

Eversource Gas, New Bedford Fire Department, Hazmat, respond to Church Street gas leak

“Earlier Thursday afternoon, Command Unit 1, Engine Co. 8, and Ladder Co. 4 responded to 262 Church Street to assist Eversource Gas with a carbon monoxide incident. On arrival, District Chief Shawn Sivil was informed by Eversource personnel that there was natural gas leaking into a two-family residence. NBFD and Eversource combustible gas meters confirmed the natural gas concentrations were quickly reaching the lower explosive threshold.

Fire crews set up ventilation fans to decrease the natural gas concentrations inside the building. Shutting off the gas service to the building did not stop the levels from increasing. Fire personnel evacuated two residents of the home and nearby residences. Electrical power to the building was shut off prior to gas concentrations entering the explosive range. Ventilation fans remained in use until Eversource was able to locate and repair a nearby broken natural gas supply line. Nearby residences were also evacuated.

The Hazardous Materials Coordinator also responded with additional combustible gas meters which allowed crews to assess nearby buildings for the presence of natural gas. There were no injuries reported. NBPD and NBEMA also provided assistance.

Great work by everyone who responded. The NBFD has a strong working relationship with both Eversource Gas & Electric.”-New Bedford Fire Department.



New Bedford Fire Department photo.



New Bedford Fire Department photo.



New Bedford Fire Department photo.



New Bedford Fire Department photo.



New Bedford Fire Department photo.

New Bedford roadwork sites for the upcoming week of May 20, 2024 – May 24, 2024

“The City of New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of May 20, 2024 – May 24, 2024, and they are as follows:

Eversource will be working on gas main relays and services on:

- Main relay on Acushnet Ave from Phillips Rd to Bowles St
- Main relay on Bayview St from W Rodney French to Point St
- Main relay on Acushnet Ave from Phillips Rd to 3082 Acushnet Ave
- Main relay on Church St from Belleville Rd to Park Ave
- Main relay on Hudson St from W Rodney French to Brock Ave
- Main tie in on County St from Cove St to Rivet St
- Main tie in and service on Princeton St from Church St to Ashley Blvd
- Services on Central Ave from Church St to Conduit St

Eversource will be working on test pits and related work for future electric upgrades at the following locations:

- Pine St from MacArthur Dr to terminus
- MacArthur Dr from Pine St to Walnut St
- Walnut St from MacArthur Dr to S. Second St
- S. Second St from Walnut St to School St
- School St from S. Second St to County St
- County St from School St to Locust St

For more information about this project, please call the project information hotline at 1-833-836-0302 or email ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com to join the email list for regular construction and community updates.

Other:

- Contractor (K5 Corporation) will be working city wide repainting pavement markings.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working on a road reconstruction project at West Rodney French Boulevard from Cove Street to George Street.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working on a road reconstruction project at Elm Street from JFK Memorial Highway (Route 18) to Purchase Street.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working on Acushnet Avenue

between Tarkiln Hill Road and Monmouth Street.

- Contractor (JH Lynch) will be working on the MassDOT road reconstruction project at the intersection of Rockdale Avenue at Allen Street. Traffic detours will be in place during workday hours of operation.

- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working at the MassDOT road reconstruction project on Kings Highway from Mt. Pleasant Street to Oliver Street.

- Contractor (Various utility companies) will be working on utility pole transfers at the MassDOT road reconstruction project on Acushnet Avenue from Tobey Street to Pequot Street.

- MassDOT will be staging installation and beam end cleaning and concrete encasements at I-195 East and West bound lanes over Purchase Street, County Street and State Street. Work will take place Sunday – Thursday with overnight operations only.

- Contractor (SCR Constructors) will continue site work at the future South Coast Rail station platform locations in the city. (Church Street at Carlisle Street and Wamsutta Street at Acushnet Avenue.) and continue site work at the future pedestrian bridge across Rte. 18 impacting parking along Purchase Street between Willis Street and Pearl Street and at the Division of Career Services on Acushnet Avenue. If you have questions, please email the project team at SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us

- MassDOT to continue pavement preservation and related work on Route 140 both northbound and southbound from mile marker 0.0 to mile marker 5.2. Work to be conducted during overnight hours. Police details and ramp closures with detours to be expected.

Project: Lead Service Line Replacement Program Phase II
General Contractor: C. Naughton Corp. (Monday-Friday 7:00am -5:00pm)

- The contractor will be placing temporary bypass piping. Monday on Oaklawn Street between West Rodney French Boulevard and Brock Avenue. Tuesday on Lucas Street between West Rodney

French Boulevard and Brock Avenue.

- The contractor will be excavating test pits. Wednesday Central Avenue at Ashley Boulevard.
- The contractor will be working Lead Service Line Replacements. Thursday on Allen Street between Clover Street and West Street. Friday on Brigham Street at Taber Street. Hawthorn Street between Brigham Street and Gould Street. Farm Street between Brigham Street and Brownell Street. At times during working hours, these locations may be closed to thru traffic with signs posted to detour traffic around work areas. Police details will be on-site allowing access to residents only and assisting with traffic management.

Project: Phase 4 Transmission Main Reinforcement Project
Contractor: C. Naughton Corp. (Monday-Friday 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM)

- The Contractor will continue replacing a section of the existing 48-in water transmission main north of the railroad crossing at Chipaway Road in East Freetown.

Project: Shawmut Avenue and Howland Street Pumping Station Improvements Project General Contractor: WES Construction Corp. (Monday-Friday 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM)

- The contractor is scheduled to continue installation of granite curb and concrete sidewalk replacement along Nash Road between Shawmut Avenue and Mount Pleasant Street. Lane restrictions will be in place during working hours, with one lane of alternating traffic open. Police officers will be on-site to assist with traffic management.”
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New Bedford Police make 14 arrests in the downtown area in 2 weeks after complaints

“NEW BEDFORD – Police officers have focused their efforts on addressing quality-of-life issues and groups congregating in the downtown area.

Since May 1st, fourteen arrests have been made around the SRTA Bus Terminal, Mechanics Lane, and Main Library in response to growing complaints. These arrests were made for a variety of offenses, including unarmed robbery, warrants, open containers of alcohol, possession of crack cocaine, and disorderly conduct, to name a few.

Several arrests were made as officers observed individuals loitering in the area and consuming alcohol on the sidewalks. Two men were arrested after being observed smoking crack cocaine on Mechanic’s Lane. Some were individuals who were found to have active warrants for their arrest.

“Our city’s downtown district is important to us, and when people are actively drinking, openly using drugs, and being overall disorderly in the area, we are compelled to act. I’m grateful for the efforts being put forth in the downtown area by our officers.”-Chief Paul Oliveira.

The New Bedford Police Department has a strong outreach program in place. We also work closely with numerous community partners to ensure that ample resources are provided to those struggling with addiction, alcoholism, mental illness, and homelessness. Arrests are a last resort.

If you have any information you would like to share with the police, you can do so anonymously by visiting our website, newbedfordpd.com, or by calling 508-99-CRIME.”-City of New

New Bedford Police SRO ventures into realm of “Hollywood” fame by starring in several movies

“Despite all of our officers shining like stars, one in particular has ventured into the realm of “Hollywood” fame.

Recently, news broke out about the NBPD’s very own School Resource Officer Shane Harris starring in the new “Challengers” movie, which hit theaters in April.

While mentoring two students to follow their goals and dreams, Harris had made a bet that if they got their grades up in school and worked hard in the Air Force Program, he would do whatever they wanted. Little did he know that a bet he started between himself and two students 5 years ago would lead him to follow his own dreams...



City of New Bedford Police Department photo.

Harris has always wanted to be an actor, and since 2020, he has starred in several movies, TV shows, and commercials. But before even auditioning for a role, he wanted to see what it would be like to work on set. When he heard that a scene from the 2019 movie "Jungleland" starring Charlie Hunnam and Jack O'Connell would be filmed in New Bedford, he called his friend who owned a Security Company to pick up some part-time shifts as a security guard.

Shane's acting career began when he landed his first on-screen role as a Security Guard in the 2020 movie, Godmothered. He's since been featured in the TV series Hightown as the Deputy Sherrif, has been a featured guest on Pause with Sam Jay, has played a detective in the 2023 movie Boston Strangler, played alongside Mark Cubin as an investigator in Good Burger 2, and

is most known for his most recent role as Zendaya's Security Guard in *Challengers*. He also has done commercials for Amazon, Titleist, and Spectrum News.

What's next for Ofc. Harris? Besides patrolling the hallways of Whaling City Jr. Sr. High School (which he does a FANTASTIC job at, by the way), you can also catch him in theaters this August as a Swatt Commander in Ben Affleck's new movie "The Instigators" starring Matt Damon and Casey Affleck!

We're so proud of you Ofc. Harris – we look forward to watching you on the big screen!"-City of New Bedford Police Department.



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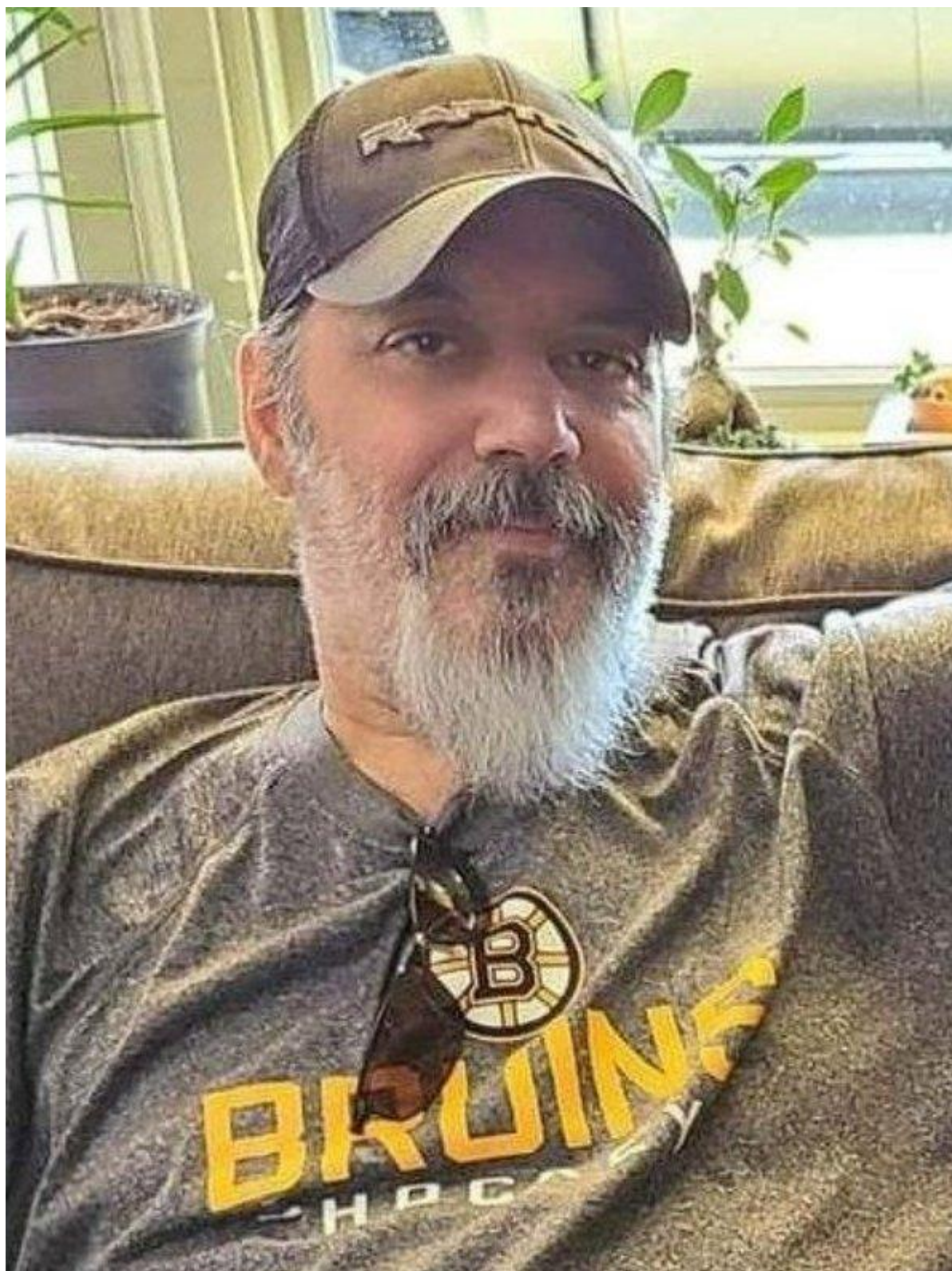
Dartmouth Fire Department announces passing of New Bedford native, former Lt. Michael Dumont

“We regret to announce the passing of former Lieut. Michael Dumont, son of retired Chief Marcel Dumont and brother of former Lieut. Marc Dumont.

Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.”-Dartmouth Fire District 1.

His funeral will be held on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 9:00am from WARING-SULLIVAN HOME AT DARTMOUTH, followed by his Mass

of Christian Burial at 10:00am in St. Julie Billiard Church, 494 Slocum Rd., Dartmouth. Visitation will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 2:00pm – 5:00pm in the WARING-SULLIVAN HOME AT DARTMOUTH, 230 Russells Mills Rd., Dartmouth, MA 02748. Burial is Private.



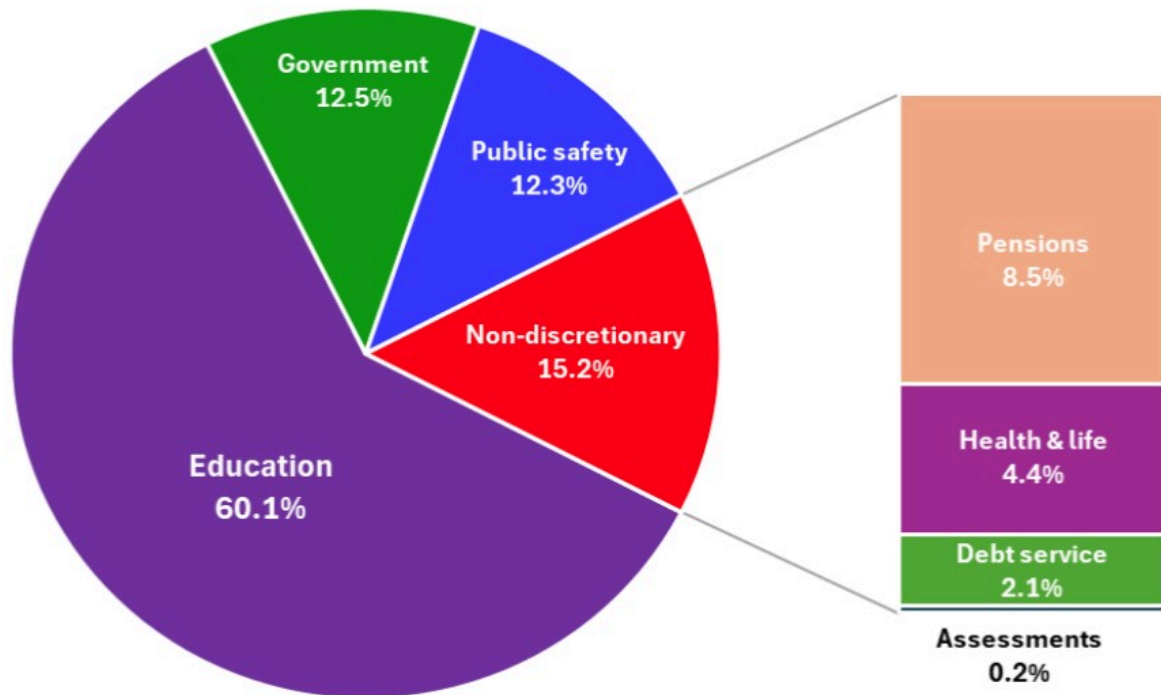
Mayor Jon Mitchell's FY2025 delivers budget proposal to New Bedford City Council

"Mayor Jon Mitchell delivered his FY2025 budget proposal to the City Council Wednesday night.

Did you know that about 75% of the total budget (the purple and red pie slices in the chart) are costs the City is legally mandated to pay, no matter what? That's why we encourage everyone to check out the Mayor's address and the complete budget proposal, both available on our website, to learn about the budget process and the proposed plan.

We know municipal finance isn't the most exciting thing on your plate, especially right in the middle of a Celtics playoff game, but it's extremely important, especially to New Bedford taxpayers."-City of New Bedford.

FY 2025 General Fund Appropriations by Category



City of New Bedford photo.

Complete Budget Proposal: newbedford-ma.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/55/20240515193836/Proposed_Final4.pdf

Mayor's Budget Address: newbedford-ma.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/20240515194329/FY25BudgetAddress.pdf

Massachusetts 2nd Grade Teacher sentenced for possessing CSAM, including images of infants

“BOSTON – A former Milford teacher was sentenced today in federal court in Worcester for possessing child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

Vincent Kiejzo, 36, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Margaret R. Guzman to 42 months in prison, to be followed by five years of supervised release. Kiejzo was also ordered to pay \$43,500 in restitution to victims. In December 2024, Kiejzo pleaded guilty to one count of possession of child pornography.

In or around May 2019, an IP address registered to Kiejzo was linked to two websites known to host videos, photos and discussions of content depicting the sexual exploitation of minor victims. During a search of Kiejzo's Milford home in September 2020, a USB drive plugged into a television in his bedroom was located and found to contain links to websites dedicated to child sexual exploitation. The USB drive also contained well as over 6,000 images of CSAM – including images that involved infants.

At the time of his arrest, Kiejzo was a second-grade teacher in Milford. Upon his release from prison, Kiejzo will be required to register as a sex offender and will be prohibited from contact with children.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy and Michael J. Krol, Special Agent in Charge of the Homeland Security Investigations in New England made the announcement. The Milford Police Department also assisted with the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kristen Noto of the Worcester Office prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse, launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit

<https://www.justice.gov/psc>.”-Massachusetts Department of Justice.

New Bedford Police recruit officially sworn in: welcome to the force, Officer Anthony Lopes!

“Help us welcome Ofc. Anthony Lopes! Ofc. Lopes took his oath of office early on Wednesday. Thank you for your commitment to serving and protecting our City.

We wish you all the best on your journey, and welcome to the NBPD!”-City of New Bedford Police Department.



City of New Bedford Police Department photo.



City of New Bedford Police Department photo.

NORPEL Is Hiring For An Industrial Electrician In New Bedford

Position Description: Industrial Electrician 1st shift.

This role will require you to install, maintain, test, troubleshoot and repair industrial electrical equipment and associated electrical and electronic controls, while ensuring that work is in accordance with relevant codes. Click [HERE](#) to apply!

Primary roles and responsibilities of the position are outlined below:

- Read and interpret drawings, blueprints, schematics, and electrical code specifications to determine the layout of industrial electrical equipment installations.
- Install, troubleshoot, clean, inspect, calibrate, and maintain electrical equipment throughout the facility.
- Performs electrical work safely and professionally with minimal supervision in accordance with Federal and State Regulations and Company Policies.
- Perform regular preventive maintenance on Conveyor systems, barcode sensors, thermal barcode printers, and plant facilities equipment including air compressors.
- Execute Preventive and Corrective Maintenance work orders as assigned.
- Using CMMS program properly document activities as to actual work performed, and parts used.
- Assist in improving PM procedures by participating in procedure audits and reviews, recommending PM changes based on personnel observations, etc.
- Ensure all electrical and mechanical work meets established codes and NORPEL/Intelligrated standards.
- Responsible for assembling, installing, examining, replacing, or repairing electrical wiring, receptacles, switch boxes, conduits, feeders, lighting fixtures and other electrical components.
- Repair and troubleshoot AC/DC variable speed drives, other motor controls, PLC's, process controls and building systems.
- Prioritize work, schedule plans, and follow up on directed assignments.
- Other duties as assigned (shop clean up, general mechanical maintenance, general facilities support, etc.).

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of the tools, equipment, and materials common to the electrical trade.
- Knowledge of applicable electrical codes, standards, and regulations.

- Knowledge of electrical application for high and low voltage electric system.
- Skill in the installation, repair, and maintenance of all types of electrical system equipment and components.
- Skill in both verbal and written communication.
- Knowledge of complete range of system controls including power / motor circuitry, relay logic
- Experience in developing, specifying, and installing new/upgraded PLC/Process controls and AC drives.

Education, Experience and Certificates:

- Current Massachusetts Electrician License in good standing
- Experience as a licensed electrician in a manufacturing/industrial environment.
- Perform upgrades to refrigerated warehouse space with the Maintenance/Engineer team as required.
- Maintain existing warehousing & production facilities.
- Inspect and repair machinery as well as facility systems like electrical.

NORPEL's main objective is to ensure all employees and their families lead fulfilling and healthy lives. We offer essential resources and support to build and sustain physical, financial, and emotional strength to achieve this. Our focus is on overall well-being so you can concentrate on the things that matter most. Our benefits plan comprises medical, dental, vision, flexible spending and health savings accounts, life insurance, disability, 401k, paid vacation/time off, and other benefits. Any compensation range provided for a role is an estimate determined by available market data. The actual amount may be higher or lower than the range provided, considering each candidate's knowledge, skills, and geographic location.

At NORPEL, we are experiencing rapid growth and need someone who can handle multiple tasks and projects simultaneously. This role requires excellent communication skills as you will

work closely with team leaders across various company departments. **Grow your career with us! Apply here:** <https://www.norpel.com/careers>

NORPEL is an equal-opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

NORPEL, also known as the Northern Pelagic Group, LLC, is a prominent producer of pet food ingredients. We originated as a small fish processor in New Bedford Harbor back in 2002, but now operate plants in New Bedford, MA, and Hazle Township, PA, where we process seafood and meat products. With the industry's increasing demand for superior-quality, sustainable, and fully traceable raw materials, **NORPEL** is committed to exceeding customer expectations. Our clients consist of most major pet food companies, and we invite you to join us in our efforts to champion sustainability, advance research, and discover innovative solutions to eliminate food waste.



Paper Shredding Day in Dartmouth to destroy outdated, confidential documents

“Dartmouth, Massachusetts – Paper Shredding Day is on June 1, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, or until the shred truck fills up.

All are welcome; there is no residency requirement. Individuals may bring up to two boxes of paper. The event is at the Dartmouth Highway Department, 976 Russells Mills Road, Dartmouth.

“Identity theft is a growing concern. Everyone must be vigilant in protecting personal information. Shredding your documents is an excellent way to protect yourself and your family, NBCU is proud to sponsor these community shredding days.” said Berta Varao, President & CEO at NBCU.

The shred truck can only take a certain amount of paper, so the limit of two boxes allows Paper Shredding Day to serve more people. The event will end when the shred truck is full; it is possible it may be before noon. Each box should weigh no more than 30 to 40 pounds. Paper clips and staples do not need to be removed, but please remove paper from folders and binders.

When each participant reaches the shred truck, staff will remove boxes from the trunk of your vehicle, empty them into a recycle bin and return boxes to participants. The recycle bin is emptied into the Shred-it truck. Shred-it is certified by the National Association for Information Destruction and adheres to their stringent security practices and procedures. For safety purposes, participants are not able to watch the destruction of their paper.

Shredding confidential documents helps to prevent identify theft, protect personal information, and prevent valuable resources from being sent to the landfill. The shredded paper will be recycled into new products such as paper towels.

Event is sponsored by NBCU and held in partnership with the City of New Bedford, the Town of Dartmouth, and the Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District.

For more information, please visit gnbrmdistrict.org, call the Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District at (508) 979-1493, or email Marissa@gnbrmdistrict.org.”