

CONTACT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE:

#### Phone:

(978) 619-5600

#### Email:

mayor@salem.com

#### Web:

salem.com/mayor

#### Facebook:

City of Salem MA

#### **Twitter:**

@CityofSalemMA





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# FYI SALEM

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DECEMBER 16, 2021

# From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

Happy holiday season to you and your loved ones!

As we approach the end of 2021, it's an opportune time to reflect on the past year and on all that we can be grateful for.

2021 was a year of enormous challenges for Salem, as well as for our Commonwealth and our country as a whole. Nevertheless, we persevered and supported one another through the challenges—and celebrated each other through the successes.

Over the past year we lost 34 more neighbors to COVID, and almost 4,000 Salem residents became sick from the virus. Many will struggle with ongoing, potentially lifelong, issues as a result of being in-

fected with the virus. At the same time, in the past year nearly 31,000 Salem residents have become fully vaccinated against the virus.

2021 was also a year for great progress in Salem's continuing work to become a more welcoming and sustainable community. The Race Equity Task Force wrapped up its report and we are starting implementation of it, including the appointment of the City's first ever Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and our new Race Equity Commission, a permanent body to continue the work initiated by the task force.

It was a major year for climate efforts, as well, with the establishment of the City's new Department of Sustainability, the completion and start of action on Resilient Together, our regional climate action plan with Beverly, and the development of the vacant land around the Footprint power plant as a potential marshalling site for offshore wind.

That last opportunity has truly transformative potential, laying groundwork for generations of green jobs right here in Salem, substantial growth in our tax base, and the reduction of our

region's emissions as we transition to more renewable offshore wind for Massachusetts' power supply.

Lastly, we can be proud of the progress made on the signature parks projects, making major investments in preserving, upgrading, and making more resilient and accessible our community's most beloved public spaces. First phases were completed at Salem Willows and Palmer Cove, investments were made across Salem Common, the new outdoor recreation and nature center at Forest River was completed, and conceptual planning and design initiated for Pioneer Village.

As Salem approaches our 400th anniversary in 2026 we are committed to remaining an inclusive, forward-looking, and vibrant community. I am so proud to have the opportunity to make a positive difference the daily lives of the people I am fortunate to represent and serve.

I hope you and yours have a joyful holiday season and a New Year filled with happiness and good health.

Kim Driscoll, Mayor

## **Diversity Catalog**

Salem Mayor Kim Driscoll has announced the opening of registrations for businesses to join the 2022 North Shore Diversity Catalog. Building on the success of the 2021 Catalog (<a href="www.salem.com/diversitycatalog">www.salem.com/diversitycatalog</a>), Salem and its partner municipalities seek to update the listings and solicit participation from even more new businesses of diverse ownerships. Registration will be open until February 1, 2022.

To register for the 2022 Diversity Catalog, fill out the form in its entirety here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2022DiversityCatalog">https://tinyurl.com/2022DiversityCatalog</a>. The form is also available in Spanish here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2022DiversityCatalogEspanol">https://tinyurl.com/2022DiversityCatalogEspanol</a>.

Registration is open until February 1, 2022. Registrations after February 1, 2022, will be allowed, however entry into the catalog for those late registrants may be delayed. Previously listed businesses from the 2021 Catalog must also visit the registration link to confirm their business' information or update it if necessary.

The North Shore Diversity Catalog is a tool to help business share information about the services they provide or the products they offer. It also helps cities and towns in the region to identify the diverse array of business owners so that they can better connect them with opportunities for municipal procurement (when cities and towns purchase items or services).

The catalog will be published on the City of Salem's website, promoted by the partner municipalities, and shared with local Chambers of Commerce, Main Streets organizations, and other community groups.

"The 2021 North Shore Diversity Catalog featured over one hundred local businesses that call this region home," said Mayor Driscoll. "It not only offered municipalities a directory of businesses with diverse ownership for procurement purposes, it also provided a resource to residents who wanted to shop local and support our diverse business community. I am excited to continue Salem's partnership with our neighboring communities as registration opens for the 2022 Diversity Catalog. Together we can continue to build upon this community resource and marketing tool, making it further reaching and even more helpful than it was last year."

To participate in the Catalog, a business must meet two criteria:

- Be located within the greater Salem region (i.e. Beverly, Danvers, Lynn, Marblehead, Nahant, Peabody, Salem, and Swampscott), and
- (2) Have at least 51% of the ownership team in at least one of the following categories: Immigrant, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBTQIA), Black/African American, Hispanic or Latino (Central/South American or Caribbean), American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, Person/People with a (dis)ability, Service-Disabled Veteran, Veteran, and/or Woman/Women.



### **Snow Info**

The City of Salem's "Snow Central" website (www.salem.com/snow) with critical information about snow emergencies in Salem has been updated for this winter, as well as the Snow Brochure, which is also available on that page and below. Please follow all posted information and rules about parking during snow emergencies, to allow for plowing operations to take place as effectively as possible. As a reminder, property owners are responsible for clearing the snow and ice from their sidewalk.

The City is still looking to hire additional plow truck drivers for this winter. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call the Department of Public Services at 978-744-3302.





### **Discounted Overflow Bags**

Salem residents may once again purchase official orange Overflow trash bags for \$1 per bag for any holiday overflow. Each household may purchase up to five bags, from December 20, 2021 through January 7, 2022, during regular City office hours. These discounted bags may only be purchased at the Collector's Office, 93 Washington Street, and the Community Life Center, 401 Bridge Street.

## **CPA Grant Applications**

Salem's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) uses a two-step application process for reviewing funding proposals, beginning with a brief Eligibility Application. This application enables applicants to know if their project is eligible under CPA regulations prior to submitting the more comprehensive Funding Application. Eligibility Applications may be submitted to the CPC at any time. However, in order to be considered for the FY22 funding round, applicants are encouraged to submit their Eligi-



bility Applications no later than January 3, 2022. For projects that are determined eligible, applicants will then be invited to submit a Funding Application. The CPC's tentative deadline for the receipt of Funding Applications is March 25, 2022. Submitted applications will be reviewed in accordance with the evaluation criteria and the goal of the CPC is to submit funding recommendations to the City Council in May 2022.

"CPA has made it possible for the City of Salem to address needs of open space and recreation, historic preservation, and community housing," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "Affordable housing continues to be very important, and I am pleased that the Community Preservation Committee has recommended CPA support for almost 200 units of new affordable housing."

The FY22 Community Preservation Plan and FY21 Annual Report, FY22 Determination of Eligibility Application and other information on the CPA can be found at <a href="http://www.salem.com/community-preservation-committee">http://www.salem.com/community-preservation-committee</a>.

#### 2022 RECYCLING & TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE-FOR MUNICIPAL PICKUP

Trash is collected each week and recycling every other week; between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on your designated pickup day by Waste Management.

If your recycling cart has a green lid, your recycling will be collected on the GREEN weeks. If your recycling cart has a blue lid, your recycling will be collected on the BLUE weeks.

#### RECYCLING IS MANDATORY IN SALEM!

#### **HOLIDAYS**

When a holiday occurs during the week, collection services will be delayed one day following that holiday. Sign up for notifications on Code Red, which you will find on the main page of Salem.com.

#### **BULK ITEMS, WHITE GOOD, MATTRESSES & MORE**

Please call the City's contractor Waste Management, at **(800) 972-4545.** Follow the prompts for "existing residential customer". Customer Service can assist with the following;

- Schedule pickup of an item that doesn't fit in your cart. (limit of 2 items per household per recycle week)
- If your cart needs repairs
- If your cart (trash or recycling) was not picked up on your scheduled day

#### YARD WASTE - Curbside Pickup

Curbside pickup weeks of April 18, June 20, September 19, October 17, November 28, December 11.

Yard waste must be in paper bags or trash barrels. Do NOT place yard waste in carts.

#### **YARD WASTE - Salem Transfer Station**

Located at 12 Swampscott Rd. The transfer station is open seasonally on Saturdays 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents or property owners (with license and /or tax bill) may drop off acceptable yard waste during these times.

#### **EXCESS TRASH (For Household Trash ONLY)**

Salem residents may purchase Orange overflow Bags at \$12.50 per roll of 5 at Crosby's, Ace Hardware, DPS, and the Collectors Office. These bags may be placed on top of or beside your cart.

#### **DROPOFF DATES**

- E-Waste: Will be on four Saturdays at Salem HS from 8am-12pm.
   March 26, June 25, September 24, & December 17
- 2022 Household Hazardous Waste Day: visit salem.com/health for more information.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Website: Salem.com/RecyclingandTrash

GreenSalem.com

Call: Waste Management at 800-972-4545

To schedule a bulk item pick up, a cart repair, or to report a missed trash/recycling pick up

or Engineering Dept. at 978-619-5672

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### SALEM AND BEVERLY STYROFOAM RECYCLING EVENT



Hold on to your Styrofoam after the holidays! While Styrofoam cannot be recycled curbside, Save That Stuff will be collecting it at this drop-off event. Styrofoam will be densified at their recycling facility and delivered to secondary markets for recycling.

### Community Life Center 401 Bridge Street, Salem

JANUARY 8, 2022 9 AM - 1 PM

FREE EVENT!
OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF
SALEM AND BEVERLY



PLEASE ONLY BRING RIGID, WHITE EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (STYROFOAM).
SORRY, NO PACKAGING PEANUTS OR FOOD SERVICE CONTAINERS SUCH AS
MEAT TRAYS, CLAMSHELLS OR STYROFOAM CUPS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

## Bike Friendly Salem

The League of American Bicyclists honored the efforts of the City of Salem to build better places for people to bike with its bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) award. Salem joins 497 communities across the country, and 14 others in Massachusetts, in the movement for safer streets and better bicycling for everyone.

The League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly America program sets the standard for how communities build and benchmark progress toward making biking better. This round of awards includes 57 new and renewing awardees, joining a total of 497 current Bicycle Friendly Communities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The bronze BFC award recognizes Salem's commitment to improving conditions for people who bike through invest-



ments in bike education programs, regular bike events that promote and encourage people to choose biking, probike policies, and bike infrastructure. The City established its Bicycling Advisory Committee in 2006 and completed Bike Master Plans in 2010 and 2018 to guide the development of infrastructure, programs, and policies to support bicycling within the community.

"I'm proud that Salem is making bicycling a safe, convenient, and enjoyable travel option to help reduce vehicle traffic and congestion, strengthen public health, and improve our environment by reducing emissions and lessening our local contribution to the climate crisis," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "I want to thank the Bicycling Advisory Committee, the City's Traffic & Parking and Planning departments staff, and former transportation intern Noah Gordon, for all of their work to prepare the application for this award, and their ongoing efforts to make Salem more bike-friendly. This designation is a recognition of our City's work to become a 'car choice' community, where driving is just one option for residents, employees, students, and visitors to get to their destination."

Several recent projects expand the reach and connectivity of the off-street path network through Salem's neighborhoods. These include the Harbor Connector Path between Collins Cove and Derby Street, the Mayor Anthony Salvo Multiuse Path between downtown and South Salem (and, soon, all the way to Marblehead), and the new Bridge Street path connecting the Mayor Jean Levesque Community Life Center and surrounding neighborhood to downtown via the Leslie's Retreat Park path. These paths are open to not only cyclists, but also pedestrians, joggers, inline skaters, and people using wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Salem has had a bike share program for the past ten years, launching "Salem Spins" in 2011 and contracting in 2017 with bike share operator Zagster. This July, Salem joined Bluebikes, Metro Boston's regional bike share program, and plans to deploy several more Bluebikes stations throughout the city over the coming months. Salem's expansion of biking infrastructure supports the community's goals to reduce carbon emissions and increase climate resiliency.

Furthermore, the City is undertaking projects to make its path network resilient. In partnership with Salem Sound Coastwatch, the City recently built a living shoreline at Collins Cove to protect the Peter Tracy Path and surrounding homes from coastal storm surge and wave action. The Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs recently awarded a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant for the Cities of Salem and Peabody to evaluate climate adaptation strategies to incorporate into a planned multiuse path within the Harmony Grove Road area of the North River corridor.

# **Pioneer Village**

The City of Salem has launched the website for the proposed Pioneer Village signature park project, being undertaken in the lead up to the City's quadricentennial in 2026. The proposed project would relocate Pioneer Village from its current location at Forest River Park to the current Camp Naumkeag site. The website can be found at <a href="https://www.salem.com/pioneervillage">www.salem.com/pioneervillage</a>. The site has extensive



information about the proposed project, including presentations, an FAQ, timeline, updates, and more. As additional information and plans are developed for the project they will be added to the site, which also includes a link for those who would like to ask questions about the project.

The new site for Pioneer Village will help protect the historic amenity from climate change and will incorporate resiliency elements itself. In addition, the new location provides the opportunity to expand the area and topics of historical interpretation, while also allowing for upgrades for accessibility. The new Pioneer Village will incorporate additional representation and educational opportunities specific to the area's indigenous history and the Massachusett tribe. The history of both Camp Naumkeag and Pioneer Village itself will also be represented and interpreted. The new Pioneer Village site will additionally provide an opportunity for linking to the historic Fort Lee site, allowing for additional interpretative and preservation opportunities.

"I would like to thank the many historians, preservationists, landscape architects, engineers, and community stake-holders who have been helping to advise and guide the City on the development of this momentous project," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "Of all our signature park projects, the Pioneer Village effort most clearly reflects our Salem 400 goals by preserving and improving a treasured public space for future generations, while also elevating the indigenous history of Salem, investing in sustainability and resiliency, and improving accessibility. I invite all Salem residents to explore the new website, get involved in this landmark initiative, and, ultimately, join us in 2026 when we celebrate its completion."



### Terracycle Bins

The City of Salem is excited to partner with TerraCycle to offer permanent collection bins to recycle items that would otherwise be thrown in the trash: used, dried Swiffer pads; all brands of reusable and disposable razors, blades, and cartridges, as well as any flexible or rigid plastic packaging they come in; all brands of toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, mouthwash bottles, floss containers and soap and toothbrush packaging; all brands of deodorant containers and caps;

all brands of empty writing instruments, glue sticks, watercolor dispensers, paint sets, and the flexible or rigid plastic packaging these items come in. Bins are located on the first floor of City Hall Annex, 98 Washington St. Make sure all items are empty (no toothpaste or deodorant residue inside) and dry. Visit https://www.greensalem.com/programs/terracycle-recycling/ for more information and to view the five streams; keep each stream separate.

"Salem has long been a leader in recycling efforts, helping reduce the amount of trash our community generates" said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "Not only is this better for our environment, it also reduces costs to our community since it is so much more expensive to dispose of trash instead of recycling. I encourage all Salem residents to bring any of these recyclable items to City Hall Annex and place them into the appropriate bins for recycling."

## Sculpture Path

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, eight new sculptures were installed along the Salem Harbor Connector Path for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Salem Harbor Connector Path Sculpture Garden.

Funded in part through a MassTrails grant, the Harbor Connector Path itself extends Salem's multiuse trail network from the Peter Tracy Walkway at Collins Cove to the Bentley School and Derby Street.

The first sculpture garden along the path opened December 1, 2020, as part of a celebration for the path's completion the previous summer. It was the first long-term public display of contemporary sculptures in the city in recent history. The eight new sculptures replace the seven currently on display.

There is no charge to enjoy the sculpture garden and path. The new sculptures will be on view now through November 30, 2022.

"This exciting project is a continuation of our work to advance the vision of Salem's Public Art Master Plan," said Mayor Driscoll. "I want to thank the Public Art Commission and City staff for their efforts to make this new sculpture garden a reality. The Harbor Connector Path Sculpture

Garden continues to serve as an uplifting and engaging focal point in our community's growing trail network and our collection of thoughtful, enriching public art."

Artists with work on display in the new Sculpture Garden are Eve Lee Schauer, Nancy Schon, Melanie Zibit, Madeleine Lord, Will Smith Cabrera, Karin Stanley, Cassie Doyon (a Salem State University alum), and Robert Osborne. Information about these artists and their work is available at <a href="https://www.salem.com/public-art-commission">www.salem.com/public-art-commission</a> or by using a smartphone to scan the QR codes on the signs that accompanying the works along the path.

In addition to these eight new sculptures on temporary loan, the City is currently looking to purchase the much beloved piece from the first Sculpture Garden entitled 'Seahorse', by artist Jose Criollo, to become part of the City's permanent public art collection. This piece, which was previously featured on the cover of Salem Magazine, is comprised of recycled metals from chairs, tools, auto parts, pots, pans, and more.

Those interested can support the purchase of this sculpture by visiting <u>Patronicity.com/SeahorseForSalem</u> and donating. The City has already secured \$6,000 of the \$12,500 needed to ensure this delightful work of art can stay right in here Salem.

Image: "Mama Tingo" by sculptor Will Smith Cabrera is one of the new sculptures now on view along Salem's Harbor Connector Path. Photo by John Andrews of Creative Collective.



### Free Rapid Tests

The City of Salem has an allocation of iHealth Labs COVID-19 rapid antigen test kits, with two tests in each kit. Those receiving a kit are encouraged to take one of the tests before they gather or see friends and family during the holidays, and then take the second test before returning to work or gathering with others after the holidays.

"Over 215,000 PCR tests have been administered to Salem residents since the start of this pandemic," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "However, having the flexibility and quick feedback from a rapid test will make it easier for residents to gather safely over the holidays, especially with the omicron variant imminent. I want to strongly encourage all eligible residents to get tested, to avail themselves of these free rapid tests if applicable, and to consider purchasing some rapid tests to have at home if they are not able to use these free tests. Lastly, we intend to make our own acquisition of a large quantity of additional rapid tests in the next few weeks, so this is just the first round of what will, I hope, be a continuing effort to provide free, rapid tests to as many Salem households as possible. Salem has been a leader in responding to COVID-19, from innovative testing to public health measures and from vaccination programs to volunteer, housing, food, and small business support efforts. This rapid testing initiative will be a continuation of that pro-active, evidence-based, public health-focused record."

After being notified earlier in the week about the forthcoming delivery of kits, the City developed a plan to distribute them in a manner that prioritizes high risk and disproportionately impacted populations. After surveying demand from agencies that serve these populations and larger housing sites, the following distributions are taking place this week:

- To the Salem Public Schools and Salem Academy Charter School for distribution to students and/or staff.
- To the Salem Pantry to distribute to residents visiting the pantry sites over the next two weeks.
- To large multi-family housing sites, including Salem Heights, Loring Towers, Salem Housing Authority, and North Shore Community Development Coalition properties, for tenants. Tenants will be contacted by the property manager or landlord with additional details about how to receive their test kit. Please do not contact the City.
- To early childcare workers who interact regularly with children age 0-4, who cannot yet be vaccinated.
- To Lifebridge, for the day center and in their supportive housing sites, and the Salem YMCA for childcare staff.

The City will distribute the remaining test kits to any Salem resident who needs one. **Test kits will be distributed by** Health Department staff on Monday Dec. 20, Tuesday Dec. 21, and Wednesday Dec. 22 at City Hall Annex, 98 Washington St., from 9am-noon and then from the Community Life Center, 401 Bridge St., from 1-3pm.

Only **one kit** will be distributed to each household. **Proof of Salem residency** is required to receive a free test kit. No proof of citizenship or insurance is necessary. Distribution of kits to the general public is subject to availability. In the event additional test kits remain after this general distribution, the City may schedule a second distribution day and, potentially, allow households to pick up a second test kit. In that event, another announcement will be made.

Informational fliers in multiple languages with instructions about how to use these tests are at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/lists/covid-19-self-test-at-home-instructions-graphic">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/what-to-do-if-you-have-or-have-been-exposed-to-covid-19</a> for further information about what steps to take. This testing opportunity is in addition to the existing free PCR testing options located at sites across Salem. For more information about COVID-19 testing in Salem and the options available to residents, visit www.salem.com/testing.