

Town Manager Report
April 14, 2026
Prepared by Nicole Briand, Town Manager

Town Office – Closures

- Thursday, April 15th – MSAD 75 Facilities Master Plan @ BCS
- Friday, April 17th – Attic Clean-Out
- Saturday, April 18th – Bulky Waste Day
- Monday, April 20th – Patriots Day

Browns Point Road Bridge will be closed the week of April 20th - In order to perform a geotechnical evaluation, we have scheduled soil borings with a drilling company. These soil borings require that the bridge be closed to traffic during the duration of the drilling.

Updates:

Restrooms fixed

Center st wall update

4 way stop update – atpi

Sidewalk update

Roads update

MDOT speed requests update

We submitted CDS applications to both Pingree and King's Office. - We were encouraged to repackage our BUILD application for the design and engineering of the Merrymeeting Trail, from Gardiner's Waterfront Park to just south of Bowdoinham Riverfront Park for the Congressionally Direct Spending applications; no match is required for these applications.

MDOT has submitted their CDS application to Collin's Office. They removed the paving of Mailly Park from the package; as paving parks is normally outside of MDOT's scope of work. However, they included the sidewalk to Wallentine Road, the realignment of the Mailly Park Entrance, the sidewalk extension to Riverfront Park, the crosswalk between parks and the three gateway treatments; our project and match limit (\$2,500,000 and \$25,000) did not change. We had originally included the sidewalk extension to Riverfront Park and crosswalk in our ATPI application package. Unfortunately, MDOT determined that portion of the project would require a 40% match, not the 20% previously discussed, so we removed it from that application and asked MDOT to include it in the CDS application (which if funded would require a 10% match). The ATPI application package is now limited to the crosswalk from Main Street to Lower Main Street, which qualifies for the 10% match.

I've included the monthly department reports.



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MaineDOT Announces Temporary Closure of Lower Abagadasset Bridge

4/10/2026



MaineDOT Announces Temporary Closure of Lower Abagadasset Bridge

The bridge will be closed to all traffic for one week.

BOWDOINHAM – April 10, 2026 – The Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) will be closing the Lower Abagadasset Bridge over the Abagadasset River from April 20 to April 25.

Workers will be performing soil borings during the week long bridge closure. These soil investigations are necessary to begin the planning and design of the Lower Abagadasset Bridge Improvement Project.

Drivers and pedestrians should follow the detour map and detour signs while on site.

Have a Press Inquiry?

Contact Andrew Gobeil

[Email Andrew](#)

Phone: 207-624-3355

Address: 24 Child St., Augusta, ME 04330

Enter your information

Name *

Organization *

Phone # *

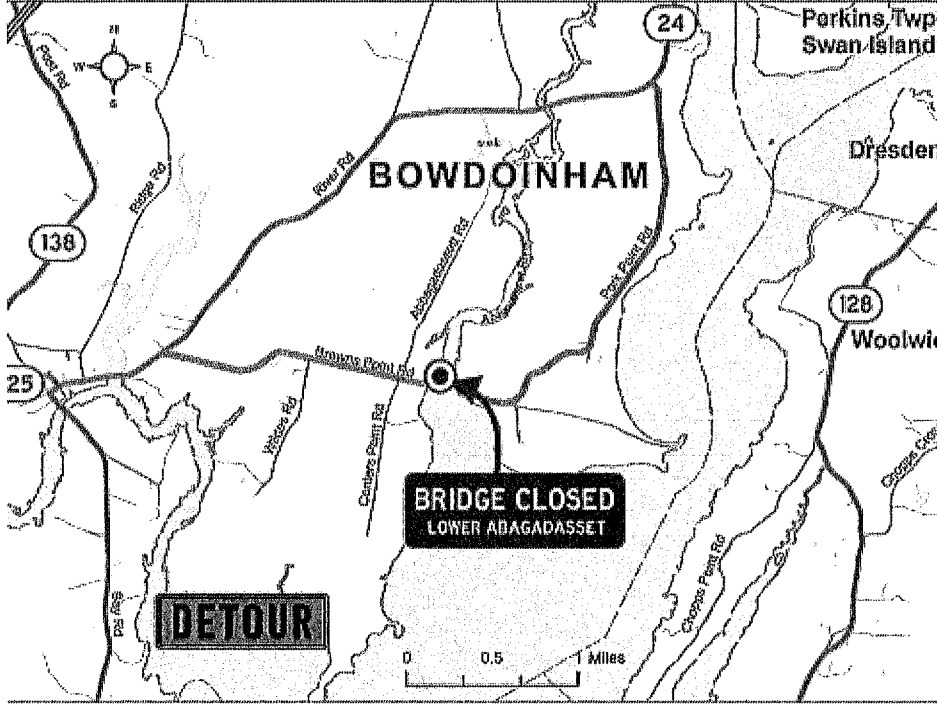
Email *

Comments *

Motorists should expect delays and use caution when traveling through the detour zone.

The contractor on this project is Seaboard Drilling of Bangor, Maine.

The contract amount is \$37,378.00.



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March 2026
Town of Bowdoinham
13 School St.
Bowdoinham, ME 04008

Dear Town of Bowdoinham,

The Trek Across Maine is less than 3 months away and we will be coming through your town on Friday, June 19th, 2026, with our 42nd annual event. **Our routes are finalized except for unexpected road construction or emergencies.** The Trek is the largest, longest running 3-day cycling event in the Northeast. We are notifying you of this special event so that you can be aware of an increased number of cyclists and vehicles (some large trucks) on the road. We will be relying on you when we ride through your town for 911 Emergency Medical support. We ask that you please post the enclosed **"SLOW DOWN AND SHARE THE ROAD"** safety poster. We would also like to invite your town to come out to help us celebrate the Trek Across Maine and being able to breathe clean air. Signs, balloons, banners, cheering, and volunteering are all welcomed and appreciated.

I have included the finalized 2026 turn-by-turn and route map through your town in case of an emergency you will know which routes we will be on, and so that you can inform us, if you haven't already, of any road or utility projects that might impact our route on town roads and highlighting intersections where we may need assistance. Please contact me if there are areas of concern. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

The Trek will take place during daytime hours, with no road closures necessary, except for emergencies, and cyclists will keep right as much as possible. We are currently expecting about 700+ cyclists and over 250 volunteers for this event. The American Lung Association in Maine relies on community support so that we can continue to raise the needed funds to support our mission of fighting lung cancer, lung disease, teen smoking and more.

For more information contact me if you have any questions, suggestions, or comments regarding this event. The contact numbers for **Trek weekend are Rick Smith 207-431-4776 and Bob Betts at 603-380-2022.**

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

George Eastman
Event Route Logistics Coordinator
122 State Street
Augusta ME 04330
207-215-7531
george.eastman@lung.org

Bowdoinham-Day 1-Friday-June 19th



Bowdoinham Day 1

Continue Straight on Rt 24/Bay Rd	Bowdoinham	
Rt 24/River Rd - Turn Right	Bowdoinham	
Rt 125/Main St - Turn Left	Bowdoinham	

National Work Zone Awareness Week is next week, from April 20th to April 24th

From Coughlan, Peter <Peter.Coughlan@maine.gov>

Date Mon 4/13/2026 4:13 PM

Greetings,

This email is being sent to municipal officials and public works crews across all towns in Maine. Please forward this to your other departments such as Police, Fire, emergency responders, as necessary.

Working on or near state or local roads is becoming more dangerous and this is a step in the right direction.

National Work Zone Awareness Week is next week, from April 20th to April 24th. In light of the tragic loss of our MaineDOT colleagues earlier this year, this year's campaign carries even greater significance. MaineDOT and Maine Turnpike Authority have been working on a wide scale outreach effort to increase public awareness of work zone safety, encourage lasting changes in driver behavior, and reduce crashes in and around roadway work areas. We have also partnered with other organizations across the state who have people working in the right-of-way along Maine's roads. We would love it if your organization took part as well.

This multi-channel communication campaign highlights that there are real people working in work zones, by using the tagline **"See cones, think people."** The messaging will end with a call to action for drivers to take a Work Zone Safety Pledge. **This website officially launched today and can be viewed at www.mainedot.gov/pledge.** By entering their names, drivers are making a personal commitment to slow down when entering work zones, keep two hands on the wheel, and pay attention to their surroundings.

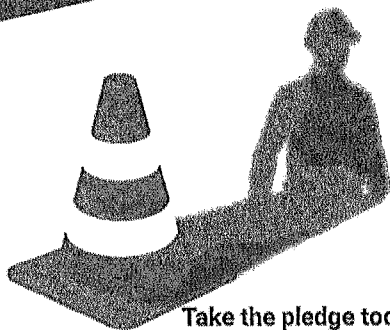
To kick off NWZAW, we'll be hosting a press conference in Fairfield this Thursday, April 16th, at 11 a.m., where we expect to draw a lot of media attention. To help this message reach as many people as possible throughout the week, we would love your support. Please use your own channels to share this important message with the call to action for drivers to take the pledge. Events during the week include:

- **Wednesday, April 22nd – Go Orange Day:** Please encourage your teams to wear orange and use the hashtag #Orange4Safety on social media.
- **Thursday, April 23rd – Social Media Storm:** Please share your own reasons for taking the pledge, and introduce your social media audience to the people on your teams who work just feet from moving traffic.
- **Friday, April 24th – Moment of Silence:** Take a moment to reflect and pay tribute to those workers who have been killed in work zone incidents.

We have created some multimedia assets such as posters and social media graphics that we invite you all to use in your own communication efforts. Those can be downloaded from here: <https://mainedot.files.com/f/32a157981b8277f8>

For more information on the national campaign, including resources to aid in your communications, visit: <https://www.nwzaw.org/>

Thank you for your support.



**See cones,
think people.**

Take the pledge today to drive safely in Maine's work zones:
mainedot.gov/pledge

Peter M. Coughlan, P.E.
Director, Maine Local Roads Center (LTAP)
Community Services Division
MaineDOT, Station 16, 24 Child St
Augusta ME 04333-0016
Ph: 207/624-3266 FAX: 207/624-3301
peter.coughlan@maine.gov

Integrity – Competence – Service



March Monthly Report

From pworks <pworks@bowdoinham.com>

Date Tue 4/14/2026 3:55 PM

To Nicole Briand <nbriand@bowdoinham.com>

This month was mostly plowing and sanding, removed a tree on ridge road that had fallen across the road. We received more sand and salt for this winter we had a lot of repairs on equipment. Trk#10 brakes trk #1 total brake replacement. Trk#4 rear brakes. Trk#4 gate lock. Trk#6 oil leak repair. Trk#4 wing cutting edge replace. Made repairs to the town dock ramp [plywood replacement and nonskid surface put on] . worked on transfer station entrance [4" gravel base]. Called DOT to make repairs on main street hill. Filled pot holes on back hill. Removed leaning tree on fisher road and a tree off browns point road. Removed winter windows from town office worked on leaning street signs all roads. Put sweeper on ventrac and swept sidewalks. And we have been keeping up with preventive maintenance.



Town of Bowdoinham

13 School St • Bowdoinham, ME 04008

Phone 666-5531 • Fax 666-5532

www.bowdoinham.com

Community Services March 2026:

Recreation:

- Youth Travel Basketball games/tournaments concluded this month. Teams had great showings while participating in at least three tournaments each.
- "Little Dribblers" basketball ran on four Saturdays in March. This year's program had 19 athletes ranging from Kindergarten to 2nd grade. We also had 4 adult volunteer coaches and were sponsored by Holloway Concrete Construction. Thanks to their sponsorship, each athlete received a basketball of their own to keep, a program t-shirt and goodie bag at the completion of the season.
- Registration is now open for baseball and softball programs for all youth ages and will close in early April.
- Registration is now open for Spring Cross Country running. Registration closes April 1. Bowdoinham will not be hosting a meet this spring due to planned construction work on Cathance Meadow Trail. Our long-time (only) coach, Todd Lamoreau, will be coaching his last season this spring as his son ages out of the program. Todd has agreed to help find and mentor another parent from the younger generation to take over in the fall.
- Adult Volleyball continues indoor play in the school gym and meets on Friday evenings from 5-7pm through May.
- Family Swimming at Bowdoin College pool wrapped up on March 29th for the Winter/Spring 2026 session.
- Committee meetings attended this month: Age-Friendly Committee, AYSL, MidCoast Cash, Sagadahoc County Board of Health, Get Active Maine, Cal Ripken Baseball District #4 and Bath Brunswick Resource Coalition.
- Wrapped up work with contractors and designers at the "Yellow building" as part of the FEMA BRIC grant process.
- Skating rink has been drained for the season.
- Began ordering equipment for the baseball/softball season. New equipment includes a portable padded sliding (training) mat to be shared amongst all teams. This will allow coaches to teach proper safe sliding techniques in a safe environment.
- Planning along with Public Works for the installation of the new scoreboard on Middle Field. As long as weather conditions allow, we are planning to install the week of April 13th.



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Older Adult Services:

- This month the Committee met on Monday, March 9th. Discussions were mostly centered around the work on the Alexa Echo Dot program in cooperation with Bowdoinham Community Connections as well as upcoming Spring activities. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13th and will be held at the Fire Station.
- Bowdoinham Community Connections: This month volunteers continued to meet to update on progress with residents they are working with. The group has been making a lot of progress with the Echo Dot program. Volunteers were available for both tax clinic sessions to assist folks with signing up for Medicare Savings Program.
- Bridge and Cribbage continue on Wednesdays and Thursdays respectively.
- Luncheon this month was held on Thursday, March 13th. About 60 people attended, a very high number as expected for the traditional St Patrick's Day menu. The next luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, April 9th.
- Medical Equipment loaned out this month includes one 1 shower bench, 1 wheelchair, 1 transfer wheelchair and 3 rollators. 5 new rollators were purchased this month to boost our inventory using Maine Health Access Foundation grant funds. We had a very large amount of donations this month, including two particularly large donations from individual families. One donation included multiple electric wheelchairs as well as many other devices, all in very good to new condition, totaling over \$8,000 in value.
- Storage for the medical equipment inventory is becoming a pressing problem that I am working on funding for along with the age friendly committee.
- The second of two Free Tax Preparation Clinics was held at the Fire Station on Tuesday, March 17th with 40 appointments filled.



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Planning:

The Planning Board met on March 26, 2026, from 6:00pm to 8:30pm.

Item 1: Call Regular Meeting to Order & Determine Quorum. Members present at the meeting were Tracey Krueger (Acting Chair), Chris Vonderweidt, Reeve Wood, Justin Schlawin, and Richard Joyce.

Old Business:

Item 2: Consideration of Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2025. Voted 5-0 in favor to approve the minutes as presented.

Item 3: October 23, 2025, Planning Board minutes previously approved were signed by Tracey Krueger, and Reeve Wood. Nate Drummond was absent.

Item 4: December 18, 2025, Planning Board minutes previously approved must be signed by Tracey Krueger, Reeve Wood, Justin Schlawin, and Chris Vonderweidt.

Item 5: Written approval (SPR Tier I) for Verizon Wireless (R02-63-C-ON) was signed by Tracey Krueger, Reeve Wood, and Chris Vonderweidt. Nate Drummond was absent.

Item 6: Public Hearing & Final Action: Site Plan Review – Tier II Application

- i) Tax Map: R02, Lot: 62
- ii) Applicant: Town of Bowdoinham
- iii) Representative: Pine Tree Engineering, Inc.
- iv) Location: 121 Pond Road
- v) Zones: Village II District and Zone A within the Flood Plain Management Area.
- vi) Proposal: The applicant is proposing an expansion that will create 1.38 acres of additional gravel lot area for the Public Works storage and will include a secondary entrance for public access to the expanded transfer station and recycling facility.

Outcome: The Planning Board voted 5-0 to approve the application with a condition that a Flood Hazard Development Permit be obtained from the Code Enforcement Officer before construction commences. In addition, the board waived General Performance Standard 9. Landscaping, as well as the SPR Tier II application fee.

Item 7: Public Hearing & Final Action: Site Plan Review – Tier II Application

- i) Tax Map: R06, Lot: 40
- ii) Applicant: Sumner Properties, LLC

- iii) Representative: Yunjin Zhang
- iv) Location: 205 Carding Machine Road
- v) Zone: Residential/Agriculture District
- vi) Proposal: The applicant is proposing a medical cannabis cultivation facility within an existing structure.

Outcome: The Planning Board approved the SPR Tier II application by a vote of 5-0 for a cannabis cultivation facility at 205 Carding Machine Rd.

Other Business:

Item 8: Public Hearing: Land Use Ordinance: Reorganization Discussion:

- Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of the Land Use Ordinance.
- Discussion of LD 1829: An act to build housing for Maine Families and attract workers to Maine businesses by amending the laws governing housing density.
- Discussion of LD 427: An act to regulate municipal parking space minimums
- Discussion: Adding language to the Land Use Ordinance in Article 11. to waive all application fees and charges for Town of Bowdoinham projects that require a permit.

Outcome: The board held the Public Hearing with little public input, and they voted to send Articles 1 through 12 to the Select Board for Public Hearings in April 2026.

Item 9: Adjourned.

Code Enforcement Report

Permits :

Permit Type	March	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	YTD
Building	7	1	0	3	4	151
Plumbing/Septic	4	0	1	2	7	150
Floodplain	0	0	0	0	0	2
Site Plan Review -Tier I	1	1	0	0	0	13
Land Use	0	0	0	0	0	9
New Dwelling Units	2	0	0	1	1	49
Demolished Dwellings	1	0	0	0	0	9
Inspections	8	3	6	8	14	349

Active Inspections and Violations :

- 1) **371 Carding Machine Road** (R06-033-B) – Issued a 3rd Notice of Violation (NOV) on October 15, 2024, and I sent it certified mail. I have received confirmation that Mr. Aase received all NOV's by signature confirmation. I did receive an email from Mr. Aase that

described his plan of selling the property, however, there was no mention of working toward compliance. Property is now for sale. **No Change from the last report.**

- 2) **1441 River Road** (R12-019) – Currently, the Code Office issued a 4th N.O.V. and as a result, the Select Board authorized the Code Officer to work with the town’s attorney regarding this matter. **Update for January 2026:** The Code Officer is working with the Town’s Attorney to draft a final letter requesting compliance before filing in court. **Update for February 2026:** Waiting on the final letter from the Town Attorney. **Update for March 2026:** Still waiting for a letter from the Town Attorney.
- 3) **780 Ridge Road** (R3-28) – At this time, the Code Office is scheduled to conduct a site visit with Nicole Briand at 780 Ridge Road on Friday, October 10, 2025. Also, the Select Board has authorized the Code Officer to work with the town’s attorney on this matter. **Update for January 2026:** No change from the last report. **Update for February 2026:** All communication has ceased from the property owner. The Code Office requested an update on February 2, 2026, however, Mrs. Billington never responded. It appears that the large pile of lumber was not removed as determined from a visual inspection from the public way. Unfortunately, the agreement that the town and Mrs. Billington is no longer in effect. The Code Office is moving towards a more aggressive time frame to have the property completely cleaned up by June 1, 2026. If this deadline is not met, then the Code Office will recommend legal action in relation to the current Notice of Violation. **Update for March 2026:** Issued a 3rd Notice of Violation on March 18, 2026. I have not heard from Mrs. Billington in reference to the latest Notice of Violation.
- 4) **473 Carding Machine Road** (R05-51) – I have been in contact with the property owner and Mr. Skipper has agreed to clean-up the property. I plan on conducting an inspection on September 26, 2025, for compliance. **Update for January 2026:** No change from the last update. **Update for February 2026:** No Change from the last update. **Update for March 2026:** No Change from the last update.
- 5) **112 Pond Road** (R02-63-F) – The Code Office received a cannabis odor complaint from Mr. Booty, an abutter to 112 Pond Road, on August 14, 2025. I sent a letter to the property owner and the individual grow-facilities on August 18, 2025, requesting that each caregiver install additional carbon filters. It is valuable to note that I had not received a complaint from an abutter since May 16, 2025. Currently, five (5) out of the seven (7) grow facilities have contacted the Code Office regarding the latest request for more carbon filters. **Update for January 2026:** The Office of Cannabis Policy has indicated that three (3) of the caregivers are currently working to get their state license updated. One of the caregivers has indicated that they are not cultivating cannabis at 112 Pond Road, currently. **Update for February 2026:** Two letters were sent to Ganja Babes LLC and Cannabis for Medium LLC regarding their lack of a state license from the Office of Cannabis Policy, and the town’s right to revoke their Cannabis Business Licenses because they failed to maintain State of Maine licenses. They were given a deadline of March 7, 2026, to submit a complete application with the Office of Cannabis Policy. **Update for March 2026:** One of the caregivers is working with the Office of Cannabis Policy to become compliant with the State of Maine. Unfortunately, the second

Leah

Active Inspections and Violations (cont'd):

caregiver was issued a Notice of Violation for lack of a State Caregiver's License. I have been in contact with the caregiver, and we are discussing the next steps moving forward.

- 6) **5 Brook Lane** (R03-44F) – It was brought to the attention of the Code Office that a different business is operating at 5 Brook Lane than what was originally approved. The Code Office has not made contact with the property owner but plans to request a Site Plan Review Tier I application for a change of use. **Update for January 2026:** The property owner has not submitted the requested application. So, I emailed the property owner asking if they needed help with the application. The property owner responded that he is still working on the SPR Tier I application. **Update for February 2026:** No Change from the last report. **Update for March 2026:** The property owner submitted and paid for a Site Plan Review Tier I permit application. Currently, I am still conducting my review of the Site Plan Review Tier I application submission.

- 7) **14 Cemetery Road** (U03-13) – I contacted the property owner on August 18, 2025, concerning the condition of the property (Junkyard). Mr. Skelton contacted the Code Office on August 26, 2025, and we discussed a plan for action to clean up the property. He is the landlord for the property, and he is currently using the legal system to evict the tenants from the property. We agreed that Mr. Skelton would contact the Code Office every two weeks with an update, and Mr. Skelton has provided an update every two weeks as promised. **Update for January 2026:** Mr. Skelton is continuing to clean up the property as the weather will allow for it. He anticipates that the property will be completely cleaned up in the spring of 2026. **Update for February 2026:** No Change from the last update. **Update for 2026:** No Change from the last update.

Comprehensive Planning Committee

The Comprehensive Plan Committee met for its regular monthly meeting on March 11. The committee received updates from the Tree Subcommittee Committee, noting Jan Marks's resignation as Chair and Peggy Christian's appointment as interim Chair, with further discussion of a potential Tree Plan expected in April. Members then reviewed and ranked five Open Space Plan consulting proposals, narrowing the field to three firms for further consideration. The committee outlined assignments for the next meeting, including reviewing example Open Space Plans from the top three firms and developing interview questions for shortlisted consultants. The next meeting will focus on consultant interviews and a Tree Subcommittee update.

Economic Development:

Community Development Advisory Committee

The Community Development Advisory Committee held their regular monthly meeting on March 3 where they welcomed new committee member Wayne Sanford and voted off Bill Small for ongoing attendance issues. Danielle Moriarty of the Maine Arts Commission presented on the role of arts and culture in community and economic development, highlighting examples from communities across Maine that have leveraged arts investments to strengthen local identity, stimulate economic activity, and build community pride. She also shared practical strategies for

incorporating arts into municipal planning and provided an overview of the Maine Arts Commission's Creative Communities grant program.

Members then focused on two key projects: the pavilion and the Merrymeeting Trail. For the pavilion, the committee agreed to develop a written report outlining programmatic needs and design considerations, such as size, utilities, functionality, maintenance, and potential revenue generation to present to the Selectboard. Members will provide input on a shared draft document ahead of the next meeting for full consideration by the committee. Discussion of the Merrymeeting Trail centered on potential next steps and coordination with other partners, though the committee agreed to prioritize completing the pavilion report first.

In a related update, the Town submitted a request to Representative Pingree's office for Congressionally Directed Spending to support the Merrymeeting Trail Preliminary Design and Final Engineering project. The request seeks \$1,330,000 to advance design and engineering for a 19.7-mile rail-to-trail segment between Bowdoinham and Gardiner, with no local match required. The committee will reconvene at its next regular meeting in early April.

Bowdoinham Waterfront Park

Projects are on hold while we continue to wait for seven streetlights to be installed which are still on backorder. Also, we have a change order in with the Land and Water Conservation Fund that is still pending to pave the pathways at the park to make them more accessible. The latest update from the program is that this should occur any day/week now. As mentioned previously, in February staff submitted a project eligibility review request to the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the next phase of development at the waterfront which would include developing a pavilion with a solar array, new bathhouse, wifi, security cameras, septic, natural play area and ice skating rink materials for the Bowdoinham Riverfront Park and updates to Maily if it was to be incorporated into the project area which would include realignment of the park entrances, and paving the parking lot. We have heard back that these are eligible project expenditures for the grant and are encouraged to apply.

Yellow Building

Acorn Engineering provided the Town with the final documents required for the BRIC contract which included a final Due Diligence Report which interprets how the regulatory requirements identified in the November draft affect feasibility, cost, resilience and long-term operations and details. It also includes a Wastewater Pre Treatment System Design and Cost Estimate, Architectural Scope which separates out the building costs from site, floodplain, and permitting costs, and a Soil Survey.

Additionally, staff engaged the Midcoast Council of Government's (MCOG) Brownfield investigation program at no cost to the town to determine if this could be a source of funding to address the removal of any hazardous materials in the building. This month we received a report from their environmental consultant Sevee & Maher Engineers, Inc. that identified a modest amount of asbestos that should be removed if there was to be remodeling or demolition for an estimated \$7,500- \$10,000 which could be abated through the Brownfield's program if we were considered eligible. However, upon a file review, it was determined that because the Town did not undertake a Phase 1 assessment of the building at the time of purchase we would not qualify

for any cleanup assistance. However, if someone else were to purchase the building or if there is a large expansion planned with it, then it might qualify for a low interest loan where the owner would be responsible for 25% of the project cost through the program now that a Phase 1 has been done. It should be noted that the rest of the property has undergone Phase 1 and that the consultant did not identify levels that would lead to a recommendation of any further evaluation for other programs through the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which was further verified by staff upon outreach to the DEP program. All reports can be found here: www.bowdoinham.com/project/riverview-house.

Cathance Meadow Trail Improvements

Staff attended a mandatory meeting this month for all recipients of the Maine Trails Program grant. It was there they shared that setting up their funding accounts was taking longer than usual to set up as funding is coming from a new bond measure. We expect a contract to be issued now in April. To be proactive staff have worked with the program to draft an RFP that is ready to be releasing it in April to improve 360 feet of the existing blue trail in the Cathance Meadows Trail System along with the creation of 220 feet of new creation of 220 feet of new trail, both surfaced with gravel and reclaim top dress, leading to a 20' x 20' observation platform. An 18" culvert is also included which would improve drainage in a low area. An existing foundation on site would be restored and fitted with a ramp, handrails, and guardrails to create a new accessible viewing area. Updated trail maps and five wayfinding signs are included to enhance navigation and overall user experience. A 10% match (\$6,283) from the CMP TIF is required.

Transportation Projects

1. DOT Bike/Ped Grant Sidewalk Project – In November the Selectboard reviewed an updated report from DOT for the sidewalk project on Main Street from its intersection with Center Street up to Post Road. The hybrid option was still DOT's recommended strategy with an alternative of placing it entirely on the North side of Main Street. The Selectboard's unchanged opinion to keep it entirely on the North side of Main Street has been shared with DOT and we are still waiting to hear when a public meeting on the project will be scheduled. **NO NEW INFORMATION**
2. Active Transportation Partnership Initiative (ATPI) – Since staff last presented this project to the Selectboard the scope of this grant project has been reduced to just the crosswalk in front of Three Robbers requiring a 10% (\$6,350) match from the CMP TIF because of our previous demonstration project at this location. The reason for this is that DOT reevaluated the match required for the portion of the missing sidewalk segments along Rt. 24 near the new park entrance at which went from 20% to a 40% match. We are hoping that this work could still be funded at a 20% match through the earmark application DOT has in with Senator Collins' office. We will not know more about that until this Winter when the federal budget is passed. We expect to see a contract signed with the State during April.
3. DOT Demonstration Project – In February staff was approved by the Selectboard to submit a DOT All Way Stop demonstration project at Rt 24/Lower Main Street intersection which was estimated to cost \$1,319.50 from the CMP TIF. The DOT is

continuing to review our application and is leaning towards two additional stop signs installed on either side of the road of Upper and Lower Main Street where stop conditions already exist. This would include one in the grass on the corner where the apartment building once was facing up traffic coming down Upper Main Street and a second one facing down Lower Main Street very close to the entrance to Three Robbers Pub. Further, we are being asked to move the Rt 124 & Rt 24 Jct. signage further down towards the Country Store. We have a meeting scheduled in April to discuss the necessity and impact of the additional stop sign at the Three Robbers entrance.

Further, this approval process has taken a significant amount of time and given that our public work's staff will need to plan for the installation it may cut into the actual amount of time we can demonstrate the project. The project's outcome will inform the final design of the crosswalk installation so it is important that we do the due diligence and investigate this temporary traffic pattern change.

4. Merrymeeting Trail – On September 8, 2025 staff submitted a no-match grant application with the Rural Tribal Assistance Pilot Program for preliminary design and final engineering for 8.5 miles of rail to trail conversion from downtown Bowdoinham to downtown Richmond. We were notified that we have been awarded this grant and will ask permission to accept the award at the 4/14/26 Selectboard Meeting. The grant announcement is here:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOT/bulletins/410e9e2>

On February 24 staff submitted a no-match grant application with the federal BUILD grant program to fund the Planning and Preliminary Engineering for the 19.5-mile segment from Bowdoinham to Gardiner. Awards to be announced by the end of June 2026. Further, in March staff applied for no-match earmarks through Congresswomen Pingree and Senator King's offices as well for the 19.5 mile project at a total cost of \$1.33 million. Staff has been in contact with their offices to notify them of the RTA award and amend the request to fill the gap in the project funding to complete the project through Gardiner.

Maine Coastal Grant

In February the Selectboard accepted the \$50,000 award from the Maine Coastal Program Shore and Harbor Planning Grant with a commitment of a 10% match (\$5,000) from CMP TIF funds to conduct a comprehensive planning initiative focused on fishing and paddle put-in locations in Bowdoinham. Fishing spots were identified on the Master Site Plan for the new park, however those uses may be at odds with the shoreline stabilization project. We are looking to explore that and other locations with this grant. We have yet to receive a contract from the State to begin executing the contract.

Summer Interns

Planning & Development Department Staff extended offers to two interns, but they turned down the positions. Staff will continue looking for these opportunities for next year.

Event Planning

Ice & Smelt

Staff solicited feedback from participating organizations following the 2026 Ice & Smelt event to better understand attendance trends, organizational outcomes, and opportunities for improvement. Responses reflected mixed experiences, with variation largely tied to location, wayfinding, and programming density rather than overall interest in the event.

Two respondents reported significantly higher participation compared to previous years and indicated they met their engagement or sales goals, citing steady foot traffic, cooperative weather, and strong visibility through Facebook and printed materials. Arts-related activities in particular noted consistent attendance across both gallery and workshop spaces.

In contrast, three respondents reported lower participation and underperformance relative to expectations, with estimated attendance ranging from 4 to 10 visitors. These organizations consistently pointed to challenges including dispersed event locations, difficulty for visitors to determine where activities were happening, and limited on-site cues such as maps or centralized information. One respondent noted that visitors expressed interest in trail use but struggled to find navigational materials, underscoring a wayfinding gap.

Across responses, weather was generally viewed positively, especially compared to prior years, suggesting that external conditions were not the primary barrier to participation. Instead, feedback highlighted the importance of a stronger waterfront presence, more clustered or clearly defined activity hubs, and additional interactive elements to keep visitors engaged once they arrived. Suggestions included food trucks, greater visibility at the waterfront, and creative ideas such as displaying ice shacks to draw interest and anchor activity areas.

For prospective this event originated with and was organized by Merrymeeting Arts Center until 2023. Staff work on planning this event around Valentine's Day, the Superbowl, and the Maine Celtics event hosted by Rec. Further, sentiment has been not to have it over lap with either weekend during school vacation. Timing of the event will be revisited with participants. Moreover, participation from organizations has been lacking or last minute while outreach continues to be made far in advance by staff. Staff will incorporate these insights into planning for future winter events to better support participating groups and visitors alike.

Concert Series

The schedule has been solidified and will be before the Selectboard for consideration in April. Given the feedback received there are several factors playing into the proposed changes to this year's contract which include a modest price increase for bands and that fewer non-profits are interested in hosting benefit dinners, removing pressure from staff to find food trucks to fill the gaps and instead promoting local businesses as food options for two of the concerts.

Celebrate

Staff is working on trying to use MyRec to host registration for the event this year.

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

March 2026 REPORT

1. Baled OCC for a total of 7 bales weighing an estimated 6650 lbs.
2. Collected and packaged for recycling 24 gallons of mixed paints.
3. Collected and packaged for recycling 2 circle bulbs.
4. Collected and packaged for recycling 12 CFL bulbs.
5. Collected and packaged for recycling 4 fluorescent bulbs.
6. Collected and packaged for recycling 4 lead acid batteries.
7. Collected and packaged for recycling 24 lithium-ion batteries.
8. Collected and packaged for recycling 5 Ni-Cad batteries.
9. Collected and packaged for disposal 3 PCB ballast.
10. Collected and packaged for recycling 4 flat panel tv's.
11. Collected and packaged for recycling 2 CRT TVs.
12. Collected and packaged for recycling 2 laptops.
13. Collected and packaged for recycling 2 printers.
14. Collected and packaged for recycling 1 cell phone.
15. Shipped 1 container of light iron.
16. Shipped 1 box of bulbs.
17. Shipped 1 container of mixed recyclables.
18. Attended monthly safety meeting.
19. Conducted March monthly facility safety inspection.
20. Conducted forklift safety training.
21. Conducted Bloodborne Pathogen training.
22. 762 recycling visits

Respectfully submitted

Bryan Benson

Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue
March 2026

	FIRE	EMS	BURN PERMIT
3/1/2026			3
3/2/2026		Preble Road - assault Ridge Road - stroke Post Road - hemorrhage Post Road - public assist	1
3/3/2026			
3/4/2026			
3/5/2026			
3/6/2026			
	I295 mm 38 - PI crash		
	M/A Litchfield Plains Road - structure fire		
	I295 mm 36 - vehicle fire		
3/7/2026		Center Street - breathing problem Browns Point Road - fall Preble Road - sick person	1
3/8/2026			
3/9/2026			
3/10/2026			
3/11/2026			
3/12/2026			
3/13/2026			
3/14/2026			
3/15/2026			
3/16/2026			
3/17/2026			
3/18/2026			
3/19/2026			
3/20/2026			
3/21/2026			
3/22/2026			
3/23/2026			
3/24/2026			
3/25/2026			
3/26/2026			
3/27/2026			
3/28/2026			
3/29/2026			
3/30/2026			
3/31/2026			
TOTALS	10	22	44

	AMOUNT		
Vitals Statistics			State Share
Certified copies of:			
Birth	1		\$ 2.00
Birth Extras	0		\$ -
Death	1		\$ 2.00
Death Extras	0		\$ -
Marriage	8		\$ 16.00
Marriage Extras	2		\$ 0.80
Marriage Licenses	0		\$ -
Disposition Permit	0		\$ -
Disposition Permit	0		
Totals			\$ 20.80
Animal Welfare (Dog License)	Amount	Fees	TOTAL SOLD
Male/Female	12	\$ 10.00	\$ 120.00
Neuter/Spay	123	\$ 3.00	\$ 369.00
Dangerous	0	\$ -	\$ -
Nuisane Dog	0	\$ -	\$ -
Kennell	0	\$ -	\$ -
Totals			\$ 489.00
Inland Fisheries & Wildlife		Town Share	State Share
Fishing/Hunting		\$ 4.00	\$ 68.00
Snow		\$ 15.00	\$ 165.00
Boat		\$ 9.00	\$ 364.00
ATV		\$ -	\$ -
Sales Tax		\$ -	\$ -
Excise Tax		\$ 135.20	\$ -
			\$ 597.00
Voters at the end of March		TOTAL	2504

BMV REPORT 25		02/24 - 03/03	03/03 - 03/11	03/11 - 03/17	3/17 - 03/24	03/24 - 03/31
CATEGORY						
PASSENGER - RENEWALS		26	40	23	24	47
PASSENGER - NEW		14	12	11	14	7
PASSENGER - NO FEE		1	1	0	2	1
PASSENGER - HALF RATE		0	0	0	0	0
PASSENGER - TRUCK		0	2	0	0	2
ANTIQUÉ - RENEWALS		0	0	0	0	1
ANTIQUÉ - NEW		0	0	0	0	1
ANTIQUÉ MOTORCYCLE		0	0	1	0	1
MOTOR HOME - RENEWALS		0	0	0	0	0
MOTOR HOME - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
COMMERCIAL - RENEWALS		1	3	2	2	3
COMMERCIAL - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
TRAILER - RENEWALS		4	2	0	2	7
TRAILER - NEW		0	1	0	0	0
TRACTOR/SPECIAL MOB - RENEWALS		0	0	0	0	0
TRACTOR/SPECIAL MOB - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
FARM TRUCK - RENEWALS		5	0	0	1	0
FARM TRUCK - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
MOTORCYCLE - RENEWALS		2	0	2	0	5
MOTORCYCLE - NEW		1	0	0	0	0
MOPED - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
STREET ROAD - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL EQUIPMENT - RENEWALS		0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL EQUIPMENT - NEW		0	0	0	0	0
VANITY PLATES		2	4	5	3	5
LOST PLATE		0	0	0	0	1
DUPLICATE STICKERS		2	4	8	2	8
DUPLICATE REGISTRATION		0	1	1	0	0
TRANSIT PLATES		1	0	1	0	1
TRANSFERS		2	1	3	3	4
INCREASE RVW		0	0	2	1	0

SALES TAX FORMS	6	7	6	2	5
SALES TAX FORM - NO FEE	1	0	1	0	2
TITLES	5	6	6	1	5
E-CORRECT	4	2	1	3	3
RETURNED PLATE CARDS/CANCEL PLATES	0	0	0	0	0
ADDITION/DELETION FORMS/VOIDS	1	0	2	3	1
TOTAL	78	86	75	63	110