hired, trained, and mentored many officers sharing his deep commitment to community policing and protecting the Gardiner community.

Chief Toman brought many important programs to the City to protect the vulnerable, including the Good Day Gardiner program, the Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate Program (ALICE), and Rape, Aggression, Defense (RAD) training. He worked very closely with the MSAD #11 schools to make sure they had the most current training to safeguard students, faculty and staff. While he invested in proactive defense, Chief Toman was also the first to respond in the face of danger. In the fall of 2022, Chief Toman was the first on scene at Gardiner Area High School in response to a report of an active shooter on site. While the report turned out to be unfounded, Chief Toman worked expeditiously with responding officers to secure the site and keep everyone safe.

Chief Toman invested his time with the children in our community and across the state. In Gardiner, he coached many teams and attended many youth-focused events, establishing a positive police presence for children. He served on several state-level boards and committees to promote the importance of early care and education in the development of healthy and resilient youth and young adults, including the Right from the Start Coalition.

Over the years, Chief Toman led the department as it changed to meet new state laws and regulations, collaborating with other agencies including the state police and county sheriffs' offices. Chief Toman oversaw the transformation of the Gardiner Police Department from a paper-based, manual operation to one that is supported by 21st century technology, including advanced communications equipment and video surveillance technology. He managed the operations, the staff, and the city leadership obligations with professionalism and respect.

The City of Gardiner is most certainly a safer place, and our police department very well respected by the community, due to Chief Toman's three decades of service and leadership.

We dedicate this annual report to James M. Toman, thank him for three decades of tireless service, and wish him well in his retirement.

Mayor Patricia Hart, on behalf of the City Council

CITY MAYOR

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to reflect on the accomplishments and challenges in the City of Gardiner and those of the City Council throughout the year of 2022.

In 2022, Gardiner continued to make great progress in recovering from the setbacks brought by the pandemic in 2020 and 2021. While 2021 offered the chance to get vaccinated and be reunited with friends and family after more than a year of social distancing, 2022 saw the return of many beloved celebrations, routines, and community gatherings. After a long two years, 2022 felt more normal.

Our city had many successes last year. McKay Park was refurbished with a beautiful hardscape seating area and safer stairway. The Maine Department of Transportation completed the rework of lower Brunswick Avenue, including the sidewalk, as the final components of the Bridge Replacement Project. Also working with the MDOT, the city was able to extend the Cobbossee Corridor Trail from lower Arcade Street to meet Water Street, bringing it closer to its intended destination of crossing Cobbossee Stream in the old mill complex area.

City employees continued to provide the top-notch services that we have come to expect with professionalism, courtesy, and responsiveness. This year, we celebrated the retirements of two dedicated leaders: James M. Toman, Chief of Police, who retired after 32 years of service, and Anne Davis, Acting City Manager, who stepped down in June to enjoy her retirement after her many years as Director of Gardiner Public Library.

We welcomed several new employees, including our City Manager Andrew Carlton and several others in the front office staff, buildings and grounds, and public safety departments.

We welcomed several new businesses and building owners to the bustling downtown, including Table Bar, Stone Broke Bread & Books, Selene's Fly Shop, Raggamuffins, Top-Side Gaming, Gardiner 4Twenty, The Blind Pig Next Level, and Bintliff's Corner Brew. Businesses in the Libby Hill Business Park continued to grow, with expansion of EJP and the completion of a PODS storage facility.

Some of the most notable accomplishments in the city included the April construction kickoff of the renovation of the Johnson Hall Performing Arts Center and the opening of the new Boys & Girls Clubs of Kennebec Valley's Sandra M. Prescott Clubhouse on Pray Street. The theater is slated to be completed by the end of 2023, with the curtain rising in early 2024. The Clubhouse, opened in August 2022, is a state-of-the-art facility offering many more services and opportunities for the families in our community. The Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce recognized the Clubhouse's value and importance to the local economy by naming Ingrid Stanchfield, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Kennebec Valley, their Businessperson of the Year.

Sadly, 2022 brought great loss to our community with the untimely passing of several beloved community members. In May, we paid our respects to the family of Logan Johnston, longtime city councilor and volunteer, organic farmer, musician, and friend to all. Logan served this city in many capacities, sharing his insight, wit, and compassion for decades. His commitment to restoring Johnson Hall fueled the push to meet the capital campaign fundraising goal. In August, we celebrated the life of John Shaw, descendant of Laura E. Richards and Julia Ward Howe. John was a prominent city volunteer, civic leader, and musician. His generosity of spirit and his love of his family and the Gardiner community was boundless. Christine Szigeti Johnson, the first woman elected to Gardiner's City Council and longtime Planning Board member, passed away in the fall. She paved the way for so many women to be involved in local government. In November, we lost longtime Public Works Foreman Kendall Cromwell, who

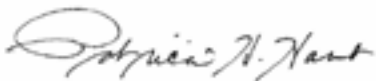
worked for the city for most of his life and had far too little retirement time to enjoy the fruits of his labor. December brought a shocking loss with the news of the death of recent Gardiner Area High School graduate Chase Fossett, age 21, in a terrible accident while away at college. He was described by his family and friends as a good student, an accomplished athlete, and a kind young man. As a community, we grieved these losses and many more.

Tragically, after losing their patriarch, the Shaw family lost their historic Yellow House to a fire on Christmas Eve Day. The federal style home of Laura E. Richards and her descendants, a much-loved piece of Gardiner history, was a total loss.

As I reflect on the events of the last year, the successes, challenges, growth, and losses, I remain optimistic and hopeful for Gardiner in 2023. We have an extraordinary community that has worked together to build new facilities, supported each other in times of tragedy, and cared for those in need. My prayer for 2023 is that we continue to serve our community and each other with kindness, civility, and humility.

I wish you all good health and happiness in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia H. Hart, Mayor – Gardiner, Maine



CITY OF GARDINER MAYORS

Robert Hallowell Gardiner, First Mayor	1850
Parker Sheldon	1851
Robert Thompson	1852
Edward Swan	1853
Noah Woods	1854-1858
Henry B. Hoskins	1859-1860
Noah Woods	1861-1862
James Nash	1863-1864
Nathan O. Mitchell	1865-1866
George W. Wilcox	1867
Joshua Gray	1867-1870
D.C. Palmer	1871-1873
H.M. Wentworth	1874-1875
James B. Dingley	1876-1878
D.C. Palmer	1879-1880
Joseph E. Ladd	1881-1886
William Perkins	1882-1883
S.E. Johnson	1884-1885
Joseph E. Ladd	1886
John W. Berry	1887-1888
A.M. Spear	1889-1892
James B. Dingley	1893
Oliver B. Clason	1894-1896
James Walker	1897-1898
Freeman Patten	1899-1900
Frederic Danforth	1901-1902
Edwin L. Bussell	1903-1904
Charles A. Knight	1905-1906
Will G. Atkins	1907-1908
Charles H. Gray	1909-1910
B.E. Lamb	1911-1917
G.L. Bragdon	1918-1920
B.E. Lamb	1921-1923
Donald S. McNaughton	1924-1925
Wallace N. Price	1925-1926
William O. Cobb	1927-1934
Edwin P. Ladd	1935-1940
Philip H. Hubbard	1940-1952
Percy K. Hanson	1953-1954
Dwight Emery	1955
Russell J. Leighton	1956-1958
Dwight Emery	1959-1962
Wallace E. Shepard, Sr.	1962-1967
Ralph M. Clark	1968-1969
Harold J. Shapiro	1970-1975
Robert D. Mooers	1976-1977
Irving B Faunce	1978-1979
William F. MacDonald	1980-1985
Charles J. McLaughlin, Jr.	1986-1988
Brian MacMaster	1989-1990
Patrica C. Bourgoin	1991-1992
Brian Rines	1993-2006
Andrew MacLean	2007-2012
Thomas Harnett	2013-2018
Patricia Hart	2019-

CITY COUNCIL

City Council meetings are typically held on the first and third Wednesday off each month. They take place at City Hall, 6 Church Street and begin at 6pm. Council meetings are available on our website to watch and listen live. They are also archived for your convenience. Please feel free to contact City Hall, 582-4460, or refer to our online calendar for upcoming meetings.

SEAT	NAME	TERM END	EMAIL
Mayor	Patricia Hart	2025	pat.hart@gardinermaine.com
District 1	Terry Berry	2024	tberry@gardinermaine.com
District 2	Simon West	2024	sweast@gardinermaine.com
District 3	Colin Frey	2024	cfrey@gardinermaine.com
District 4	Gay Grant	2024	ggrant@gardinermaine.com
At-Large	Rusty Greenleaf	2025	rgreenleaf@gardinermaine.com
At-Large	Kathleen Brown	2025	kbrown@gardinermaine.com
At-Large	Timothy Cusick	2025	tcusick@gardinermaine.com

Mission Statement:

The City of Gardiner will provide high quality services with a strong emphasis on efficiency, while fostering a vibrant community committed to strong social, economic and democratic ideals, in which people are proud to live and work.

The values we apply to this important work are:

- A dedication to public service
- A commitment to an openness and transparency in local government
- A pledge to deliver cost-effective services
- A promise to value and preserve community assets of natural, cultural and social importance
- A resolution as stewards of public resources to apply only the highest of ethical and leadership ideals in decision making.

Council Definitions

- Ordinance – A law enacted by a municipal legislative body, such as a city council or county commission. Ordinances govern matters not already covered by state or federal laws such as zoning, safety and building regulations. A municipal ordinance is equivalent to a state statute/law; on-going until voted by the body to amend or repeal.
- Order – A formal vote by a municipal body, such as a city council or board of selectmen, instructing that something be done, issuing a formal directive that some action occur. Usually refers to a one time action by the body, such as an order to transfer funds from one account to another.
- Resolve/Resolution – Expressing an opinion or endorsement of an action or sentiment, expressing that something should be done, non-binding.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

- Age Friendly Committee
- Ambulance Advisory Committee
- Audit Committee
- Board of Appeals
- Board of Assessment Review
- Brownfields Advisory Committee
- Charter Review Commission
- City Council
- Cobbossee Trail Committee
- Cobbossee Watershed
- Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee
- Conservation Committee
- E911 Addressing Committee
- Economic & Community Development Committee
- Election Day Staff
- Façade Committee
- Library Board of Trustees
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Housing Committee
- Kennebec River Rail Trail Committee
- Merrymeeting Trail Committee
- MSAD#11 School Board of Directors
- New Mills Dam Committee
- Ordinance Review Committee
- Parks and Recreation Committee
- Planning Board
- Quimby Trust
- Sidewalk Committee
- Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee
- Tree Committee
- Wastewater Advisory Committee
- Water District Trustees

If you are interested in joining any of these groups, contact City Hall

Please tell us why you are interested and what your qualifications are that pertain to the chosen group.

- Call: 582-4460
- Email: kcutler@gardinermaine.com
- Request online: gardinermaine.com/gardiner-city-council/webforms/committee-request-form



CITY MANAGER

Andrew R. Carlton, City Manager



To say that this year has flown by would be an understatement. It is hard to believe that I have had the pleasure of being the City Manager here in Gardiner for over a year now. If I have learned anything over the course of the last year it is that Gardiner is an amazing little City.

It certainly has been a year of change here with regards to City staff, most notably with our Department Heads. Denise Brown returned as our Director of Finance. Jerry Douglas, Tracey Desjardins, and Justin Hoenke all left us for new opportunities, and Police Chief James Toman retired after 32 years serving the residents of Gardiner. With change like this comes the ability to look within for those that have aspired for leadership positions. John Cameron, Dawn Thistle, and Todd Pilsbury all assumed interim roles here and did such an amazing job that it made it easy to promote them as the leaders in their departments. Melissa Lindley brought her knowledge and expertise from Gardiner Main Street and assumed her new role here in the City. We certainly have built a fantastic team here at the City of Gardiner and I think as you look across the City it shows.

I want to thank our Department Heads, City Staff, and all of our volunteers for the work they do every day to keep this City moving forward. Every day something new pops up and yet we all stand together to address challenges head on and celebrate the successes that we have.

I would also like to thank Mayor Hart and the City Council for the opportunity to serve the people of this City. Getting to tell people that I work for the City of Gardiner is something that I say with pride especially when I hear in return was a great place Gardiner is.

Moving forward should you need anything my door is always open and I welcome the opportunity to meet and talk with residents, business owners, and visitors of our amazing City.

-Andy



FINANCE DEPT

Denise Brown, Finance Director

The Finance Department is dedicated to providing the City Manager & City Council, all city departments, business owners, and the residents of Gardiner with fiscal support. The department is responsible for ensuring that all funds are budgeted, expensed, and collected accurately; as well as for all cash reconciliations and investments of the City's funds to ensure proper cash flow and maximum security and liquidity. Other functions of the department include, purchasing, payroll and benefit administration, human resource management, risk management, and debt administration.

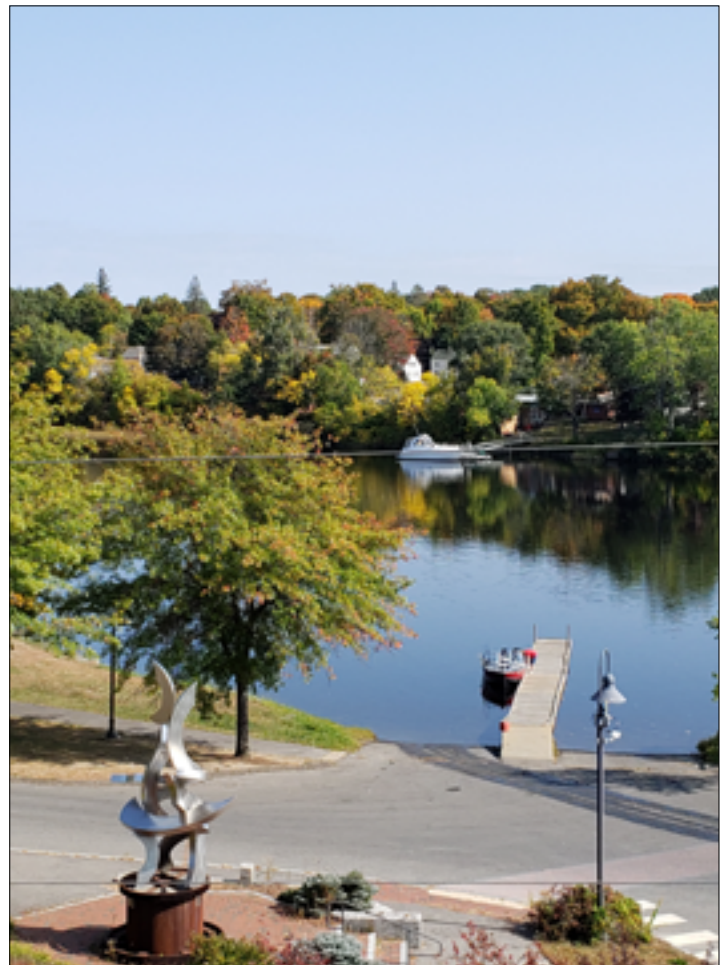
Below is an overview of the financial activities of the City of Gardiner for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

- The City's net position at the close of FY22 was \$22,412,219. Of that amount, \$2,612,762 (unrestricted net position) could be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$4,918,577.
- The unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$2,672,758 or 23% of the total FY23 General Fund budget.
- The City had total long-term debt of \$12,301,700. Of this amount, \$4,610,199 was for governmental activities and \$7,691,501 was for business-type activities.

The FY23 budget resulted in a .50 increase to the tax rate, resulting in a 22.2/mil.

- General Fund budget of \$11,619,839
 - \$7,105,649 (City)
 - \$4,068,588 (Education)
 - \$445,602 (County)
- Ambulance Enterprise Fund budget of \$1,780,968
- Wastewater Enterprise Fund budget of \$1,782,339

The Finance Director works closely with the City Manager on the budget process and is responsible for the annual estimate of revenue and preparing a balanced budget, in addition to preparing financial statements. The full financial statements from FY22 are available on the City's website. The audit was performed by RHR Smith & Company, Buxton, Maine.





March 15, 2023

City Council
City of Gardiner
Gardiner, Maine

We were engaged by the City of Gardiner, Maine and have audited the financial statements of the City of Gardiner, Maine as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022. The following schedules have been excerpted from the 2022 financial statements, a complete copy of which, including our opinion thereon, will be available for inspection at the City. Included herein are:

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	Statement C
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	Statement E
Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund	Schedule 1
Combining Balance Sheet - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Schedule A
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Schedule B

RHR Smith & Company

Certified Public Accountants

CITY OF GARDINER, MAINE

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2022

	General Fund	22 ARPA Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,414,077	\$ -	\$ 135,910	\$ 4,549,987
Investments	-	-	321,236	321,236
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):				
Taxes	145,581	-	-	145,581
Liens	395,249	-	-	395,249
Other	170,268	-	14,604	184,872
Notes receivable (net of allowance for for uncollectibles):	-	-	12,379	12,379
Due from other funds	570,150	525,419	873,831	1,969,400
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 5,695,325	\$ 525,419	\$ 1,357,960	\$ 7,578,704
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 222,081	\$ 6,948	\$ 338,788	\$ 567,817
Accrued payroll	28,299	-	-	28,299
Accrued expenses	3,014	-	-	3,014
Due to other funds	1,495,218	-	20,824	1,516,042
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,748,612	6,948	359,612	2,115,172
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Prepaid taxes	44,955	-	-	44,955
Deferred tax revenue	500,000	-	-	500,000
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	544,955	-	-	544,955
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	-	-	307,399	307,399
Restricted	-	518,471	630,939	1,149,410
Committed	-	-	82,762	82,762
Assigned	729,000	-	-	729,000
Unassigned	2,672,758	-	(22,752)	2,650,006
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	3,401,758	518,471	998,348	4,918,577
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 5,695,325	\$ 525,419	\$ 1,357,960	\$ 7,578,704

CITY OF GARDINER, MAINE

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	General Fund	22 ARPA Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	\$ 6,922,108	\$ -	\$ 887,392	\$ 7,809,500
Excise taxes	1,178,177	-	-	1,178,177
Intergovernmental revenues	2,021,661	597,740	4,345	2,623,746
Charges for services	158,440	-	6,000	164,440
Investment income	16,902	-	3,205	20,107
Miscellaneous revenues	171,494	-	482,714	654,208
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>10,468,782</u>	<u>597,740</u>	<u>1,383,656</u>	<u>12,450,178</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
General government	746,025	79,269	357,707	1,183,001
Technology	118,988	-	-	118,988
Public safety	2,354,708	-	-	2,354,708
Public works	1,246,977	-	400,613	1,647,590
Community services	943,106	-	122,599	1,065,705
Education	3,838,596	-	-	3,838,596
County tax	414,000	-	-	414,000
Unclassified	200,000	-	16,435	216,435
Debt service:				
Principal	425,246	-	241,466	666,712
Interest	148,851	-	-	148,851
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>10,436,497</u>	<u>79,269</u>	<u>1,138,820</u>	<u>11,654,586</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>32,285</u>	<u>518,471</u>	<u>244,836</u>	<u>795,592</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	313,736	-	135,000	448,736
Transfers (out)	(35,000)	-	(285,000)	(320,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>278,736</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(150,000)</u>	<u>128,736</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	311,021	518,471	94,836	924,328
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, RESTATED	<u>3,090,737</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>903,512</u>	<u>3,994,249</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 3,401,758</u>	<u>\$ 518,471</u>	<u>\$ 998,348</u>	<u>\$ 4,918,577</u>

CITY OF GARDINER, MAINE

**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 3,090,737	\$ 3,090,737	\$ 3,090,737	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	7,171,735	7,171,735	6,922,108	(249,627)
Excise taxes	1,150,000	1,150,000	1,178,177	28,177
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
State revenue sharing	949,045	949,045	1,213,053	264,008
Homestead reimbursement	429,196	429,196	428,218	(978)
BETE reimbursement	118,913	118,913	119,009	96
Urban rural initiative	70,000	70,000	72,712	2,712
Tree growth	3,050	3,050	4,345	1,295
Veterans' reimbursement	6,100	6,100	6,002	(98)
Library	116,981	116,981	116,983	2
Other	66,415	66,415	61,339	(5,076)
Investment income	10,000	10,000	16,902	6,902
Interest on taxes/lien costs	52,000	52,000	63,377	11,377
Licenses and permits	95,000	95,000	104,110	9,110
Charges for services	45,000	45,000	54,330	9,330
Miscellaneous revenues	159,935	159,935	108,117	(51,818)
Transfers from other funds	153,736	153,736	313,736	160,000
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>13,687,843</u>	<u>13,687,843</u>	<u>13,873,255</u>	<u>185,412</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
General government	814,489	814,489	746,025	68,464
Technology	142,273	142,273	118,988	23,285
Public safety	2,538,135	2,538,135	2,354,708	183,427
Public works	1,716,829	1,716,829	1,246,977	469,852
Community services	1,012,347	1,012,347	943,106	69,241
Education	3,838,596	3,838,596	3,838,596	-
County tax	414,000	414,000	414,000	-
Unclassified	78,343	278,343	200,000	78,343
Debt service:				
Principal	439,843	439,843	425,246	14,597
Interest	148,851	148,851	148,851	-
Transfers to other funds	35,000	35,000	35,000	-
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>11,178,706</u>	<u>11,378,706</u>	<u>10,471,497</u>	<u>907,209</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 2,509,137</u>	<u>\$ 2,309,137</u>	<u>\$ 3,401,758</u>	<u>\$ 1,092,621</u>
Carryforward of fund balance	\$ 76,600	\$ 76,600	\$ -	\$ (76,600)
Utilization of Assigned Fund Balance	505,000	505,000	-	(505,000)
Utilization of Unassigned Fund Balance	-	200,000	-	(200,000)
	<u>\$ 581,600</u>	<u>\$ 781,600</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (781,600)</u>

CITY OF GARDINER, MAINE

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2022

	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 58,300	\$ -	\$ 77,610	\$ 135,910
Investments	-	-	321,236	321,236
Accounts receivable (net of allowance)	14,604	-	-	14,604
Notes receivable (net of allowance)	12,379	-	-	12,379
Due from other funds	530,332	343,499	-	873,831
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 615,615	\$ 343,499	\$ 398,846	\$ 1,357,960
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 78,051	\$ 260,737	\$ -	\$ 338,788
Due to other funds	20,824	-	-	20,824
TOTAL LIABILITIES	98,875	260,737	-	359,612
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	-	-	307,399	307,399
Restricted	539,492	-	91,447	630,939
Committed	-	82,762	-	82,762
Assigned	-	-	-	-
Unassigned (deficit)	(22,752)	-	-	(22,752)
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	516,740	82,762	398,846	998,348
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 615,615	\$ 343,499	\$ 398,846	\$ 1,357,960

CITY OF GARDINER, MAINE

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	\$ 4,345	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,345
Taxes	887,392	-	-	887,392
Charges for services	6,000	-	-	6,000
Investment income	1,717	-	1,488	3,205
Other	417,053	65,661	-	482,714
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>1,316,507</u>	<u>65,661</u>	<u>1,488</u>	<u>1,383,656</u>
EXPENDITURES				
General government	357,707	-	-	357,707
Public works	4,111	396,502	-	400,613
Community services	122,599	-	-	122,599
Debt Service:				
Principal	241,466	-	-	241,466
Unclassified	-	-	16,435	16,435
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>725,883</u>	<u>396,502</u>	<u>16,435</u>	<u>1,138,820</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>590,624</u>	<u>(330,841)</u>	<u>(14,947)</u>	<u>244,836</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	135,000	-	135,000
Transfers (out)	<u>(285,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(285,000)</u>
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>(285,000)</u>	<u>135,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(150,000)</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	305,624	(195,841)	(14,947)	94,836
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, RESTATED	<u>211,116</u>	<u>278,603</u>	<u>413,793</u>	<u>903,512</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 516,740</u>	<u>\$ 82,762</u>	<u>\$ 398,846</u>	<u>\$ 998,348</u>

TAX COLLECTOR

Kathleen Cutler, City Clerk/Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer

The Tax Collector operates under the Finance Department of the City of Gardiner.

The Tax Collector is a public officer, appointed by the municipal officer, who has the duty of collecting taxes lawfully assessed within the municipality. The Tax Collector's duties include the preparation of the tax bills, administering the tax club, sending out the 30-Day Demand notices, filing liens and processing the foreclosures, working with mortgage holders to provide tax information and assists residents with motor vehicle registrations, boats, snow mobiles and ATV's. It is our mission to provide every taxpayer with the highest level of customer service while exploring ways to control and minimize costs.

Tax Collectors Report for FY22	
Assessed value	\$ 364,758,450
Tax rate (per \$1,000)	21.70
Commitment	7,915,258
Supplemental taxes	4,771
	7,920,029
Less:	
Abatements/write offs:	1,220
Collections	7,619,107
Current year taxes receivable at end of year	299,702
Taxes and liens receivable - prior years	241,129
Total taxes and liens receivable	\$ 540,831

Due dates: 1st half Sept 15, 2021
2nd half March 15, 2022

Interest rate on delinquent taxes: 6%
Collection rate: 96.2%

Tax Collector Cutler continues as an Executive Board Member of both the Maine Municipal Tax Collector and Treasurer's Association and the Northeast Regional Tax Collector's and Treasurer's Association. These affiliations ensure that this office provides the most current information pertaining to property taxes, motor vehicles and any programs that could potentially offer tax relief for our citizens.

The City offers a Tax Club, which allows residents the option to pay their taxes in nine equal payments. All previous accounts must be paid in full before a Tax Club is issued. Tax Clubs may include both Real Estate and Personal Property. On average 150 residents participate in the tax club each year.

In FY22 we sent out 2928 tax bills, 134 liens were filed and 48 foreclosure notices were sent. If you would like to receive information about tax-acquired properties, please go to www.gardinermaine.com. On the top right corner of the home page, there is a link to subscribe to email alerts. Once you provide your email address there will be a drop down box that allows you to select which office you would like to receive notices from. Select "tax collector" and you will receive notices when we dispose of tax acquired properties.

In FY22 we processed 7,119 motor vehicle transactions for a total of \$1,041,735 revenue.

We continue to work on outreach with elder residents and are always looking for ways to provide tax relief. The city currently offers a Tax Discount Program. In 2022, 29 residents qualified for relief and received a combined \$12,636 in refunds. For information on this program please call city hall.

OUTSTANDING REAL ESTATE TAXES

FY2022

149 Water Street LLC	\$2,942.15	Hannaford Bros Co	\$33,129.20	Posillico Enterprise	\$5,902.84
333 Enterprises LLC	\$6,801.16	Harris David	\$5,561.34	Presby April	\$3,363.88
Amadon Floyd T	\$1,512.52	Haskell Jane A	\$1,477.42	Push Hard LLC	\$2,292.40
Arseneau Diane	\$2,770.75	Henderson John R III	\$910.19	R.L. Williams Group LLC	\$17,186.47
Aspire Corporation	\$19,869.19	Hersom James T Jr	\$342.37	Rare Find Property	\$3,058.89
Bailey Gerald Heirs Of	\$3,544.44	Hill Top Log Homes Inc	\$631.33	Resendez Veronica	\$2,871.67
Baker Kristie	\$1,965.69	Howard Debra Personal	\$5,473.09	Robinson Casey Jones	\$164.62
Ballew Casey B	\$11,562.68	James Gordon S	\$3,591.95	RL Williams Group	\$8,016.37
Bernard Ashley L	\$2,025.90	Joseph Jason S	\$1,110.11	RTM Gardiner LLC	\$5,309.29
Bernard Ashley L Personal	\$11,617.06	Kanaris Rita/Lance	\$1,962.80	Rumrill Daniel Scott	\$298.37
Bird Mary	\$299.02	Kannon Communications	\$3,812.94	Schools Betty J	\$4,628.82
Bisson Robert	\$2,012.92	Lagassee Anita J	\$2,837.55	Seigars Tamara	\$2,300.97
Blake John	\$1,144.01	Larrabee Clarence Jr	\$1,201.57	Shepard Sally R	\$2,289.60
Bonenfant Edward J	\$670.53	Latvis William	\$320.55	Smith Michael	\$10,565.71
Bright Donald	\$740.98	Lawrence John T	\$8,176.74	Solomon Christine L	\$2,438.07
Buckley Joseph S	\$457.07	Leavitt Monica M	\$5,303.25	Southport Boats, Inc	\$26,829.21
Butler Richard G Personal	\$5,023.19	Legendre Lois M	\$801.35	Spear Ronald & Kimberly	\$2,902.96
Cardinel Jay LLC	\$1,801.68	Leighton Eric/Lori	\$1,204.94	Stag Industrial Holdings	\$230.32
Cold Creek Plantation LLC	\$665.26	Lepoff Sarah	\$1,579.50	Stebbins Daniel	\$2,969.57
Cottle Adam	\$1,650.91	Ludder James/Stacy	\$1,482.28	Stonier Jonathan M	\$2,651.22
Coulombe David L	\$492.45	MacDonald Claire Heirs Of	\$5,328.81	STRR1 LLC	\$71,317.65
Crapps Charles N	\$1,787.20	Macmaster Jason T	\$8,875.19	Tan Chao	\$239.16
Crooker Roland J	\$3,902.95	Macmaster Michael	\$9,417.31	The Danube LLC	\$221.69
Dailey Kim L	\$1,227.12	Maine Affordable	\$2,485.17	Toothaker Chandler/Marcina	\$582.98
Danforth Pedelyn M	\$1,036.13	Marson Robin L	\$31.75	Topline Builders LLC	\$333.97
Dick T W Co Inc	\$28,766.08	Martin Dean E	\$1,968.82	TWC Properties LLC	\$13,860.56
Dineen David F	\$10,920.09	Martin Kenneth	\$579.13	Twomey Brian W	\$1,846.24
Donohoe John	\$1,712.81	Maschino Elmer E	\$18,607.21	Valera Jason P	\$124.21
Donovan-Kaloust Gregg M	\$5,610.99	McDermott Judith E	\$2,098.85	Van Derheydt Shari	\$136.24
Eaton Marlene Handcock	\$999.69	McKechnie Sandra	\$491.65	Veregee Barbara H	\$1,820.65
Epic Bones LLC	\$2,044.46	McKeen Bobbi	\$310.81	Wheeler Laurie	\$2,532.84
First Baptist Church	\$130.77	McLaughlin Mark D	\$2,149.54	Wight Melissa L	\$1,208.89
Fitzhebert Philip J	\$1,933.31	Moody Grace M	\$4,376.41	Willard Richard T	\$3,852.91
Fles Jacob	\$7,138.82	Moody Thomas P	\$1,910.27	Williams Barbara	\$236.96
Fritz David	\$5,130.08	Morang Jeffrey	\$3,829.24	Williams Catherine L	\$743.12
Gagne Dennis	\$1,817.33	North Creek Capital LLC	\$2,887.60	Williams Rebecca J	\$1,200.44
Gaither Michael/Susan	\$542.44	Norton Jeromiah	\$6,376.24	Williams Williams S	\$3,749.11
Gilley Howard	\$1,137.15	Oben Pauline	\$212.29	Wu Jiansong	\$1,829.83
Glazier Glen E	\$5,146.32	Olore Diana	\$1,670.35	BALANCE	\$540,831.00
Goodall Properties LLC	\$1,021.38	Pelletier Paul A	\$2,761.61		
Green On The Hill	\$877.16	Peterson Steven C	\$1,297.29		
Hamlin Isla M	\$1,376.61	Pidgeon Paul L Living Trust	\$6,317.84		

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

Curt Lebel, City Assessor

The Assessing Department operates under the Finance Department of the City of Gardiner.

The City Assessor is responsible for determining the equalized value of real estate and personal property that is subject to municipal taxation. In Maine, a large portion of Municipal, School and County budgets are funded by the property tax. The City Assessor, acting as an agent of the State, governed by State Law and local management policy is responsible for the equitable distribution of the property tax between all the taxable properties within the City. Ongoing administrative duties involve the maintenance of property information on parcels within the City, municipal budget cap development, maintenance and determination of captured value of the City's Tax Increment Financing districts and production of GIS maps for City projects. Specific records include legal information regarding ownership, parcel maps, property record cards, sales information, etc.



Property resale values continued to accelerate during the period preceding the April 1, 2021 (FY22) assessment. An assessment ratio study conducted by Maine Revenue Services showed a 11% decrease (appreciation) in the residential average assessment ratio from the previous year and was reported to be 70% of market value. The growth in taxable valuation base was only \$7.2 million from Fiscal year 2021.

Assessment Statistics for Fiscal Year 2022

Assessment Date: April 1, 2021	Homestead Exemptions: 1,194
Commitment Date: August 5, 2021	Veterans Exemptions: 170
Taxable Valuation: \$364,758,450	Blind Exemptions: 2
Net Assessment: \$7,915,264.09	Parsonages: 4
Tax Rate: .0217	Tree Growth Parcels: 11
Assessment Ratio: 95% Certified Ratio	Farmland Parcels: 11
Transfers Processed: 259 (Apr 20-Mar 21)	Open Space Parcels: 5
Permit Checks: approximately 575	

FY 2022 Municipal Levy Limit: \$4,025,866.42

FY 2022 Municipal Levy: \$2,680,796.78

FY 2022 Municipal Levy was: \$1,345,069.64 less than allowable limit.

Abatements issued: (4) \$78,900 valuation (-1,712.13 Tax)

Supplemental Assessments: (2) \$66,000 valuation (+1,432.20 Tax)

Use Program withdrawal penalties: (2) \$4,302.24 Tax

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Angelia Christopher- General Assistance Director

The General Assistance Program is available Tuesday and Thursday's by appointment or anytime for emergencies by calling 530-0178 to assist eligible residents who are in need of basic needs such as rent, heating fuel, electricity, food and medication. All recipients must meet the state-mandated requirements to be eligible and are responsible for meeting their own basic needs by any means available before applying for General Assistance. This program is not an ongoing assistance program, it is intended to solve the immediate needs or emergencies.

Salvation Army funds have assisted with keeping these numbers down in the heating line by approximately \$3,000.00. These funds were exhausted extremely quickly this year due to the high prices of heating fuel. The allotted amount for the Gardiner Service unit, which is renewed each year on 10/1, was completely used within the first month. As of late 2022, Gardiner is no longer the secretary for this service, with KVCAP assuming management of these funds. Salvation Army will still be an available resource to Gardiner's residents. This service has benefited residents of Gardiner and has been greatly appreciated.

Housing needs increased sharply after the ERA (Emergency Rental Assistance) program sponsored by Maine Housing abruptly stopped in the summer of 2022.

Number of Applications: 63

Number of Residents Assisted: 90

Expenditures for 2022

Housing	\$1,9504.68
Heating	\$2,081.16
Electric	\$1,341.37
Food	\$50.00
Burial	\$5,290.00
Other	<u>\$1,023.00</u>
Total	\$29,290.21



Funding Sources for the above expenditures include:

State of Maine, DHHS (Reimbursement 70%)	\$(20,503.14)
Net Cost to Gardiner	\$8,787.07

CITY CLERK

Phone:
207-582-4200

Fax:
207-582-6895

**City Clerk
Tax Collector
Deputy Treasurer
Registrar of Voters**
Kathleen Cutler

Deputy City Clerk
Hailee Lovely

Deputy Tax Collector
Lacey Raccio

Sewer Billing Clerk
Kelly Hare

**Economic
Development,
Planning,
Code Enforcement
& Assessing
Administrative
Assistant**
Angelia Christopher

Vital Records

- 5 Births
- 67 Deaths
- 5 Weddings Performed
- 28 Marriage Licenses Issued

Dog Licenses

In 2022 the front office staff registered 561 dogs. Dog licenses are renewed every year. We begin selling new tags on October 15th and all dog licenses are due by December 31st. After a thirty-day grace period (January 31st), a late fee of \$25.00 per dog is added to the licensing fee. The licensing fee is \$6.00 per dog that is neutered or spayed and \$11.00 for each dog that is not fixed. When licensing your dog, you must show a current State of Maine rabies certificate. If your dog has been neutered or spayed in the last year, please bring that certificate with you as well.

Election Results:

June 14, 2022 election

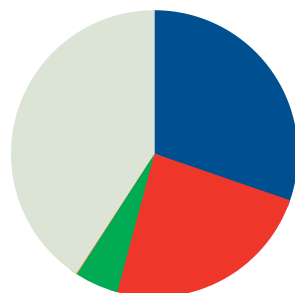
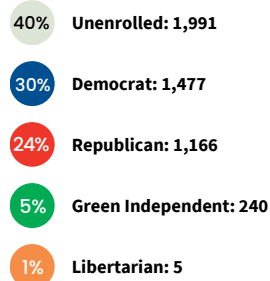
502 votes cast, 10% turnout

November 8, 2022 election

2,788 votes cast, 57% turnout

Voting for Gardiner and South Gardiner takes place at the Boys and Girls Club, located at 14 Pray Street, Gardiner, ME 04345. Voting times are 8:00am - 8:00pm

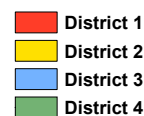
Registered Voters:



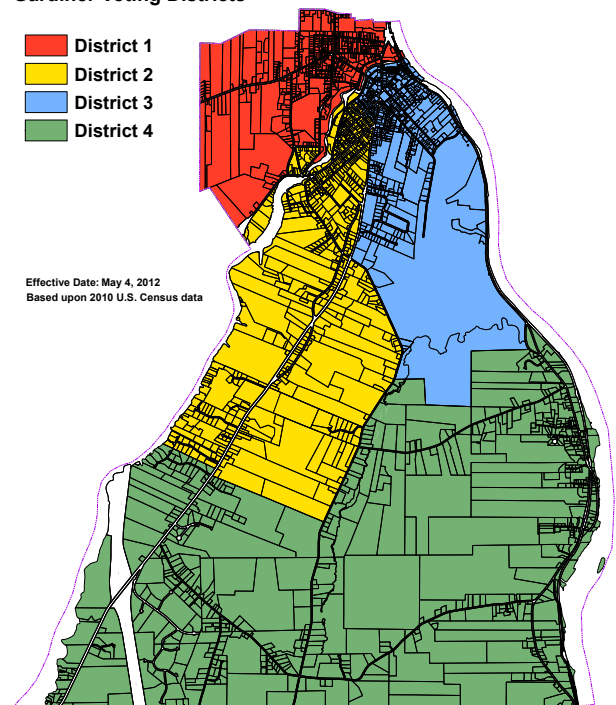
Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

- 239 Hunting & Fishing Licenses Issued
- 252 Boat Registrations
- 114 ATV's Registered
- 114 Snowmobiles Registered

Gardiner Voting Districts



Effective Date: May 4, 2012
Based upon 2010 U.S. Census data



PUBLIC WORKS

Phone:
207-582-4408

GPW Garage Address
197 Old Brunswick Rd

Hours of Operation
Monday - Thursday:
6am - 4:30pm

Public Works Director
John Cameron

Foreman
Dave Grover

Operators
Kyle Burns
Jay Jamison
Steve Willard
John Zack

Truck Driver
John Gorman

Mechanic
Tucker Fitzmaurice

**Buildings & Grounds
Foreman**
Vacant

**B&G Maintenance
Assistants**
Mike Mcarther
Jacob Wright

Custodian
Heather McMaster

The Public Works, Building and Grounds Departments operate on a \$2,403,799.00 dollar budget, which includes capital improvements. Our primary service is to maintain the cities infrastructure which includes but not limited to roads, parks and city buildings. We also respond to all sewer calls, operate the streetlights and assist in a number of community events.

Some of our road maintenance was on Libby hill road we replaced culverts and ditch the road be for the paving started. After we got it paved, we had it chip sealed to help make the road last longer. We had a good project with DOT on the mill and fill on Brunswick Ave. Along with the retaining wall it seemed like a slow-moving project with all the different moving parts but when it was finished it came out great. Another project was over on lower School St., Dennis St. and Kingsberry St. we had to do some culvert replacement. Put in 4 new storm water catch basins. Did the ditching and the removal of sidewalks on Kingsberry St. and did a lot of tree trimming to get more sun light on the road surface to help dry the road. The next project was on RT 126 from the Gardiner Middle School down towards West Hill Rd. we did the ditching on the back side of the sidewalk to keep the water and ice from coming up and over the sidewalk and in to the road. The project over on Commonwealth Ave. due to the expansion at Iron Mine Hill Mobile Home Park we increased the size of the culvert going down Griffin St. and ditched going down Commonwealth Ave. to help with the increased mount of storm water. The Mattson Heights project was some ditching, culvert replacement and removal of some trees along the side on the road.

The winter so far has been fairly light with some warm temps in between to keep snow pack to a minimal. We are still waiting on the new plow truck the city purchased in 2021 we have not taken delivery on yet. So that is keeping a 2010 truck on our front line in between repairs.

The Buildings and Grounds Department was very busy maintaining all the parks and cemeteries as well as cleaning of City Hall, Police Station, Library and the offices out to Public Works. In the winter they plow City Hall, The Water Front, Arcade parking lot, South Gardiner Fire Station and the dog park. They put up all the holiday lights and decorations and the flags on the poles. They work with Gardiner Main Street to help get all the different events set up.



John Cameron
Public Works Director

GARDINER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Phone:
207-582-3312

Address:
152 Water Street

Website:
gardinerpubliclibrary.org

**Library Director &
Special Collections
Librarian**
Dawn Thistle

Children's Librarian
Virginia Nichols

Technology Librarian
Ann Russell

**Young Adult
Librarian**
Jessica Betit

Library Aides (P/T)
Robert Fagan
Marlene Patten
Barbara Gipson
Erin Overlock
Stacia Bolitho

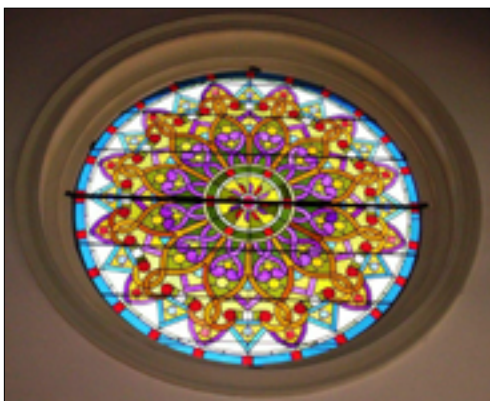
Gardiner Public Library serves the city of Gardiner and the five supporting municipalities of Farmingdale, Litchfield, Pittston, Randolph and West Gardiner. Thus, our public library is a truly regional organization, serving a population of more than 20,000. Further, we are a significant economic driver for Gardiner's historic downtown. Over the past few years, we have adapted and improved our services both in light of the demands of living amidst a pandemic and also meeting the changing needs and wants of our patrons. We have sustained our value to the community and remain a necessary and appreciated asset to our constituencies. We pride ourselves as a valued asset to Gardiner and all our supporting towns and subscribing patrons.

We continue to offer outstanding service to our entire service population, from our own excellent in-house collection of books, DVDs, and audio materials to an extensive interlibrary selection throughout the state of Maine, as well as our many services that include digital content, from e-books and audio books to movies, music, and much, much more. We offer a variety of passes to Maine State Parks, various museums and other experiential venues, and even pole pruners to trim Browntail Moth nests from your trees! We always welcome requests and suggestions.





Stuffed Animal Sleepover



Our public library represents a remarkable public/private partnership. While our staff are employed and supported by the City of Gardiner, our magnificent 142-year-old building and grounds are owned and maintained by the Gardiner Library Association, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that ensures the upkeep and preservation of our historic and state-of-the-art facility, relieving the City and our supporting towns from that effort, and also freeing municipal support to sustain staffing, collection development, and programming – all tangible and quantifiable services to serve our patrons! What's more, the Association contributes additional funds to support our materials purchases and digital offerings, helping to reduce our need for tax dollars to fund our facilities and service to the public.

Regarding programming, we are back to providing our full-service hours – including Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings. What's more, we are again hosting Story Hours on Tuesday mornings, as well as a variety of Book Groups and a new monthly Board Game Club on Tuesday evenings. We have also established an excellent cooperative program with Gardiner Area High School, bringing students to the library on Thursday afternoons for crafts, board games, and lively interaction. We aim to include many more forthcoming programming offerings – so stay tuned!

Our Community Archives Room remains a destination spot for anyone researching local history or genealogy. Some of our collection is available virtually, as we have digitized our newspaper collection (dating from 1827 to 1930), as well as our complete Gardiner High School yearbook collection and a two-year run of the Gardiner Times (1977-1978).

These collections are readily and freely available online at:
<http://gardiner.advantage-preservation.com>.

We aim to digitize a bit more of our collections each year – please share suggestions!

Finally, a public library is only as good as its staff and the Gardiner Public Library has one of the best in the state!

We hope you will stop by and visit us soon. We're here to serve you well.

GARDINER FIRE RESCUE

Phone: 207-582-4535

Fire Chief

Richard F. Sieberg

A Shift

Captain/Paramedic

Nate Sutherburg

Lieutenant/Paramedic

Eric Davis

Firefighter/Paramedics

Clayton Snelling

Andrew Williams

Firefighter/Basic EMT

Joshua Seekins

B Shift

Captain/Paramedic

Jesse Thompson

Lieutenant/Paramedic

Josh Webb

Firefighter/Advanced

EMT Gary Hickey

Firefighter/Basic EMT

Adam Updyke

Firefighter/Paramedic

Vacant

C Shift

Captain/Paramedic

Andrew Santheson

Lieutenant/Paramedic

Justin Lodolce

Firefighter/Paramedics

Cody Hickey

Damon Ross

Firefighter/Advanced

EMT Rohobot Carlson

D Shift

Captain/Paramedic

Josh Johnson

Lieutenant/Paramedic

Brandon Melanson

Firefighter/Paramedics

Connor Osborne

Derek Hodgkins

Zachary Martin

Vision Statement

Gardiner Fire Department is dedicated to being the best community focused fire and rescue department that meets the ever changing needs of our community while ensuring a safe and secure environment for all through professional development, unity and teamwork.

Mission Statement

Gardiner Fire Department is committed to providing the highest level public safety services for our community. We protect lives and property through fire suppression, emergency medical response, disaster management, fire prevention and public education.

Statement of Core Values

We, the members of the Gardiner Fire Department are committed to the following values in our interactions with coworkers and customers:

- **Professionalism**– In application, appearance, attitude and standards
- **Integrity**– Demonstrate honesty and fairness
- **Compassion**– Demonstrate kindness and empathy
- **Responsibility and Accountability**– Professionally, personally and fiscally responsible for our actions
- **Respect**– For each other, our Department, the City Government and our customers, the citizens and visitors of the City of Gardiner
- **Diversity**– Be open minded and responsive to the uniqueness of our community without regard to age, gender, religion or ethnic origin
- **Commitment**– In all department endeavors
- **Teamwork**– Encourage unity and a cooperative attitude
- **Health and Safety** – Personal and professional health and safety is paramount in fulfilling the mission of the Gardiner Fire Department

Responses

Gardiner Fire/Rescue serves a population of 25,742 encompassing 173 square miles. At present the ambulance service contracts include the towns of: Litchfield, West Gardiner, Farmingdale, Randolph, Chelsea, Pittston and Richmond.

In 2022, Gardiner Fire/Rescue responded to 3,331 EMS calls and 211 fire calls.

Personnel

The Gardiner Fire and Rescue Department has expanded its full time force to 20 firefighters. The crews work four shifts providing coverage 24 hours a day 365 days a year. We staff 5 firefighter/paramedics each day providing both fire and EMS services.

Equipment

The Gardiner Fire Department maintains a fleet consisting of two engines, one 100' ladder truck, three ambulances, one utility truck/Chiefs vehicle, one UTV, one boat, and one Paramedic fly car/command vehicle.

Two new ambulances have been ordered, hopefully one will arrive late fall and the other early spring of next year, bringing our ambulance fleet to 4. A new Engine has also been ordered with delivery expected in 2025.

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention and Education

Lieutenant Eric Davis is our Fire Prevention and Education specialist. We have been rebuilding our outreach programs since COVID shuttered everything for almost two years. Lieutenant Davis is excited to teach and is looking forward to this new challenge.

Training - Fire and EMS

The Gardiner Fire Department conducts regular training through company drills and external training opportunities to maintaining the skill sets to necessary to suppress fire, conduct technical rescues and perform advanced life support. These skills are critical to the safe and efficient management of the wide variety of calls the department responds to. We are also required by law to meet training and safety standards to ensure employees have the ability to enter situations that are immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) in the safest possible manner.

Fire Training

In addition to shift trainings Gardiner Firefighters routinely attend various classes and seminars. Firefighters Ross and Andrews successfully completed FF1 & 2. FF Osborne is currently attending a Fire Officer 1 & 2 class, and FF Hodgkins has just started FF1 & 2. Our call company holds monthly trainings in house with the duty shift assisting. With the flood of electric vehicles on the road today we are working with area departments to set up a training on how to deal with these vehicles if on fire or in a crash.

EMS Training

Each year Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers are required to attend continuing education. Gardiner Fire & Rescue's provider mix is comprised of 17 EMT-Paramedics, 2 Advanced EMT's, and 2 Basic EMT's. In 2022 the department hosted classes in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), pediatric advanced life support (PALS), basic life support (BLS CPR) and monthly continuing education classes that are completed online. In addition we hold quarterly QA review and trainings with our Medical Director Meehan-Coussee.

It should be noted in 2022 FF Hodgkins completed a Paramedic course becoming a Nationally Registered Paramedic. The amount of classroom and clinical time required to become a Paramedic is very substantial. The Fire Department contract requires anyone hired full time to become a Paramedic within two years of hiring.

Vision For The Future

The future of this department appears to look very bright. We are in a great position to be part of some amazing opportunities. Regionalization being first and foremost. It has been encouraging to be part of some serious discussions with area Chiefs regarding regionalization. As the need for services increases along with costs to deliver those services I can see regionalization as a great solution.

GARDINER POLICE DEPT



Message from Chief Toman

The year 2022 presented some fairly significant staffing challenges for the Gardiner Police Department. Throughout the year, the agency had two to three vacancies at any given time (three vacancies currently exist). Despite the vacancies, the Gardiner Police Department maintained its mission of providing policing excellence, customer service, and ensuring the safety and quality of life for Gardiner citizens, businesses and visitors. The Police Department's crime reduction strategies and our partnership with the community have contributed to another year of there being some reduction in serious criminal offenses. Because of our commitment of working with you, it is our hope that Gardiner will continue to enjoy being a very safe community. If you or someone you know would like to become an officer for the Gardiner Police Department, please visit the department's website to learn more about these exciting job opportunities:

<https://www.gardinermaine.com/department-public-safety/police-department/pages/job-opportunities>

If you would like to receive up-to-date information about what's going on in our wonderful City, please do one, or perhaps both of the following:

1. Go to the Gardiner Police Department's page on Facebook and click "like" so that the department's posts will start to show up in your feed.
2. Go to www.NIXLE.com and immediately sign up to receive free email and text alerts from Gardiner Public Safety. Once signed up to receive the NIXLE alerts, you will be notified when there are events that are important to know about as they may cause an inconvenience or a disturbance for you or someone you know. Events such as parades, road closures, snow clean-up, building closures, street sweeping, flood potentials, fire dangers, missing persons, pandemic concerns, parking bans, etc.

PLEASE, go "like" and sign up today so that you stay informed!

Have you recently moved to Gardiner or S. Gardiner or have you moved from one location in Gardiner to another location in Gardiner? Did you know that you are required to change your address on both your license and registration? Here is the link to assist you with that - <https://www.maine.gov/sos/bmv/>. We ask that you complete this immediately so that if we need to make contact with you, we can.

Please stay alert to your surroundings, lock up your cars and your houses, there are people amongst us that will take what is not theirs. We need you to assist us in preventing and solving crimes. Please remember that neither our Facebook nor Facebook Messenger is monitored 24/7 as such, they are not an effective way to notify the department that something is wrong or that you need an officer for something that is going on right now. If you see or hear something that is suspicious, call the dispatch center immediately at 624-7076 x9 or 911 so that on-duty staff can respond as quickly as time allows. #SeeSomethingSaySomething.

Gardiner PD will always -

- Strive to remain a highly regarded professional organization.
- Strengthen our partnership with the community through trust, honesty, integrity and strong community relations.
- Continue to respect the rights and dignity of all individuals.
- Look for continuous improvement through self-evaluation and we will plan for a future enhanced by technology, education and training, remaining open to new ideas and concepts in law enforcement.

The Gardiner Police Department is committed to making sure that all officers uphold the highest standard of conduct in all aspects of their job including, de-escalation techniques, situational use of force, mechanics of arrest and community relations, etc.

If you believe that a member of Gardiner PD has not met the mission or has acted in a manner that is concerning, please report your concerns to the department administration so they can be appropriately investigated. Working collaboratively with our citizens we strive to ensure that the members of Gardiner PD always demonstrate the ethical values that our community and its citizens are accustomed to and expects from us.

Thank you to the many citizens of Gardiner that take the time to offer comments, write letters and emails about the good, hard work that they witness being performed by Gardiner officers. Your kind words are greatly appreciated!

I want to thank all of the dedicated members of the Gardiner Police Department, their families, all of our other City departments, the City Manager, and our elected officials for their partnership and support of the police department.

Lastly, it has been an honor and a privilege to wear the uniform of the Gardiner Police Department for the last 32 years and to serve as your Police Chief for the last 20 years. After much thought and discussion with my family, I have made the decision to announce my retirement as Chief of Police from the Gardiner Police Department effective January 20, 2023. I am eternally thankful for the support from my family! My career has undoubtedly taken a tremendous toll on them and their sacrifices on behalf of my career have been many. Without their support my career would have ended many years ago. I love them very much! Thank you to the City of Gardiner for taking a chance on a 20 year old kid from North Monmouth, Maine in 1990 when you hired me as a patrol officer. Thank you to Gardiner City Council for believing in my abilities and for appointing me as permanent Chief in 2003. Thank you for your support of the department throughout the years. Thank you to the City Manager, my fellow Department Heads and current City staff. The professional services you provide to the citizens is second to none and I am proud to have worked with you! The friendships I have gained while here and the memories that have been made over the course of my career will remain with me for the rest of my life.

Thank you to my current staff and thank you to all of the officers and dispatchers that I have had the pleasure of working with during these 32 years. You are incredible and I have been extremely lucky working with all of you. Every single one of you have had a positive impact on my life and you have helped to make me a better person. You all have been part of my family.

To the citizens of Gardiner thank you for your support! The Gardiner Police Department is comprised of incredibly talented, dedicated and hard working professionals that make tremendous sacrifices to provide the level of services that you deserve and require. Please continue to extend your gratitude and to support the officers and their families every chance you get!

Sincerely,
Chief James M. Toman

GARDINER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Always on duty:

Call 624-7076 or 911

Nixle.com for alerts

LIKE US on Facebook

See something - Say something!

Police Chief

Todd Pilsbury

Sergeants

Stacey Blair

Normand Gove

Detective

Sgt. Todd Pilsbury

School Resource Officer

Vacant

Patrolmen

Alonzo Connor

Kaleb Marston

Zachary Reynolds

Michael Moody

Scott MacMaster

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

Safety Officer

Rob Pekins

Public Safety Assistant

Tara Merrill



About the Department

The Gardiner Police Department maintains twenty-four hour police protection 365 days a year when at full staff. The nine staff members (2 Sergeants and 7 Patrolman) that are assigned to patrol work a 12-hour fixed shift. We also have a full-time detective, one officer assigned as school resource officer during the school year, and a part-time, civilian safety officer. The safety officer is a civilian position and works 25 hours a week. For your safety, there are ALWAYS at least 1-2 officers on duty during from 7am-3pm and there are always at least 2 officers on duty from 3pm-7am.

The detective is responsible for investigating all major crimes and incidents. His duties also include evidence collection, preservation, and accountability

The school resource officer is paid for by MSAD 11 to be in the schools while school is in session. These officers serve as a back up officers during the day and when school is not in session are assigned back to patrol.

The safety officer is a hybrid position that is responsible for animal control, parking enforcement, harbor management and school crossing guard at LER.

Community Relations

- Facebook Page - Gardiner Police Department [Maine]
- Nightly business checks
- Self service prescription drug box available in Police Department lobby during normal business hours. Please disposed of your unused and unwanted meds here.
- Free trigger lock program
- Good Day Gardiner Program
- Coffee with a Cop Program
- Property checks—we will check your property while you are away
- ALICE– Business and School training to help survive a violent encounter

Mission Statement

The Gardiner Police Department's mission is to enhance the quality of life and provide a sense of safety and security within the City of Gardiner. Through highly dedicated employees, we are committed to the protection of all who live, work, or visit our city.

Year at a Glance

The Gardiner Police Department responded to an approximately 8,000 calls for service this year. An analysis of those calls for service indicate over 90% of calls are responded to within five minutes. I am extremely proud of the department, and the quality of work the employees produce is outstanding. A call for service is defined as anything that the Gardiner Police Department has done and includes all citizen complaints. Calls for services resulted in:

- 197 offense reports
- 295 arrests (an arrest is defined as any time someone is issued a summons with an arraignment court date, any time an individual is arrested on a warrant, probation holds, etc.).
- 36 traffic citations
- 165 motor vehicle accidents (includes reportable and non-reportable damage)
- 111 parking tickets



The department also issued 4 new Concealed Weapons Permits and 14 renewals/transfers.

Animal Control & Parking Enforcement

The Animal Control Officer (Safety Officer) is in charge of animal welfare, stray and domesticated animals (cats and dogs). Any complaint of a non-domesticated animal will be referred to the Maine Warden Service.

We would like to remind dog owners that per State law, your dog must be registered with the City by Dec. 31 of each year. Please keep your dog on a leash when you are off of your property and please clean up after your dog in order to keep the City's parks clean and enjoyable for all. Please be sure to check out the City's new dog park located on upper Water St., just west of D&H motors, as it is a park just for dogs!



Here are some friendly parking ordinance reminders : there is a 2 hour time limit for parking in the downtown on Water Street. Overnight parking is never allowed in the downtown section of Water Street. It is illegal to park on the sidewalk. It shall be unlawful to park on any street within the City of Gardiner between the hours of 12 o'clock midnight and 6:00 a.m. from November 1st to April 30th regardless of weather conditions. All parking violations found within the City are subject to ticketing and towing, so, please pay attention.

For Parking or Animal Control inquiries, please contact the Safety Officer at 582-3211 ext. 1344 or dispatch at 624-7076.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development Director & Public Information Officer

Melissa Lindley
207-582-6888

Code Enforcement Officer & Assistant Planner

Kris McNeill
207-582-6892

Administrative Assistant

Angelia Christopher
207-582-6892

The Gardiner Economic Development Department works to create an environment that encourages economic growth by supporting Gardiner businesses, strengthening our community, and maintaining a high quality of life.

2022 Economic Development Highlights

- Project Canopy Grant of \$4,870 awarded to the City of Gardiner to purchase and maintain 10 trees in the Gardiner Common and 3 in McKay Park.
- Cobbossee Trail Extension Feasibility Study conducted.
- McKay Park reconstruction with larger patio space and picnic tables and improved access stairway from Arcade Parking Lot to Water Street.
- Brownfields Cleanup Assessment Grant of \$500,000 awarded to the City of Gardiner by the US Environmental Protection Agency. These funds will be used to identify property in which the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant and assess mitigation options.
- Libby Hill Business Park Lot #26 sold to Core Cutter LLC for \$45,000 in July 2022.
- EJP Completed an expansion project to their operations facility at Libby Hill.
- Heart of Gardiner Downtown Plan completed and adopted in December 2021, and will be used to guide future planning for the downtown and to help secure future grant funds.
- Johnson Hall Theater began its much-anticipated renovation project which will bring world class performances to its 400-seat theater. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2023 and will bring significant economic impacts to the downtown and the city.
- The Boys & Girls Club new Clubhouse opened in August 2022, and is a state-of-the-art facility offering many more services and opportunities for the families in our community.

New Developments & Businesses to Gardiner

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Blind Pig Next Level Event Space | • Lin-Ric Auto |
| • Bintliff's Corner Brew | • MIKA After School & Summer Camp |
| • Brunswick Ave Storage Solutions Facility | • PODS container storage facility |
| • G & B Shooting | • Selene's Fly Shop |
| • Gardiner 4Twenty | • Stone Broke Bread & Books |
| • KHG Upholstery | • Table Bar |
| | • Topside Gaming |

Office of Planning & Development

Planning services are offered to the people of Gardiner. Planning staff administers projects such as site plan review, development consultation, zoning ordinance interpretation, subdivision, comprehensive planning, historic preservation, and ordinance implementation.

Staff are available to provide development consultation for planning projects associated with site plan review, subdivision, land use ordinance interpretation, coordination with outside agencies, and Historic Preservation staff support. Staff also conduct long range planning activities including comprehensive planning, infrastructure development, zoning studies, environmental preservation, open space, zoning ordinance revision, neighborhood revitalization studies, and master planning.



It is the charge of Planning staff to provide the plans, policies and ordinances that allow development consistent with State and Federal laws in as streamlined a fashion as possible, and that move the City closer to its goals as directed by the Mayor and City Council



Code Enforcement Office

Total Permits Issued in 2022: 526

- 282 Building Permits were issued and inspected
- 68 Internal plumbing Permits were issued and inspected
- 19 Subsurface Wastewater Permits were issued and inspected
- 153 General Permits were issued and inspected
- 35 New Addresses were created
- 168 Complaints were investigated and resolved
- 19 Occupancy Permits were issued
- 3 Projects were brought before Planning Board
- 5 Projects were brought before Historic Preservation
- 10 NOV's were issued
- 1 Case went to court
- 1 Administrative appeal went before the Appeals Board
- 1 Variance Application went before the Board Of Appeals
- 6 New ordinances were written and adopted

Permit Fees generated a total of \$60,596.30

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Phone:

207-582-1351

For billing inquiries:

207-588-4070

**Wastewater
Treatment Plant****Address:**

540 River Ave

Hours of Operation:

Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

Wastewater Director

Douglas Clark

Mechanic/Operator

Chris Miller

Operators

Doug MacMaster

Shawn Peabody

Lab Operator

Ben Dice

**Wastewater Utility
Clerk**

Kelly Hare

The residential collection system (sewers) is maintained in part by the Gardiner Public Works Department led by Public Works Director John Cameron, Foreman Dave Grover and employees Jay Jamison, Steve Willard and John Gorman.

In **2022** the City of Gardiner Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) treated **419,272,000 gallons** of sewerage and combined stormwater. That calculates to be an average daily flow of **1,150,000 gallons per day**. Of that the Town of Farmingdale contributed **53,425,500 gallons** or **12.74%** of flow contribution and the Town of Randolph contributed **52,179,000 gallons** or **12.45%**.

The finished clean water or “effluent” discharged to the Kennebec River was cleaned to an average of 95% removal of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and 95% of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). The final effluent was disinfected to DEP and DMR standards during the period of seasonal chlorination May 10 to September 30 using a combination of Sodium Hypochlorite/Meta BiSulfite. The collection system, or sewers, is comprised of miles of underground piping connected through **18 pump stations**, 2 siphons, 4 interceptors, force mains, a stormwater CSO/RTB (Combined Sewer Overflow/Retention & Treatment Basin), a storage interceptor and residential service lines.

The final waste component of the treated sewerage was separated and condensed down to a moist, solid material called bio-solids or sludge. A total of 863 cubic yards (16.6 Yd³/week production ave.) and 675 wet tons (13.0 tons/week) were produced in 2022. Recent legislation concerning PFAS has resulted in the shutdown of the Casella Waste System Hawk Ridge Compost Facility where the material was formerly composted. This means that 100% of Gardiner’s Biosolids are now being disposed of at the State of Maine owned Juniper Ridge Landfill. Further ramifications of the PFAS legislation may result in Gardiner being forced to leave the JRLF and seek disposal options elsewhere, some as far away as Upstate New York and Canada. Consequently no finished compost was received back and given out in 2022 nor will any be in the future.

The **\$4,200,000 CSO/RTB** (Combined Sewer Overflow/Retention and Treatment Basin) project completed in September 2016 at the Maine Avenue Pump Station captured, treated and returned to the system **1,185,000 gallons** of combined sewerage and stormwater (CSO flow) that would have otherwise gone untreated out to the Kennebec River. An additional total of **2,455,000 gallons** of CSO flow was given basic screening and primary treatment through the CSO system at the treatment plant (primary bypassing secondary) before discharge to the river during heavy rain events. This flow would also have been discharged directly to the river without any treatment. The underground storage and treatment basins are designed to collect, treat and store all 100 year storm events occurring within the Seasonal Disinfection period between May 15 and September 30 of each year. Prior to this, heavy precipitation during these events caused high flows to exceed the pumping capability of the Maine Ave. Pump Station and Treatment Plant resulting in bypasses and overflows of excess untreated flow to enter the Kennebec River.

Phase I of a \$6,200,000 major equipment upgrade undertaken in 2021 was completed in 2022. This consisted of replacing of all ten of the Rotating Biological Contactors, the influent headworks screen and new standby emergency generator.

GARDINER SAVES MONEY FOR BOTH CITIZENS AND BUSINESS OWNERS THROUGH ITS GRANT SUCCESS RATE!

A grant is a tool for funding ideas and projects to provide public services, stimulate the economy, and benefit the general public.

Grants are a great way for the City of Gardiner to receive funding beyond the limits of its operational budget. They can help bridge the gap between our resources and our needs.

Grants are “free money”. Unlike loans, they don’t have to be repaid. However, grant writing is a lengthy and daunting process and requires a significant amount of time and effort.

***COMPETITION IS FIERCE,
AND THE SUCCESS RATE IS LOW.
BUT GARDINER’S TRACK RECORD
IS OUTSTANDING!***

In the last 10 fiscal years the City has received over **\$10M** in grant awards, with **\$3.3M** received in the last 5 years. Over one quarter of these awards were returned to Gardiner’s businesses.

Gardiner employees have spent endless hours researching, preparing, and submitting grants.

City of Gardiner 5-Year Grant History				
	Grant	Fiscal Year	Amount	
Economic Development	Maine 200	FY20	18,950	
	Facade Micro-Enterprise Grant	FY20	54,777	
	CDBG Community Enterprise Grant	McKay Park	FY21	108,000
	CDBG Community Enterprise Grant	Johnson Hall	FY21	108,000
	Keep ME Healthy Grant	PPE	FY21	37,715
	Coastal Communities Grant	Downtown Master Plan	FY21	42,000
	Project Canopy		FY22	3,750
	CDBG Public Service Grant	Boys & Girls Club	FY22	58,000
	Brownfield Assessment Grant		FY23	508,000
	Project Canopy		FY23	4,870
Economic Development Total			904,082	
Fire	KCEMA	Barricades	FY19	3,000
	FEMA/KCEMA	LI Tower Improvements	FY19	8,500
	KCEMA	Ballistic Vests	FY19	900
	Public Safety Grant	Combat Trauma Kits	FY19	600
	Firehouse Subs	Thermal Imaging Cameras	FY20	14,450
	KCEMA	TECC Training	FY20	2,000
	Homeland Security	Extrication Equipment	FY23	78,929
Fire Total			108,379	
Other	MMA Public Safety Grants	Various	FY19-FY23	3,599
	Maine Forestry	Various	FY19-FY23	4,255
	Wellness Works (MMA)	Employee Health & Wellness	FY19-FY23	7,794
	Private Grant	Memorial Benches	FY20	1,700
	Private Grant	Holiday Lights	FY21	2,000
	Coombs Trust	Playground Chips	FY21	3,250
	Private Grants	Fountain Project	FY21-FY23	92,501
	Coombs Trust	Arcade Stairway	FY22	8,500
Robinson Trust	Place plaque on the Common	FY23	5,000	
Other Total			128,599	
Police	OUI		FY19-FY23	3,546
	JAG/BYRNE		FY19-FY23	16,323
	Bullet Proof Vests		FY19-FY23	425
	Bureau of Highway Safety		FY19-FY23	2,400
Police Total			22,694	
PW	MDOT/MPJ	Brunswick Hill	FY21	308,000
Public Works Total			308,000	
Library	AARP Library Sidewalk		FY19	5,000
	Library Nutrition		FY19	1,000
	ELKS (Teen Thursday)		FY19	1,500
	ME Public Library		FY21	2,500
Library Total			18,000	
ARPA	Federal ARPA	City Projects		597,740
	County ARPA	Tower Upgrades		138,000
	County ARPA	New Ambulance		385,000
	HRSA/Phase 4	Amb-Various		178,199
	HRA/Rural	Amb-Various		52,340
DHHS/GA	General Assistance		11,492	
ARPA Total			1,354,770	
WW	Rural Development Grant	WW Plant and Electrical Upgrades	FY21	508,000
	Wastewater Total			508,000
GRAND TOTAL - ALL GRANTS			3,320,524	



***Many thanks to all of the employees
dedicated to seeking out these grant opportunities!***

Gardiner Main Street partners with the city, community members and downtown businesses to foster growth and help sustain our historic downtown. In 2022, we were able to return to a full schedule of events and programs, offering opportunities in a variety of formats for everyone's safety.

BRINGING FUN EVENTS TO THE COMMUNITY

In the spring 2022 we asked people what they wanted to see happen in Gardiner at our Think About Gardiner event downtown. It was a good chance to brainstorm together how we can support and enhance the downtown community. We joined Upstream and the Boys & Girls Club to celebrate Day of Caring & Earth Day Cobbossee Cleanup where several volunteers helped to pick up up trash and debris including over 10,000 cigarette butts! In early summer the Growing Gardiner event was a great day filled with family fun activities, a plant sale, artist demonstrations, a picnic on the commons with live music, bouncy houses and church sponsored desserts for all. Gardiner Main Street also supported the return of the Gardiner ArtWalk with one event in August and one in December.



In early October downtown shops opened up to showcase and support local artisans with demonstrations and open studios for Maine Craft Weekend. Our annual Swine & Stein Brewfest returned bigger and better than ever, bringing well over 1,500 people to Gardiner to sample local craft beverages from 24 Maine craft beverage producers, enjoy live music, play games, eat from local food trucks and witness fan-favorite contests.



For the kids, Downtown Trick or Treat returned this year a few days before Halloween and Water Street was full of excited kids, parents and business owners handing out candy and other treats. We ended out the 2022 event calendar with holiday festivities; the Tree Lighting and the Parade of Lights took place in early December drawing big crowds downtown for some holiday magic. *Overall it was a great year for events in Gardiner and we at GMS were happy to promote our local businesses while bringing fun to our community!*

THE MIX IS BACK

Our monthly social networking event was put on hiatus during the pandemic but we were able to host a few events in 2022. These events are a great way for people that live, work and enjoy Gardiner to be introduced to new businesses, make connections and get involved. Now back on a monthly schedule, the Mix is held on the 2nd Wednesday of at a different downtown business each month.



STREETSCAPE TEAM & GARDINER'S GARDENERS

The flowers were bountiful in Gardiner again last year thanks to our Streetscape team of volunteers known as Gardiner's Gardeners. They put in countless hours from spring until fall planting, watering and weeding the flower gardens around town, in planters along Water Street and in gardens at the waterfront. The Streetscape team also takes care of the Palmer Fountain at the commons. Gardiner Main Street was awarded a Davis Family Foundation grant in the amount of \$25,000 for the Lady and The Birds fountain restoration project which helps greatly with fundraising goals to repair and restore the fountain. A new addition to Water Street in 2022 was a series of banners featuring the artwork of local artist Alan Claude. These banners were sponsored and handpicked by the artist and installation was coordinated with help from GMS.



CATALYST GRANT PROGRAM

The Catalyst Grant was a program established by Gardiner Main Street in 2022 to provide funding to help strengthen established businesses in the City of Gardiner and encourage growth or development that might otherwise be delayed or less feasible. This one-time grant program was funded through repaid principal from a concluded loan program. Fourteen Gardiner businesses were awarded Catalyst Grant funds.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023

Tamara Whitmore has joined Gardiner Main Street as its new Executive Director in February 2023. She has been a dedicated Main Street volunteer for many years and brings with her much valuable knowledge and experience in the non-profit world as she was the Executive Director of Friends of the Cobbossee before joining the GMS team. We are looking forward to bringing fun events and community spirit to the Gardiner Community in 2023!



STAY UP TO DATE ON ALL THINGS GARDINER

Keep up with the latest Gardiner events and happenings by subscribing to our email newsletter on our website, gardinermainstreet.org and follow Gardiner Main Street on Facebook and @gardinermainstreet on Instagram.



Gardiner Main Street Board of Directors

Ehrin Simanski- Chair
Patricia Buck-Welton
Pat Hart
Alexander Wright

Ken Mitsui- Vice Chair
Alan Claude
Brandi Kennerson

Janet Slade- Secretary
Becky Fles
Roland Kennerson

Mike Gent-Treasurer
Colin Frey
Dawn Thistle

Gardiner Main Street Staff

Tamara Whitmore-Executive Director

Tonya Gorman-Program Director



Nationally recognized. Locally powered

As a Main Street America Accredited program since 2004, Gardiner Main Street is a recognized leading program among the national network of more than 1,200 neighborhoods and communities who share both a commitment to creating high-quality places and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development. All Main Street America Accredited programs meet a set of National Standards of Performance as outlined by the National Main Street Center.



One Weston Court, Suite 109, Augusta, ME 04330

1.800.639.1553 | Fax 207.622.7857



Hello Gardiner residents,

Spectrum Generations proudly served as a community partner last year, providing an estimated \$67,512 in benefits to the residents of Gardiner. Here's a breakdown of the services we provided to 189 unduplicated community members last year:

- 5,143 meals worth an estimated \$40,918 were delivered to homebound seniors and adults with disabilities;
- 597 congregate meals were served, worth \$16,088;
- Aging and Disability Resource Specialist provided 75 residents outreach and counseling on topics including elder abuse, prescription drug coverage, and long-term care options;
- Four community members received 166 hours of support;
- Three residents participated in health and wellness workshops worth \$1,050;
- Four community members provided 90 hours of services to the town;
- Healthy Living for ME, a statewide network of local organizations, health systems and volunteers, provided 163 workshops which included 87 in-person and 53 remote. Throughout the year, a total of 1,233 people statewide participated in classes, empowering them to take control of their health.

Thank you for supporting our mission to promote and advance the well-being and independence of older and disabled adults, with the support of their care partners, to live in their community of choice. If you or a loved one would like to volunteer, or learn more about our services, please contact Lindsay MacDonald lmacdonald@spectrumgenerations.org or call (207) 620-1631.

Sincerely,

Lindsay MacDonald

Community Engagement Director

Spectrum Generations is the Central Maine Area Agency on Aging with Community and Aging and Disability Resource Centers in:

Belfast | Brunswick | Camden | Damariscotta | Hallowell | Skowhegan | Waterville



207.377.2848
info@tklt.org
www.tklt.org

Kennebec Land Trust
PO Box 261 - 331 Main Street
Winthrop, Maine 04364

April 2023

Board of Directors

Janet Sawyer (P)
Matt Mullen (1st VP)
Paul Kuehnert (2nd VP)
Amy Trunnell (T)
Bob Marvinney (S)
Jordan Beall
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Marty Keniston
Howard Lake
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Patricia Mooney, Ph.D.
Jeff Pidot
Dave Rocque
Norm Rodrigue
Reade & Joan Ryan
Rebecca Stanley
Jym St. Pierre
Bob Weston

Staff

Baylee Bachelder
Tyler Keniston
Theresa Kerchner
Marie Ring
Jean-Luc Theriault

Dear Gardiner Residents,

This year we will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT). With generous support from community members, we have worked to conserve important lands; provide public access for hiking, paddling, skiing, blueberry picking, and hunting; and promote land stewardship, conservation education, and partnerships.

KLT has an impressive list of accomplishments: 70 properties, with 7,584 acres under permanent conservation throughout our 413,000-acre service area; 57 miles of trails to explore; over 20 miles of conserved shoreline; and 1,100 household and business partner members.

As we look to the future, we will continue to conserve high value land and protect important wildlife habitat, and we're also offering programs to promote and expand conservation in ways that better serve our communities.

KLT offers a great selection of outings and educational programs for the public and we collaborate with schools and other organizations to engage youth and share our conservation message with the community. Please call our office for information about our 2023 field trips and programs. We will be hosting our 35th Anniversary Trail Challenge this summer for community members and visitors.

In 2023 KLT volunteers and staff participated in a community-wide Earth Day cleanup along the Cobbossee Stream and a Find Your Good event at the Gardiner High School.

We welcome this opportunity to communicate with Gardiner residents and the Select Board about our conservation work. Everyone is welcome to visit our properties and trails and to attend our public programs.

If you have questions about our community conservation work, please don't hesitate to contact us at 207-377-2848 or info@tklt.org. You can also visit our website, www.tklt.org, for trail maps, directions, and more information about our organization. Thank you to all those in Gardiner who have chosen to support KLT as members or volunteers.

Sincerely,

Janet Sawyer
President

Theresa Kerchner
Executive Director

Marie Ring
Director of Membership
and Programming

Maine School Administrative District No. 11

150 Highland Avenue
Gardiner, ME 04345

Patricia Hopkins
Superintendent of Schools

Phone: (207) 582-5346
Fax: (207) 582-8305
www.msad11.org

Angela Hardy
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Superintendent's Report 2022-2023

Over the past few years many of us have repeatedly commented on 'how nice it will be to have things back to normal'. I have come to realize that in education what we view as our previous 'normal' no longer exists. A new normal now exists that we must learn to embrace.

The new normal in MSAD 11, and other school districts in Maine and around the country, includes greater staff fluidity. For the first time in my administrative career, 15 staff members, including teachers, nurses, educational technicians, and other support staff, resigned since the start of the school year. The role and responsibilities of teachers and other educational support staff members have significantly changed. While the primary role of staff remains focused on academic instruction, the social and emotional needs of our students now demand significantly greater support. Student needs witnessed in and out of the classroom, prevent many educators from doing what they love and what they were trained to do, teach. Nation-wide, school districts are also witnessing a decline in the number of individuals entering the field of education, making it more and more difficult to fill all available positions with highly qualified staff.

MSAD 11 is fortunate to continue to have exceptionally dedicated staff who go above and beyond to support their students. Their workload has shifted these past few years creating greater demands on their time with limited resources. As part of the budget development process, I have been analyzing the amount of money our district spends per pupil compared to school districts around the state. Out of 257 Maine school districts, only 38 districts spend less per pupil than MSAD 11. While some see that as a badge of honor, I view it differently. Staff are proud of their ability to be frugal, resourceful, and creative. Each year, that is getting more difficult. Our budget routinely includes fewer supports for students and staff, resulting in our staff being responsible for more than is sometimes reasonable. It is my hope that the budget proposed to taxpayers includes additional resources that will assist the staff to better meet the needs of all learners at the rigorous quality parents and students have come to expect in MSAD 11.

MSAD 11 is currently engaged in a non-traditional strategic planning process using 'community conversations'. Unlike the traditional two day session involving a small representative group of stakeholders, our small group virtual meetings have allowed us to engage approximately 150 students, parents, staff, and community members. As soon as the input is compiled and reviewed, the outcomes will be publicized and will inform the Board's development of district priorities

Academically, staff and administration have spent the year refining our targeted intervention and support system. While the process can be challenging and sometimes messy, early data is proving that this effort is making a difference. We look forward to seeing students' continued progress as our process is further refined.

Sincerely,
Patricia Hopkins, Superintendent of Schools



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400
TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Karen Montell

57 Dresden Avenue
Gardiner, ME 04345
Phone: (207) 513-0102

Karen.Montell@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Gardiner Neighbors,

It is an honor to have the opportunity to serve you in the Maine House of Representatives. I am proud to be your advocate in Augusta, and I am looking forward to working alongside my new colleagues to find thoughtful solutions for the many challenges facing our community and our state.

We have just begun the first session of the 131st Legislature that started in January 2023. We have a lot of work to do in the coming months, from addressing the rising cost of living and the threat of climate change to improving access to affordable housing and health care. We are ready to get started.

Our most significant priority will be the creation of a balanced two-year state budget, which will play a critical role in shaping the direction of our state in the near future. I am pushing to ensure the budget works to improve the lives of all Mainers, including our most vulnerable and historically marginalized neighbors.

This session, I have been appointed to serve on the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee where we will work to review bills pertaining to voting rights, alcohol, tobacco, recreational cannabis, gambling and matters related to Maine's veterans.

Please feel free to contact me if I can ever be of assistance to you or your family, or if you would like to discuss or testify on any upcoming legislation. My email is karen.montell@legislature.maine.gov and my phone number is (207) 513-0102. I also send out monthly email newsletters that provide insight into our work at the State House, offer helpful information and resources and aim to connect you with your state government. Please let me know if you would like to receive them.

I am so thankful that you have entrusted me with this great responsibility, and I look forward to connecting with you over the next two years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen L. Montell".

Karen Montell
State Representative

District 54: Gardiner and Farmingdale



Craig V. Hickman
Senator, District 14

THE MAINE SENATE
131st Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Neighbor,

I trust that you and your family are safe and healthy. Thank you for the opportunity to continue serving as your State Senator. It remains the highest honor of my life to represent you in the Maine Legislature. I promise to work as hard as I can on your behalf. I am excited that the activities and operations at the State House have returned to normal.

I'm thrilled to report that President Jackson has appointed me to chair not one, but two, legislative committees for the 131st Legislature. I am honored to serve as the Senate Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs once again. This committee oversees elections and the Office of the Secretary of State, and as a staunch defender of our democracy, I take this role very seriously. I will continue to support the women and men who have served in uniform and the small business owners in the industries that bring in the most revenue for our state.

I have also been appointed Senate Chair of the Joint Legislative Government Oversight Committee for the first time in my six terms in office. I have always wanted to serve on this committee but whenever I have asked for it, I did not receive it. This time, I didn't even ask for it and now I am the Chair. Evaluation of our programs and government accountability is essential to legislative oversight. On this unique committee, I have the opportunity to ensure that our public funds are expended for their intended purpose and that government programs and activities are effectively and efficiently managed.

I am also returning to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry where I have previously served three terms, two as House Chair. As an organic farmer and author of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the Right to Food constitutional amendment, and legislation to end hunger in Maine by 2030, improving Maine agriculture and strengthening our local and regional food systems will always be a priority. I'll be very busy this session but I'm up to the task.

Looking ahead, it's clear that we need to build on our work from the 130th Legislature and continue to address the housing crisis that has displaced too many of our neighbors and alleviate the rising costs of electricity, heating fuel, and food, and advancing freedom and justice for all.

Public service remains my purpose and my duty, not only during session, but also year-round. If you need to contact a state agency or department or want to share comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can send me an email at Craig.Hickman@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at 287-1515.

Wishing you prosperity in 2023.

Take care of your blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Hickman", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Craig V. Hickman
State Senator



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Dear Maine Resident:

In January, I was privileged to take the Oath of Office to begin my second term as your Governor. I am deeply humbled by the trust the people of Maine have placed in me, and I look forward to continuing to work hard over the next four years to improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people.

Over the past four years, we have made real progress. We have expanded health care, leading to the largest decline in the uninsured rate of any state in the nation. We fully funded the State's share of public education. We delivered two-years of free community college. We fully restored municipal revenue sharing to five percent. We delivered substantial tax relief, nation-leading inflation relief, and emergency energy relief to help Maine people through difficult times.

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, we are strengthening and diversifying our economy. In 2022, our state's gross domestic product – a key measure of economic growth – grew at the 9th fastest rate in the United States. People are moving to Maine at a rate higher than any other New England state, and at one of the highest rates in the nation. We have enacted balanced budgets, and we have built up Maine's "Rainy Day" fund to a record high, preparing our state to continue meeting its commitments in the event of an economic downturn.

While I am proud of the progress we have made, there is more to do, like addressing the housing crisis, the workforce shortage, and the opioid epidemic and strengthening health care, education, and the economy. I know that by working together to tackle these issues head-on, we can improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people and make Maine the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Thank you again for the honor to serve you as Governor.

Thank you,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Janet T. Mills.

Janet T. Mills
Governor

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
CHAIRMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
BUDGET
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

January 1, 2023

Dear Friends,

I've often thought that Maine is just one big small town connected by long roads. Well, in the past year or two, those roads have gotten steeper and bumpier as we dealt with an unprecedented pandemic and the resulting economic troubles.

As we faced the historic challenges, something impressive happened. We came together and lent a hand to our neighbors wherever we could to keep things running and spirits high.

Down in Washington, Congress tried to help Maine communities get through this struggle, so that our state would come out stronger. To do that, we put in the work and set some things into motion that are already helping Maine people. That's why you hired us, after all.

The pandemic made something we'd known for a while clear: those roads and networks that connect our big town needed repair, improvements, and expansion – from bridges to broadband. So, while Maine was uniting towards a common purpose, Congress came together to pass the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* – legislation that makes generational investments in physical infrastructure, broadband connections, harbors, and the energy grid. These efforts will lay the foundation for Maine's 21st century economy and make sure even the most rural areas aren't left behind.

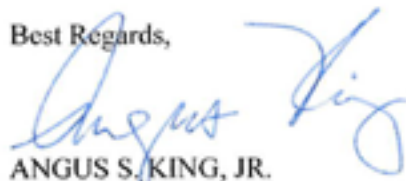
Over the last two years, as we drove up and down our state, you couldn't help but see storefronts in trouble and prices rising as the economy struggled through a global recession. And again, while you focused your efforts on getting through the difficult times, Congress took meaningful action. We passed the *American Rescue Plan* in 2021, which enabled Governor Mills and the state of Maine to better meet the health and economic difficulties of the pandemic. At a critical moment it expanded healthcare efforts to confront COVID and invested in the state to keep the economy in far better shape than most others nationwide.

Congress didn't stop there. This year, we took even more concrete steps to cut costs, create jobs, and provide more affordable, cleaner energy. The bipartisan *CHIPS Act* will bring home the manufacturing of the technical components known as "chips" that are used in everything these days – from smartphones to microwaves to cars – and in doing so reduce prices and create good American jobs. We also passed the *Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)* to lower healthcare costs, allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices, and cut energy bills with new rebates for things like heat pumps and solar panels.

Beyond these major investments, we also passed vital legislation to improve the day-to-day lives of Maine people and Americans nationwide. On a bipartisan basis, we expanded health care for veterans exposed to toxins, strengthened protections for marriage equality, supported Ukraine as it fought off a bloody Russian invasion, secured our elections and the peaceful transfer of power, and delivered millions in federal investments to projects up and down our state.

So, as Maine worked to get through hard times, Congress took steps to support our state – and we're already starting to see brighter days ahead. I'm proud to have played a small part down here; it's a true privilege to listen to you, work with you, and build a brighter future for all the incredible people up and down the roads that connect our big small town. Mary and I wish you a happy, and safe 2023.

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senator

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(207) 622-8292

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SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

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(202) 224-2883 (FAX)

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for the trust that Mainers have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to share some key accomplishments for our state.

Last year, I secured more than \$500 million for 285 projects from Aroostook County to York County that will promote job creation, workforce training, and economic development; expand access to health care; improve public safety, infrastructure, and community resources; and protect our environment. To address the crisis of soaring inflation and high energy prices, I led efforts to provide \$2 billion in supplemental funds to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. In the new Congress that begins in 2023, I expect to be the Vice Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and will continue to champion investments to support Maine's communities and families.

Strengthening our economy and supporting good jobs remain a top priority. Along with the Governor and the rest of the Maine Delegation and the associations representing the lobster industry, I worked to protect our hardworking lobstermen and women by pausing for six years the onerous federal regulations that jeopardize our lobster fishery's very existence. Another ongoing threat to Maine's small businesses is the shortage of workers. That's why I led an effort to push the Administration to nearly double the number of H-2B visas that are critical to our hospitality industry. Additionally, when the Administration proposed to cut the construction of a destroyer to be built by Bath Iron Works, I restored this funding to protect Maine jobs and our national security.

When Maine Veterans' Homes announced last year that it planned to close its facilities in Caribou and Machias, I opposed that decision which would have had such a devastating effect on rural veterans and their families. I am glad that the decision was reversed, and I have secured \$3 million to help with upgrades to these facilities. My *AUTO for Vets Act* also became law, which will help disabled veterans maintain their independence by supporting the purchase of a new adaptive vehicle once a decade.

This past year, Congress demonstrated how effective it can be on behalf of the American people when both parties work together. A few of the bipartisan achievements that I was involved in include the *Respect for Marriage Act*, which will provide certainty to millions of loving couples in same-sex marriages while protecting religious liberties, and the *Electoral Count Reform Act*, which establishes clear guidelines for our system of certifying and counting electoral votes for President and Vice President.

No one works harder than the people of Maine, and I have honored that work ethic by showing up for every vote. During my Senate service, I have cast more than 8,500 consecutive votes, never having missed one. I remain committed to doing all that I can to address your community's concerns in 2023. If I may be of assistance to you in any way, I encourage you to contact one of my six state offices.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Jared Golden
Congress of the United States
2nd District of Maine

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. It's an honor to continue serving as your representative in Congress, and I take the responsibility very seriously. I appreciate the opportunity to update you on what I've been working on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District.

In August, I voted for the *Inflation Reduction Act* because it represented a dramatic turnaround from misguided efforts to pass sweeping, ill-designed legislation that tried to accomplish too many things through budget gimmicks, setting up problematic fiscal cliffs in numerous programs and refusing to make the difficult decisions to allow for a fiscally responsible bill.

The *Inflation Reduction Act*, which was signed into law by the president, was fiscally responsible and targeted four key priorities: reducing our national debt and putting our country back on a more sustainable path, lowering the cost of prescription drugs, and making health care more affordable, investing in an all-of-the-above energy strategy to significantly increase oil, gas, and renewable energy production to lower energy costs for Americans, and cracking down on the tax avoidance of billion-dollar multinational corporations. This bill was the first major legislation in the last decade to use the reconciliation process to create a fiscally responsible budget to reduce deficits. The Congressional Budget Office estimated it would reduce deficits by approximately \$300 billion.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I also helped pass the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act, which among other things, included key wins for Bath shipbuilders, UMaine, and servicemembers and their families. For shipbuilders, the bill secured authorization for a third DDG-51 destroyer; established a new contract for up to 15 DDG-51 destroyers over the next five years, many of which will be built at Bath Iron Works; and included funding for shipyard infrastructure. The bill also authorized over \$25 million for defense research programs, including UMaine's large-scale manufacturing program. Finally, the bill authorized a 4.6% pay increase to help servicemembers and their families deal with rising costs due to inflation.

Additionally, at the end of 2022, Congress passed a spending bill to fund the government through September of 2023. The bill funds nearly \$27 million in funding for community projects across the Second Congressional District, a lifeline for our lobster industry that freezes any regulatory action for at least six years, and secures millions in additional funding for the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help Mainers heat their homes.

Regardless of the year, one of my top priorities is ensuring I'm accessible to you. My staff and I can help answer questions about and navigate federal programs; find resources in Maine; and resolve issues with Medicare, Social Security, the VA, and other federal agencies and programs. We are here to help:

- **Caribou Office:** 7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230, Caribou, ME 04736. Phone: (207) 492-6009
- **Lewiston Office:** 179 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, ME 04240. Phone: (207) 241-6767
- **Bangor Office:** 6 State Street, Suite 101, Bangor, ME 04401. Phone: (207) 249-7400

I look forward to building on momentum from recent legislative wins for Mainers and continuing to work on your behalf in 2023. Do not hesitate to reach out and voice an opinion on legislation, let us know about local events, or seek assistance navigating federal agencies or programs. It's an honor to represent you in Congress, and I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,

Jared F. Golden
Member of Congress

CITY OF GARDINER CALENDAR

March

- Second Tax Payment Due 03/15/2023

May

- City Wide Clean-Up
- ATV registrations go on sale 05/01/2023
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- 30-Day lien notices for nonpayment of taxes

June

- Liens filed for nonpayment of taxes
- Primary & Municipal Election 06/13/2023

August

- Applications for absentee ballots become available (November Election)
- Tax Bills are mailed

September

- First Tax Payment Due 09/15/2023
- Nomination Papers Due

October

- Absentee Ballots become available (November Election)
- Dog licenses go on sale 10/15/2023
- Fire Prevention Week
- Snowmobile registrations go on sale 10/01/2023

November

- State Election 11/07/2023

December

- Boat registrations go on sale 12/01/2023
- Hunting and Fishing licenses go on sale 12/01/2023

GOVERNMENT HOLIDAYS

City Hall, the library, and all non-essential departments will be closed on the following holidays each year:*

- New Year's Day (January 1)
- Martin Luther King Day (3rd Monday in January)
- Presidents' Day (3rd Monday in February)
- Patriot's Day (3rd Monday in April)
- Memorial Day (Last Monday in May)
- Juneteenth (June 19)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day (1st Monday in September)
- Columbus Day (Second Monday in October)
- Veterans Day (November 11)
- Thanksgiving Day and day following (4th Thursday and Friday in November)
- Christmas Day (December 25)

**Or nearest date if holiday falls during the weekend.*





6 Church Street, Gardiner, ME 04345
(207) 582-4200 • www.gardinermaine.com