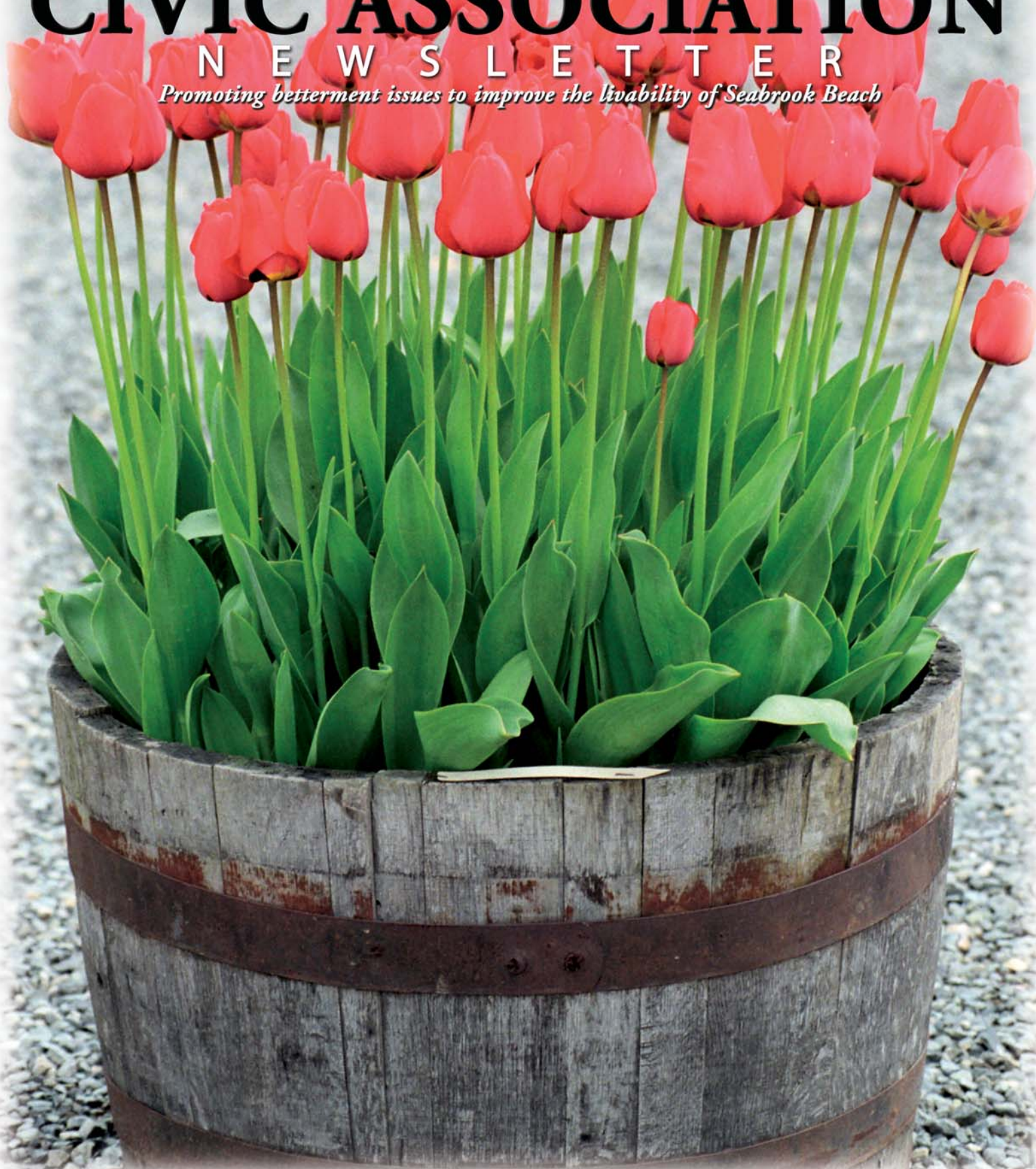


VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2 MAY 2005

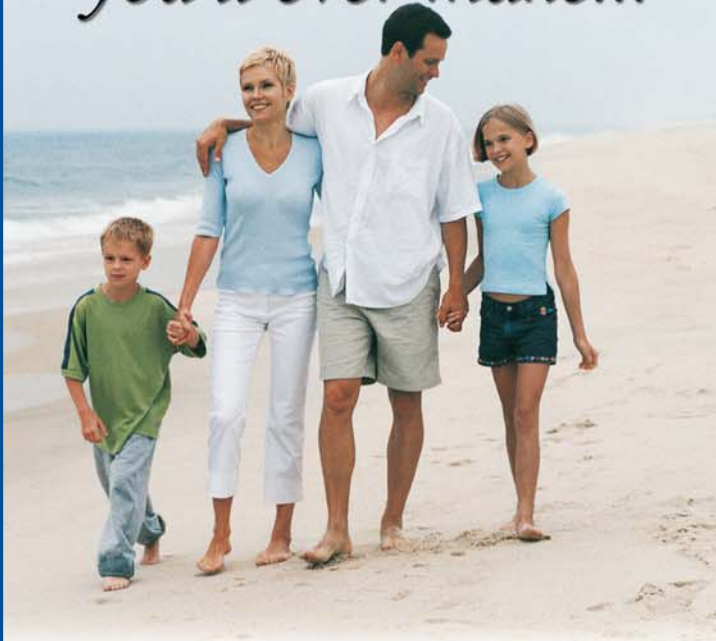
SEABROOK BEACH CIVIC ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Promoting betterment issues to improve the livability of Seabrook Beach



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SBVD 2005 Annual Meeting

The 2005 annual meeting of the Seabrook Beach Village District was held on April 26 at the American Legion Hall. The venue was moved from the beach to accommodate an expected crowd. The numbers did not materialize, but those who attended were part of a lively exercise in local politics.

Commissioner Anita Diamond was unable to attend because of a family emergency that called her to Connecticut.

The resignation of Commissioner Tom Pike was regrettably accepted by Dick Maguire.

Election Results:

Three year Commissioner - Dick Maguire

Two year balance of Tom Pike's tenure - Ted Xavier.

Treasurer – Mike Rurak / One year

Moderator – Paul Kelly / One year

Clerk – No candidate; the position will be a revolving one for the time being.

The 2005 budget of \$93,670 was accepted after a lengthy discussion.

For further information on the issues covered, it's suggested that attendance at the monthly meetings be part of beach residents' ongoing involvement with those areas of interest that impact their daily lives.

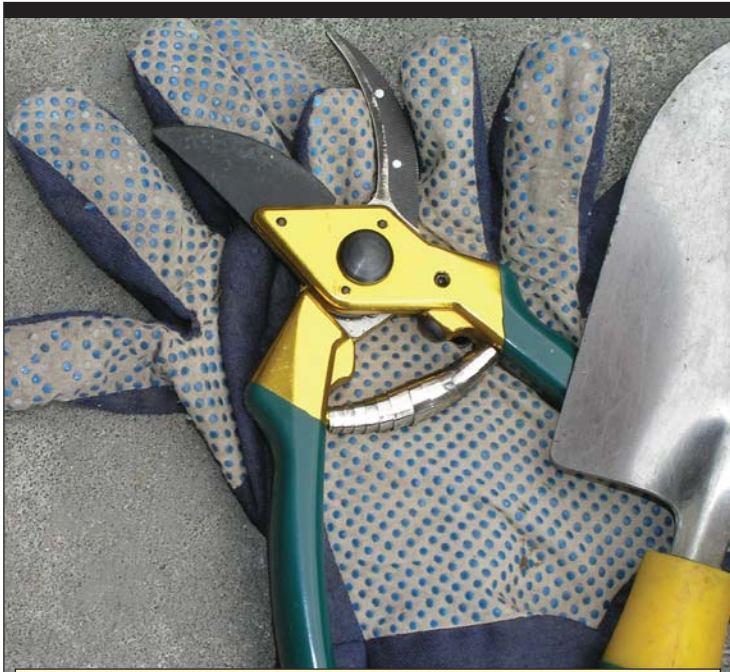
Meetings for the Seabrook Beach Village District are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Precinct Building on Ocean Boulevard at 7 p.m. Mark your calendars accordingly.

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Emissions Testing	8

Seabrook Beach Civic Association Newsletter is published 4 times per year to provide our members and residents with information concerning our community. To advertise or for more information please contact Jacqui Lewis at 603-474-9777 or email jjlewis@comcast.net

PO Box 1601 Seabrook, NH 03874 WWW.SEABROOKBEACHCIVICASSOC.ORG



Spring Cleaning

The SBCA has declared May as Neighborhood Cleanup Month. Rally the neighbors, choose a day, and plan to spruce up your area of the community. Grab a plastic trash bag, don a pair of garden gloves, put on your sun screen and get out there and do your bit. If you're walking the beach, the same applies. With the late advent of good weather, there wasn't time to rake the beach before the Plovers' nesting areas were set in place. As a result, our beautiful shore could use a face-lift. Can we count on you?

An April Surprise

Submitted by Jacqui Lewis

A natural gas fireplace is pretty straightforward: ceramic logs with gas flames triggered by a wall switch that activates the pilot located beneath the logs. Units have a glass front and do double duty: heat is given off, and there's no cleaning up of ashes from non-existent wood logs.

You can imagine my surprise one weekend evening when my son-in-law asked about the twigs and seagrass behind the glass of the fireplace in our living room. It was pretty late, however; checking it out would have to wait until morning.

I came down to breakfast and heard the tapping of something against the fireplace glass. A bird was swiftly collecting the debris littering the fireplace interior and taking it ...where? She quickly disappeared! I was puzzled. An inquiry to our builder soon had the solution. That very innovative mother bird was building her nest in the flue leading directly from the back of the fireplace to the outside house wall. Obviously, a gust of wind had created havoc – one of the perils of building on the Atlantic shore during a very cold and blustery spring!

She and her mate have now relocated to the upper porch and have positioned the nest atop a pillar and tucked into the overhang - a perfect wind refuge. Our bonus is that we're treated daily to their lovely morning serenades.

Beach Resident Parking Permits

These additional permits (2 per property) may be picked up at the Seabrook Town Hall and are only for beach residents and their visitors. The permits are good until May 1, 2006.

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PHOTO: Sue Manzi

What's New?

Recently, our local population welcomed the much-anticipated opening of the beach's newest eating establishment, Sharon's Sea Grill, the brainchild of area resident, Sharon Groele. (Many of you may remember Sharon from her tenure at the L Street Café in Hampton Beach.)

Housed in the former Seaside Eatery space, the newly decorated restaurant's bright and colorful retro decor is reminiscent of a 1930s post card. The year-round establishment has obtained a full liquor license. Breakfast and lunch are offered daily, and service will expand on the weekends to include dinner. The menu includes sandwiches, seafood, and home-style dinner specials with an emphasis on comfort food.

DiBurro's Market is now officially the Village District Market. The owners are now waiting for the new sign to complete the change.

The Seabrook Women's Club

The Seabrook Women's Club has resumed meeting at the Beach Precinct Building at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. On June 9 beginning at 6 p.m., an installation banquet will honor the new officers for the 2005-2006 club year.

For Seabrook residents interested in meeting new neighbors and other community women, and in exploring community issues, this is an ideal opportunity. Annual dues are \$10.

Founded in 1975, the Seabrook Women's Club was organized to stimulate interest in the betterment of the Seabrook Community. A contributor to many civic projects over the years, its' main focus has been the annual award of a \$1000 education scholarship to a deserving high school student from Seabrook.

With questions or suggestions, please call Janet LaBrecque at 474-5159 or Carol-Jean Donohue at 474-1244.



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Judiciary Committee

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State Orders Halt to Construction

Angeljean Chiamida / *Lawrence Eagle Tribune* / April 28, 2005

SEABROOK, NH -The town has 60 days to impose a moratorium on building because it has not sufficiently addressed an inadequate water supply, according to a state agency.

A letter dated April 18 by Sarah Pillsbury, an administrator for the water supply office in the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, said Seabrook's long history of water shortages and summer outdoor water bans, along with its "current pace of development," led the state to impose the moratorium.

She asked the town to respond within 30 days with "the best means to implement the moratorium."

Yesterday, Selectmen Karen Knight, Dick McCann and Cora Stockbridge voted unanimously to try to block the moratorium. The selectmen said that the town has done what the state agency required to conserve water – including spending \$1,000,000 to purchase and install residential water meters.



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End of Tokens Could Cost Commuters

By Susan Morse

HAMPTON - Getting rid of tokens? Fine. Just don't get rid of my discount.

That's the word on the street from highway token buyers used to a 50 percent discount over the regular price of tolls.

"If EZ Pass is not a savings, that would make my commute even more expensive than it already is with the cost of gas," said Cynthia Stosse, who works in the Children's Room of the Lane Memorial Library.

David Perroni of Hampton said: "I work in York (Maine) so (I) incur the cost of a sizable commute along with the cost of the tolls. If it's true that the EZ Pass will take away savings, then I'd have to question the decision."

The House in Concord voted to phase out tokens when EZ Pass is up and running by Memorial Day. By Jan. 1, both tokens, and its symbol on the coin, the Old Man of the Mountain, will be a bygone symbol of the bypass. Supporters said eliminating the tokens will boost the use of EZ Pass, which is on highway tollbooths from Maine to Virginia. New Hampshire is about to come up to speed, offering vehicle owners a transponder for their dashboard at \$30 each. The device will activate scanners at the tolls, that read the owner's ID at 10 mph. Drivers will be charged through a prepaid account.

How much they'll be charged is still in question and a big one for highway users. A 30 percent discount would represent a break-even point for the state, which has invested \$20 million in EZ Pass, said state Department of Transportation spokesman Bill Boynton. Keeping with the 50 percent discount offered now by tokens and the state would lose money, he said. The discount decision will be made by the Executive Council, which sets all toll rates.

The state can't sell the transponders until the toll cost is set. The public needs time to buy the transponders before the system is up and running by the end of May.

Currently 60 percent of toll transactions involve tokens.

Most of those who travel Interstate 95 on a regular basis have invested in rolls of tokens for cheaper, faster passage through exact change lanes at the tollbooths. The I-95 Hampton tolls have no exact change lanes.

State Rep. E. Albert Weare, R-Seabrook, said he was among the legislators in Concord who voted against getting rid of tokens. "Not everybody will buy into EZ Pass," Weare said. "We should continue the tokens."

Proponents of EZ Pass say the new system will ease the gridlock at the Hampton tollbooths as traffic flows through the gates faster. Weare thinks the opposite may be true. "Without tokens," he said, "and without EZ Pass, people will be paying by dollar bills and the lines of traffic will build up at the tolls."

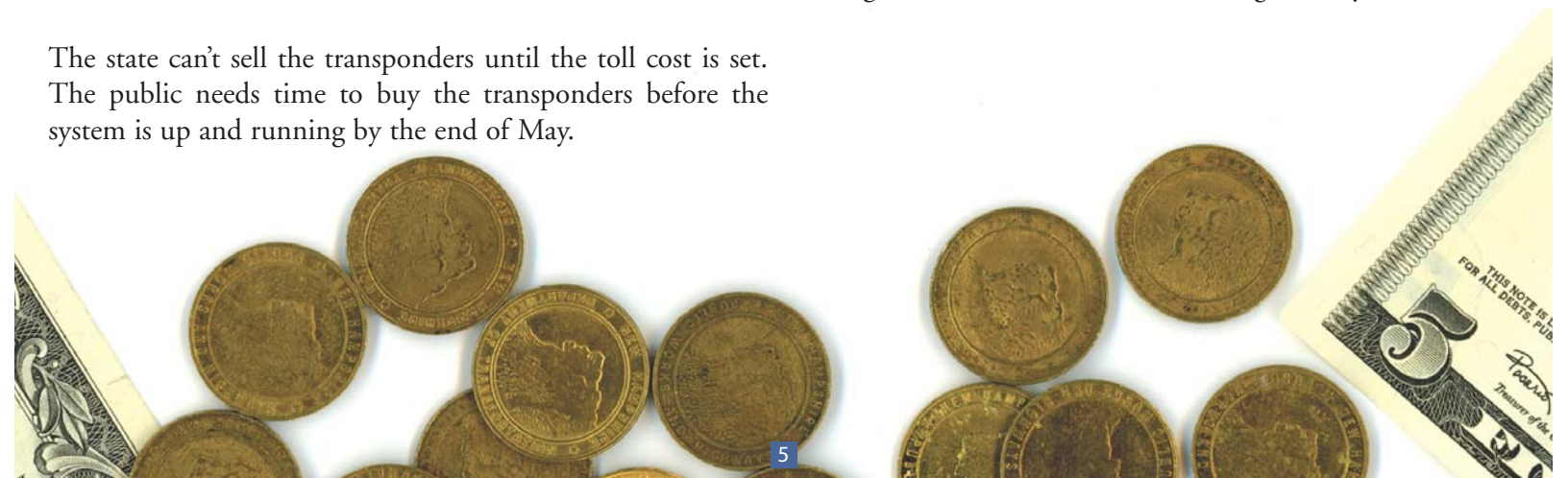
One-way tolls at the I-95 tollbooth for the past two summers - in which drivers got a free ride southbound and were charged double northbound - is not expected to go into effect this year, said Weare.

Some interviewed said the discount didn't matter as much as the time factor in getting to work and home. Others feel the benefits of EZ Pass outweigh the possible loss of the discount.

"I'd like to see traffic run more smoothly," said one commuter. "Even if we don't get the discount, it's ultimately more efficient government." Others said they'll buy into EZ Pass because that will be their only choice.

Retired Hampton School Board member John Woodburn said he often drives to Florida and welcomes the free sailing through the numerous toll booths along the way.

Getting rid of tokens?



TOWN OF SEABROOK

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How and What to Recycle

MATERIAL	WHAT	HOW	NOT ACCEPTABLE
Plastic	Milk Jugs, Juice Jugs, Soda Bottles	Remove caps, empty, rinse, drain and flatten.	No wide-mouthed containers or vegetable oil-based containers
Glass	Green, Brown and Clear Bottles and Jars	Remove caps and covers; rinse well. Labels are ok	Light bulbs, cookware, mirrors, ceramics and plate glass
Aluminum & Tin/Steel Cans	Soft Drink Cans, Food Cans, Pie Plates, Aerosol Cans and Clean Foil	Empty, rinse CLEAN, and put tops inside	Rusty cans, dirty cans, bottle caps, cans with plastic bases
Mixed Paper	Newspapers, Inserts, Junk Mail, Office Paper, Phone Books, Cereal Boxes, Gray Boxes	Place in a paper bag and keep dry	Carbon paper, tissue paper, paper plates, food wrappers and wax-coated boxes

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PHOTO: Sue Manzi



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Senate: No Price Limits on Emissions Testing

By Anne Saunders / Associated Press

CONCORD - The Senate agreed to let motor vehicle emissions testing go forward without limiting what inspection stations can charge for the test.

The Senate abandoned a proposed \$15 cap for the test. It also removed a cap on the cost of repairs required if a car fails. The testing will be required on all gasoline-powered cars made after 1995 and on diesel-powered vehicles made after 1996.

"This is not something any of us are happy about," said Sen. Robert Letourneau, R-Derry. "This is something required of us by the Clean Air Act."

The plan still has to pass in the House, but the state could put federal funding for highway projects such as widening of Interstate 93 at risk if it does not start emissions testing.

The testing applies to vehicles equipped with computers that register problems in a car's emissions systems. Letourneau showed senators the handheld device that is plugged into the car's computer to scan for problems.

The on-board diagnostic testing was scheduled to begin April 1, but lawmakers in both the House and Senate had raised concerns about the process.

They later learned that proposals to cap the costs would not be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.

But the Senate bill would keep some protection for consumers, including asking the state Department of Safety to provide the broadest possible waivers for motorists who fail the test. This would include waivers for economic hardship to help those who can't afford to make expensive repairs.

The proposal also creates an advisory committee to monitor the new emissions testing and recommend changes to the program if warranted.

Under the Senate plan, no inspection sticker would be denied based on a failure to pass the emissions test until after May 1, 2006.

Several senators, however, were concerned that some inspection stations would overcharge motorists for the test.

"Now is not the moment to start gouging our neighbors," said Sen. Peter Burling, D-Cornish, who asked inspection stations to resist the temptation to raise prices beyond what's required to pay for leasing the testing equipment.

Lawmakers had heard complaints that many stations already using the system had doubled the price of inspections from \$20 to \$40 or \$45.

Letourneau said the test itself takes a matter of minutes though inspection stations must maintain computer equipment and an Internet connection to report the results to the state as required.



PHOTO: Sue Manzi

**CALLING
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The newsletter is looking for *interesting photos of our beach* and its surroundings. If you're a 'shutter bug', send us your pictures for possible inclusion in our publication.



PHOTO: Dick Kirsh

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Seabrook Beach Civic Association 2005 EVENT DATES

All meetings are held at the Seabrook Beach Village District Precinct Building unless noted otherwise

May 16	SBCA General Membership Meeting Program: Town Manager & Selectmen Chairperson	August 13&14	SBCA SAND Castle/Sculpture Contest Chairpersons: Al Cestrone & Joan Gallahue Seabrook OLD HOME DAYS EVENT
May 20	Beautification Work Clean up Beach Welcome Center/Parking Lot	August 15	SBCA General Membership Meeting Program: Where there's a Will there's a Mae Atty Mae Bradshaw
June 4	Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Chairperson: Paul Lemoine	August 17	SBCA Fireworks Cruise Party (Tentative Date) Seabrook OLD HOME DAYS EVENT
June 18	SBCA Yard Sale Chairperson: Sue Manzi	August 20	Fireworks Tail Gate Party Town Parking Lot at Harbor Beach Seabrook OLD HOME DAYS EVENT
June 20	SBCA General Membership Meeting Program: Sara Sumner NH-DES Beach Program Coordinator	September 10	Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Chairperson: Paul Lemoine
July 16	Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Chairperson: Paul Lemoine	September 19	SBCA General Membership Meeting Program: TMS Architects
July 18	SBCA General Membership Meeting Program: Organic Gardening, Mike O'Donnel	October 17	SBCA General Membership Meeting Program: TBA

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