Newmarket Arts, Culture, and Tourism Commission

Do you love living in Newmarket and believe that art and culture make a community stronger? We want to hear from you.

The **Newmarket Arts, Culture & Tourism Commission** is seeking one new member to join a dedicated group of volunteers working to bring creativity, connection, and culture to life in our town. If you enjoy collaborating with others, thinking strategically, and championing the arts — this is your seat at the table.

You're a great fit if you:

Enjoy living in Newmarket

Appreciate the role art and culture play in supporting local business

Want to enrich the community through creative initiatives

Work well with others to build meaningful connections

Are eager to develop strategies and events that celebrate the arts

Will be an enthusiastic advocate for the Commission's mission



Turtle Fest '26 Is Here And Nearly Now!

Your Conservation Commission eagerly awaits Saturday, May 9, with a 7 AM birdwatching meetup at Wiggin Farm. Led by Dick Lutz, a familiar face from the Sunrise Sunset Center, the walk offers experience in birdwatching. Participants will learn what to watch and listen for. During the walk, silence is encouraged to enjoy the birds. Lutz shares his expertise at the Jr/Sr High School, along with other professionals on this year's Turtle Fest highlights.

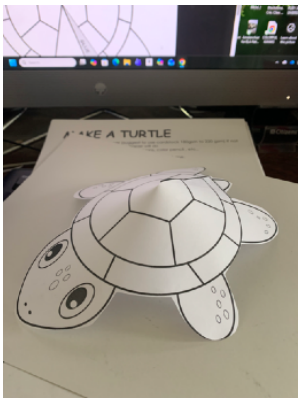
The Conservation Commission offers an expansive array of raffle prizes, drawn at noon before the vernal pools walk from 1 PM to 3 PM. The group will notify you to pick up your treasures. Prizes include art, experiences, and lawn and garden items. They're displayed at the event or available at the library and town hall.

The Conservation Commission is planning another initiative for Turtle Fest, focusing on water protection and education. This initiative aims to protect the effects of stormwater runoff and help save water on your bill. Rain barrels will be a raffle prize at Turtle Fest, launching a sale facilitated by the commission. Easy to set up, you can start collecting water for your lawn and garden. With Mother's Day approaching, consider ordering and setting up your barrel in early June for a sustainable garden.

Turtle Fest's success depends on collaboration with the Newmarket Public Library. The goals align: reaching the public to educate about turtle habitat and learn about these fascinating creatures. NH Turtle Rescue will return to the library program calendar, presenting Tuesday, May 5, at 4 PM.

Visit the library to check out raffle prizes, buy tickets, and deposit them in your favorite ballot can. You can also buy this year's Turtle Fest '26 t-shirts featuring John Herman's distinctive artwork. Added this year, you can also get in on the first-ever bandanas featuring the same logo, capitalizing on the Great Blue Herons in Great Bay.

Between Turtle Fest and Rain Barrels, the commission thanks residents who voted to help purchase the Rosa Property, adding it to the town's properties supporting wildlife corridors, open skies, and habitats for all creatures. Enjoy Turtle Fest, bird watch at Wiggin Farm, or explore vernal pools on our trails.



Preparations are set and ready to go for Saturday's 2nd Annual Turtle Fest. Attendees will discover something for everyone-with our creative youngsters able to express their interests in turtles and healthy habitats through many crafts brought to the event by Heather Hatada Boyd and her volunteer group from the high school representing the library's craft activities. This picture shows the turtle-themed activity the Energy & Environment Committee will offer the youngest attendees. From the keynote by our town engineer to learning about rain barrels offered for sale by the Conservation Commission, Turtle Fest is The Place To Be on Saturday!