

# Cost Analysis

PROJECT  
DATE  
SUPERVISOR

Mount Apatite Trail Project

TBD

TBD

Components of Pricing to be Evaluated:

Estimated Cost						\$20,000.00
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## LABOR

	# Hours	X	Hourly Rate	=	Total Labor Cost	COMMENTS / DETAIL
Equip Operator 01	168.00	X	\$26.69	=	\$4,483.92	
Arborist	168.00	X	\$26.69	=	\$4,483.92	
Operator x 2	168.00	X	\$22.37	=	\$3,758.16	
Total Labor	48.00				\$12,726.00	

## MATERIALS

	# Units	X	Price/Unit	=	Total Cost	COMMENTS / DETAIL
30"x20' ADS Pipe	1.00	X	\$470.20	=	\$470.20	
24"x 20' ADS Pipe	1.00	X	\$300.06	=	\$300.06	
18"x20' ADS Pipe	2.00	X	\$200.20	=	\$400.40	
15"x20' ADS Pipe	9.00	X	\$128.80	=	\$1,159.20	
12"x20' ADS Pipe	4.00	X	\$100.20	=	\$400.80	
1.5" Gravel	229.00	X	\$17.25	=	\$3,950.25	
Mulch Hay	20.00	X	\$3.50	=	\$70.00	
Erosion Control	10.00		\$296.90		\$296.90	
Total Materials					\$7,047.81	

## Equipment

	DESCRIPTION	Total Cost	COMMENTS / DETAIL
Rental Excavator	3,500 Per Month	\$3,500.00	
Excavator	37.50 Per Hour	\$900.00	
Wheeler	31.00 Per Hour	\$1,240.00	
1 Ton	19.90 Per Hour	\$3,343.20	
Skid Steer	21.00 Per Hour	\$3,528.00	
Other		\$0.00	
Total		\$12,511.20	

Total Cost

COMMENTS / DETAIL

TOTAL COST (Actual)

\$32,285.01

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

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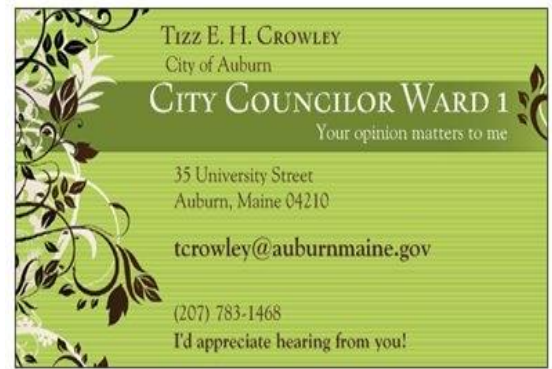
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**Auburn Recreation Advisory Report for Meeting Monday  
2015.11.16**

**TO:** Residents of Auburn and the Auburn City Council  
**FROM:** Tizz E. H. Crowley- Auburn City Council Ward 1

The regular monthly meeting of the Recreation and Special Events Advisory Board was canceled because of the Veterans' Day holiday.



Ravi Sharma the Operations Manager for the Recreation Department submitted his resignation. We wish him well in the future. The City is actively recruiting an experienced Director. Be sure to share this news with friends and colleagues.

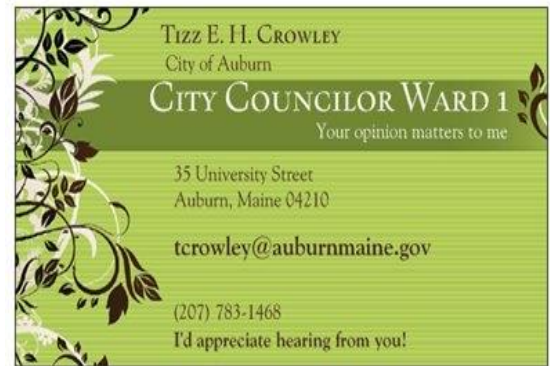
Jasmine McLoughlin has really stepped up and is the City champion for a couple major events. She has been working on the Holiday celebrations scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend- Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. I'll talk more about the specifics in my ward report.

She is also leading the work on Winter Fest 2016 scheduled for January 29-31, 2016. It will be a city wide celebration of all Auburn and winter has to offer. We hope lots of community groups will step forward and host or coordinate an activity or event... remember arts, culture, excellent food, and history are vibrant parts of Maine's winter... so let's be sure they are part of the Fest. Contact Jasmine if you have an idea or will host.

Thank you for your attention.

## **Auburn Sewerage District Report for Meeting Monday 2015.11.16**

**TO:** Residents of Auburn and the Auburn City Council  
**FROM:** Tizz E. H. Crowley- Auburn City Council Ward 1



Mr. Mayor- I want to thank you for providing me the opportunity to serve on the Auburn Sewerage District Board of Trustees for almost 4 years. I'm sure you know, as does anyone who talks to me, I love the work and the Sewerage District. I remember attending meetings while I was only a candidate in the summer of 2011. It was immediately apparent that excellent customer service is a priority at the District. Since it is a core value for me, my work in your seat has been a perfect fit.

It has been great to hear from residents these past few weeks, tell me about changes they made in behaviors based on the monthly sewer tip. I know there has been impact from these monthly reports, so Mayor LaBonte- thank you. I also know you'll never throw legos in the toilet again.

The regular meeting of the Auburn Sewerage Board of Trustees was held at the office, 268 Court Street, on Tuesday October 15, 2015.

The financial position of the District has been greatly impacted by the significant reduction in service for Cascades Auburn Fiber. We will likely not meet budget targets. A plan is being discussed on how the District prepares when a major customer has a downturn in operations.

The District received an e-mail from the EPA that scheduled an audit for October 28<sup>th</sup>. An update to the Trustees is expected at our meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>. I'm confident all major items are in order.

This may be my last Sewerage District report, so I'm happy to end with a sewer tip from our own Michael Broadband, Asst Superintendent of the AWSD.

**Sewer Tip of the Month** Do not put egg shells down your sewer system- which means they do not go in the garbage disposal. Just last month, ASD customer(s) experienced a blockage because of egg shells. They become coarse granules which build up and block the lines... if there is hair or grease in the lines- it's a bigger problem. So toss the shell in the trash can... or...

Fresh egg shells are almost all calcium, with a thin mineral layer. They can be dried and then pulverized in your blender into a soft white powder. Many animal feed (especially homemade dog food) uses egg shell powder to supplement animal diets with calcium.

For those looking for more uses of the egg shells: <http://www.theprairiehomestead.com/2012/08/9-things-to-do-with-eggshells.html>

As always, Mr. Mayor- Thank you for the opportunity to serve in your place.



# 30+ THINGS TO DO WITH EGGSHELLS

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by jill winger

To the majority of people, eggshells are simply trash.

But to homesteader, eggshells are a surprisingly useful resource. You know what they say ...  
"Waste not, want not."

I personally get a big kick out of finding uses for things people normally throw away. So, I've put together a list of 9 Things You Can Do with Eggshells around your own homestead.

*(Holy Moly! My list started out with a measly 9 ideas, but after all of my thrifty readers left their ideas in the comment section, it has grown to 30+! I've edited the list with these new additions- keep them coming folks!)*

*"\*\*It is very important to only use eggshells from healthy, natural chickens if you or your animals are going to ingest the shells. Eggs from factory farms are not only less nutritious, but can also carry harmful pathogens. I personally have no problem eating raw eggs from my own free-range hens, but I wouldn't do so with eggs from the store.\*\*"*

## 1. FEED THEM TO YOUR CHICKENS.

Boost your flock's calcium intake by crushing the shells and feeding them back to your hens. My girls much prefer crushed egg shells over the oyster shell supplement from the feed store. [I wrote a post a while back that has all the details](#) of collecting, crushing, and feeding the shells.

## 2. USE THE SHELL'S MEMBRANE AS AN ALL-NATURAL BANDAGE.

I just discovered this idea, so I have yet to try it, but what a cool concept! The membrane of the shell is reported to help promote healing in cuts and scratches. [This post should be able to answer most of your questions](#) about using membranes as a first-aid tool.

## 3. BOIL THE EGGSHELLS IN YOUR COFFEE.

My first thought when I read this idea was "Why on earth would you do that?" But apparently, people have been boiling eggshells in their coffee for centuries to help clarify the grounds and reduce bitterness. I have yet to give this a try myself, but it might be worth a try. Here is a [Boiled Eggshell Coffee](#) tutorial.

## 4. SPRINKLE THE EGGSHELLS AROUND YOUR GARDEN TO DETER PESTS.

Soft-bodied critters like slugs or snails don't like crawling over sharp pieces of eggshell.

#### 5. GIVE YOUR TOMATOES A CALCIUM BOOST.

Blossom-end rot is a common tomato problem, but I recently learned that it is actually caused by a calcium deficiency in the plant. Experienced gardeners often place eggshells in the bottom of the hole when transplanting their tomato plants to help combat this problem. I'm definitely trying this next year! For more natural gardening tips, grab a copy of [my latest eBook, Natural Homestead](#). It has dozens of recipes to keep your garden chemical-free.

#### 6. EAT THEM.

Yeah, I know. First I told you to [eat your weeds](#), and now I'm saying to eat eggshells ... *Hey, I never claimed to be normal.* 😊

But yes, many folks actually do eat eggshells for their awesome amounts of calcium. I've never actually tried it, but I know that several of my readers have. This post will give you all the info you need to [make your own calcium-rich eggshell powder](#).

#### 7. USE EGGSHELLS TO START SEEDLINGS.

If [homemade paper pots](#) aren't your style, give some of your smaller seedlings a start in rinsed-out shells. [This post from Apartment Therapy](#) will give you all the info and photos you need to get you started.

#### 8. TOSS THEM IN THE COMPOST PILE.

Add calcium to your compost by adding eggshells to your pile or tumbler.

#### 9. SOW DIRECTLY INTO THE SOIL.

If none of the previous idea sound appealing and you don't have a compost pile, then you can simply turn crushed eggshells directly into your garden patch. It's still better than sending them to the garbage.

### ALL OF THE FOLLOWING IDEAS WERE SUBMITTED BY READERS OF THE PRAIRIE HOMESTEAD:

10. Potting Soil Addition: Used coffee grounds and egg shells are wonderful in potted plants. I use a 1:4 ratio. *(From Tala)*

11. Blade Sharpening: Keep them in the freezer and use to clean and sharpen blender blades by adding water. Then pour the mixture into your compost bin. *(From Greenie and Ceridwyn)*

12. Canine Remedy: I save my eggshells and let them dry out, when I have a good size amount I crush them, then use a coffee grinder and make them into a powder. If one of my dogs get

diarrhea, I just sprinkle a couple teaspoons of the eggshell powder on their food for a day and the diarrhea goes away. *(From Terri)*

13. Calcium Pills: I save my eggshells in a large bowl, then I steam them to sanitize them and let them dry. Then I grind them down (I use a Vitamix but I think any blender would do if you crush them a little first, or just do it in a coffee grinder) into a fine powder and spoon them into 00-size

14. Mineral supplement: I sometimes soak eggshells in lemon water for a few weeks in the fridge. Then I add a tiny bit to my shakes to get extra minerals. *(From Jill)*

15. Tooth Remineralizing: [Natural News.com has an article](#) about using comfrey root & fresh egg shell (organic & pasture raised) for re-mineralizing your teeth. Not sure about this particular method, but it would make sense due to the healing properties of the comfrey AND the minerals in the egg shell. *(From Jennifer)*

16. Sidewalk chalk: 5-8 eggshells (finely ground), 1 tsp hot water, 1 tsp flour, food coloring optional... mix and pack into toilet tissue rolls and let dry. *(From Linda)*

17. First Aid Treatment: Fresh egg membranes applied, then allowed to dry, will draw minor infections: splinters, pimples, boils, etc. *(From Anne)*

18. Making Water Kefir: You can also use eggshell to nourish your water kefir grains. You just add 1/4 of a clean eggshell to your water kefir while it's brewing. We've done this instead of buying mineral drops and it seems to work great. *(From Jenna, Sherry, and Tiffani)*

19. Christmas Ornaments: When I found a large cache of slightly-flawed plastic suncatcher ornaments to paint cheap at the local flea market a few years ago, I snatched a big bunch of them up. I mixed regular acrylic colors with Elmer's glue and various "texturizing" elements to pack those suncatchers with. I tried everything from small seeds and spices, to sifted sand, and my favorite turned out to be crushed eggshells. They were no longer transparent, but the flaws were covered, and they make very nice Christmas tree ornaments, wall hangings, mobiles, etc. *(From Sweetp)*

20. Make Calcium Citrate: Make your own calcium citrate using only fresh farm raised, preferably organic, egg shells. Rinse residual egg out of the shells and air dry. Crush the shell and add 1t. lemon juice per egg shell and cover. The lemon juice will dissolve the shell and there you have it ...

calcium citrate. *(From Mary Anne)*

21. Calcium-Rich Vinegar: I was taught by my herbalist teacher to make a calcium rich vinegar by adding calcium rich herbs (nettles, dock, etc) and one clean high quality eggshell to apple cider vinegar. It needs to infuse for at least six weeks, then be decanted. But the calcium from the shell and the plants goes into the vinegar and can be used as regular vinegar would be in salad dressing, over cooked greens, etc. *(From Sara)*

22. Pan Scrubber: Crushed egg shells work great to scrub pans that have food stuck in them. Yes they will break up, but they still do the job! *(From Rose)*

23. Ice Cream Addition (?): I was told companies put egg shell powder in cheap ice cream to add extra calcium. I imagine you could do this when making homemade ice cream as well. *(From Brenda)*

24. Cosmetic Booster: Make it into a powder and add a little bit to your nail polish to strengthen nails. Take that same powder and put it into ice cube trays with water and rub it on your face— it helps reduce the look of wrinkles. Put the powder in your lotion— it softens your hands. *(From Amy)*

25. Add to Broth/Stocks: For extra calcium and minerals. *(From Becky and Tiffani)* [\*\(See my homemade stock/broth tutorial here.\)\*](#)

26. Arts and Crafts: Use eggshells to make mosaics or mixed-media art projects. *(From Carol and Janet)*

27. House Plant Booster: "My Grandmother kept eggshells covered with water in a mason jar which she used to water her African violets. She had the most magnificent plants imaginable!" *(From Cynthia)*

28. Wild Bird Treat: You can also feed them to the birds. They're high in calcium and are great for birds in the spring when they are laying eggs— just make sure to sterilize them. Bake them in the oven for 20 minutes at 250 F and crush them. *(From Susanne)*



29. Laundry Whitener: To help your whites not to turn grey, put a handful of clean, broken eggshells and 2 slices of lemon in a little cheesecloth bag with your clothes in the washer. It will prevent the soap deposit that turns the white clothes grey. *(From Emilie)*

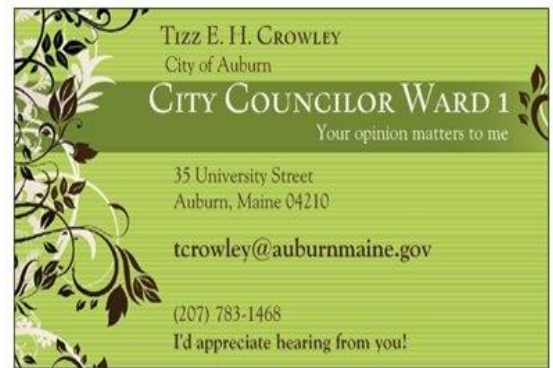
30. Garbage Disposal Cleaner: Toss a few shells down your disposal to help freshen things up. *(From Carol)(Okay--since originally posting this, I've had several folks say this is a bad idea and that it will clog your drain--so proceed with caution ...)*

## WHAT DO YOU DO WITH EGGSHELLS?

## **Auburn Ward 1 Report for Monday 2015.11.16**

**TO:** Residents of Auburn and the Auburn City Council  
**FROM:** Tizz E. H. Crowley- Auburn City Council Ward 1

**Thank you** to the family, friends and constituents, especially those from Ward 1 who attended my Veterans' Day Thank- You Open House. It was so nice to chat with every one of you.



Thank you to the **many Veterans** who have served our country. Thank you to those currently protecting us throughout the world. We pray for your continued safety. I hope next year, the City of Auburn will recognize these efforts on Veterans' Day.

**Dates to watch- Tomorrow morning, Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** I'll see many of my friends at East Auburn School as I deliver dictionaries to all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Parents- remember to ask about the biggest word in the book.

Just a quick reminder that we have a Winter Festival meeting tomorrow afternoon at **3:00pm at the Norway Savings Bank Arena**. If you or your organization would like to participate in Winter Fest, please come to the meeting or contact Jasmine McLoughlin City of Auburn - Recreation Dept. 207.333.6601 ext 2106

**Thursday, is Dedication Day** – 152nd Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. **November 19th**, the anniversary of the Gettysburg Address and the Dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery, was formally designated as Dedication Day, by a joint resolution of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, on November 19, 1946. I expect to be at the service and remembering many of Maine's Veterans who died in this Conflict between the States.

**Saturday, November 28, 2015** Come downtown for a day of shopping, the **Festival of Art & Lights** followed by **The Parade of Lights!**

**The Festival of Art & Lights** (12:00 PM to 5:30 PM): Buy local this season and support our Downtown Businesses! Here are some Auburn businesses that will be offering specials and discounts:

- 207 American Grille - 10% off
- Gritty's - 10% off and Craft Fair
- Maine Gourmet Chocolates - 10%, hot cocoa and samples
- Top It Frozen Yogurt Bar- 10% and children's activities
- Manpower - Free cookies!
- Roger's Haircutters - Open till 3:00 PM - 10% off products, goodies

- Café LA
- Designs by Skip
- Auburn Library - Activities offered
- Orphan Annies- 20% off

**The Parade of Lights** (6:00 PM): The parade starts in Lewiston, but ends in Auburn! Don't miss the Christmas Tree & Menorah lighting at Festival Plaza accompanied by music, free munchies, free Santa and Mrs. Claus photos, free wagon rides and FREE dental bags from our generous sponsor, Center Street Dental!

### **Other Business:**

We are currently accepting applications for the Boards and Committees listed below. The deadline to submit your application to the City Clerk is 4:30 PM on Monday, November 23, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk, Susan Clements-Dallaire at 333-6601, extension 1126 or via email at [sdallaire@auburnmaine.gov](mailto:sdallaire@auburnmaine.gov).

[E 9-1-1 Committee](#) (2 vacancies, both with term expirations of 1/1/2018)

[Audit and Procurement Committee](#) (1 vacancy with a term expiration of 12/1/2017)

[Board of Assessment Review](#) (5 vacancies - 2 full members both with term expirations of 10/1/2019 and 3 alternate positions with term expirations of 10/1/2016, 10/1/2017, and 10/1/2020)

[Cable TV Advisory Committee](#) (3 vacancies with 1, 2, and 3 year term expirations)

[CDBG \(Community Development Block Grant\) Loan Committee](#) (1 vacancy, with a 10/1/2016 term expiration)

[Ethics Committee](#) (3 vacancies - 1 full member and 2 alternate members, all with term expirations of 1/1/2019)

[Finance Committee](#) (1 vacancy, alternate member with a term expiration of 12/1/2017)

[Forest Board](#) (2 vacancies - term expirations of 10/1/2016, 10/1/2017)

[Planning Board](#) (1 vacancy, term expiration 10/1/2019)

[Recreation Advisory Board](#) (7 vacancies, term expirations to be determined)

Remember your application is due no later than next Monday- the form is on line City website.

A great resource available on line is from the [Maine Emergency Management Agency <MEMA@subscriptions.maine.gov>](#) . Almost all the reminders I receive are timely and worth sharing. Tonight as high winds and cold weather returns, I want to remind you of the dangers of Carbon Monoxide. [Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless killer](#)

Follow these tips for carbon monoxide safety:

- Have fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, wood and coal stoves, space or portable heaters) and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- When purchasing new heating and cooking equipment, select products tested and labeled by an independent testing laboratory.
- When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.

I encourage you to subscribe to Daily Preparedness Tips from the Maine Emergency Management Agency.

**In closing,** I'd like to mention Thanksgiving Day. Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. I enjoy reaching holidays and meanings of traditions. In my written report, which will be posted as supplemental materials to this meeting's agenda packet, I've included the complete article *Of Harvest, Prayer, and Football-A History of Thanksgiving*

"Thanksgiving Day in the United States evokes a number of rich traditions, most notably the Thanksgiving Day feast. The food is, itself, a symbolic display with roots both in the New World's early interaction between European settlers and indigenous people and in conventions that are more recent.

In addition to the food, Thanksgiving calls to mind a range of traditions revolving around the family: parades, football, *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*, travel, and shopping, to name a few. In America, Thanksgiving's modern uniqueness as a holiday lies in its somewhat less commercial identity between Halloween and Christmas. The Thanksgiving Day holiday, however, is considered the official launch of the "Holiday Season," as schools let out for a celebration that can be simultaneously deeply religious yet secular.

To whomever thanks is given, Thanksgiving Day is a time designated for offering a word of thanks for the gifts of one's life, no matter how troubling the times." For this coming week, as we live in this tumultuous world, let's be Thankful.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thank you for your attention.

SEE ATTACHED Source: [www.randomhistory.com/2008/10/23\\_thanksgiving.html](http://www.randomhistory.com/2008/10/23_thanksgiving.html)

*Of Harvest, Prayer, and Football-A History of Thanksgiving*

Source: [www.randomhistory.com/2008/10/23\\_thanksgiving.html](http://www.randomhistory.com/2008/10/23_thanksgiving.html)

## Of Harvest, Prayer, and Football-A History of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day in the United States evokes a number of rich traditions, most notably the Thanksgiving Day feast. The food is, itself, a symbolic display with roots both in the New World's early interaction between European settlers and indigenous people and in conventions that are more recent. In addition to the food, Thanksgiving calls to mind a range of traditions revolving around the family: parades, football, *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*, travel, and shopping, to name a few. In America, Thanksgiving's modern uniqueness as a holiday lies in its somewhat less commercial identity between Halloween and Christmas. The Thanksgiving Day holiday, however, is considered the official launch of the "Holiday Season," as schools let out for a celebration that can be simultaneously deeply religious yet secular. To whomever thanks is given, Thanksgiving Day is a time designated for offering a word of thanks for the gifts of one's life, no matter how troubling the times. Evolving from fast to feast, Thanksgiving Day's origins are not clearly cut from the annals of American history.

### The First Thanksgiving

The tradition of Thanksgiving in the United States is now four centuries in the making. The first Thanksgiving Day is considered by most to have been celebrated as a result of the first bountiful autumn harvest in the Plymouth Colony of modern-day Massachusetts. The Pilgrims who crossed the Atlantic landed into a bleak November winter and saw half of their numbers perish during the course of the cold season, as food was in short supply after the long journey. Having had better luck through the subsequent summer, the grateful people "established a day of thanksgiving and invited the local Indians to share their bounty" (Appelbaum 1984).

In Charles Schulz's *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving* (1973), the familiar story is succinctly told by Linus Van Pelt in a Thanksgiving dinner blessing: "In the year 1621, the Pilgrims held their first Thanksgiving feast. They invited the great Indian chief Massasoit, who brought ninety of his brave Indians and a great abundance of food. Governor William Bradford and Captain Miles Standish were honored guests. Elder William Brewster, who was a minister, said a prayer that went something like this: 'We thank God for our homes and our food and our safety in a new land. We thank God for the opportunity to create a new world for freedom and justice.'" While Brewster's tidy benediction is apocryphal, it nevertheless captures the sentiment and religious spirit of the holiday. It is true that the pilgrims shared a celebratory harvest meal with the natives that included New World crops planted with the assistance of the interpreter Tisquantum (or Squanto, who also helped negotiate a peace treaty that lasted for 50 years). The traditions of that meal also remain embedded in the modern sense of Thanksgiving, but they are not the only ones that belong, and that day of harvest celebration was not a day of thanksgiving in the Puritan and Protestant Separatist sense—but it has been appropriated as one, the first one (Appelbaum 1984).

Governor Bradford was quick to call days of thanksgiving when they were warranted. In the first three years, the pious colonists used these "holy days of solemn prayer" to try to inspire divine grace for the struggling colony. The first proclamation came with the first autumnal harvest, and another followed a day of fasting and prayer that was called in a subsequent summer to try to supplant the devastating drought with life-bringing rain. Bradford called a day of Thanksgiving on that June 30, 1623, a day sometimes cited as the first Thanksgiving, given its appropriately reverent quality.

Other "first Thanksgivings" that occurred throughout the New World contribute to the tradition, though these days were usually not intended to be annual, let alone a day late in November. The Massachusetts Bay

colonists similarly arrived too late to properly prepare for the winter. They, however, had the opportunity to send a ship back to England for supplies. When the ship was delayed, the colonists feared the worst.

After many difficult months, Governor John Winthrop “convert[ed] grim necessity into an act of piety” by declaring a day of fasting and prayer for the already starving colonists (ibid). By chance, on that twenty-second day in February set aside for the fast, the ship returned and the day was changed to one of thanksgiving.

Elsewhere in the New World, Francisco Vásquez de Coronado offered a thanksgiving service on behalf of abundant supplies of food and water in western American territory as early as 1541, while French Huguenots in present-day Florida “sang a psalm of Thanksgiving unto God” in 1564. Days of thanksgiving were also offered in the early Maine settlement of the Plymouth Company charter, as well as in the first permanent English settlement at Jamestown early in the seventeenth century. But the most clearly articulated intent of early settlers to celebrate an annual Thanksgiving came at the Berkeley Hundred colony in Virginia where Captain John Woodleaf included in their charter a designation for the day their ships safely arrived to “be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty god.” Alas, that colony was devastated by an Indian attack and abandoned within three years of the charter (ibid).

### The Old World Harvest

Thanksgiving as a harvest festival may be the most enduring tradition, not just because of its relevance to the struggling colonists in the New World, but because the celebration of a good harvest is a time-honored tradition around the world. In the ancient world, the Greeks honored Demeter, their harvest and fertility goddess, while Romans honored Ceres, their goddess of agriculture (especially cereal grains, which shows the etymology of the English word). Even the Old Testament is ripe with allusion to the harvest festivals, and ancient mythology is rich with tradition honoring the Earth Mother and her bountiful offerings (Linton and Linton 1949).

More recently, a primary example of a harvest festival from the Old World is Saint Martin’s Day, celebrated throughout Europe since the Middle Ages. In the Netherlands, the *Sint Maarten* feast on November 11 occurs during “the season when cattle are slaughtered, new wines are tasted, and geese are fat.” *Mortensaften*, or Saint Martin’s Eve in Denmark also celebrates the harvest with a family dinner, often including the traditional roast goose. Similar festivals, fairs, dinners, and parades of the harvest occur on this day throughout the continent in remembrance of the canonization of the benevolent fourth-century bishop Martin of Tours and, in some countries, the birth and baptism of Martin Luther (Spicer 1958).

While strictly religious tones characterize the early American days of thanksgiving (holidays all too often were connected to an unacceptably pagan past and the contemporary “popish” religion), long-standing harvest traditions on the continent translated to the New World where, as the colonial era gave way to American independence, a country began forging an identity simultaneously distinctive and rooted in its diverse past.

### The Emergence of a National American Holiday

In the seventeenth century, a synthesis of developing New England traditions helped mold the modern sense of Thanksgiving. Along with the several proclamations of religious thanksgiving and prayer, civic thanksgiving, elements of Christmas, and the “Harvest Home” became integrated into Thanksgiving. The spirit of English Christmas and the tradition of gathering the last grains of harvest to take home crept back into the tradition of the season, and many colonies began adopting annual Thanksgiving Day celebrations over the course of America’s pre-Revolutionary history. But following the Revolution, the Continental Congress declared a day of thanksgiving in December 1777. It was “the first such celebration ever proclaimed by a national authority for

all 13 states” and continued the custom of pausing for a day of thanksgiving in all aspects of American life, even as the country proceeded on its course of manifest destiny and the traditions of the original colonies traveled westward (Appelbaum 1984).

Various congressional representatives pushed the adoption of a legal holiday through the end of the eighteenth century, but debate broke out about the resolutions, from its legitimacy as a distinctively American holiday, to concerns over federalism, and finally the actual date. President Washington issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation on November 26, 1789, but it did not become a national holiday with the proclamation.

During Thomas Jefferson’s administration, the holiday gained little ground, for Jefferson viewed national proclamations of the kind as too monarchical (Linton and Linton 1949). Jefferson stated that “Civil powers alone have been given to the President...and no authority to direct the religious exercises of his constituents” (Appelbaum 1984).

Later presidents in the early nineteenth century issued further proclamations for days of national fast and thanksgiving, but while no national date was solidified, New Englanders continued to celebrate the highly anticipated autumnal day of Thanksgiving. Indeed, throughout the growing United States, Thanksgivings were held variously from September to January. The final push to a unified national holiday came from Sarah Josepha Hale, who strongly advocated for a specific day like the Fourth of July to set aside for Thanksgiving. Her first treatise on the subject appeared in a chapter of her novel, *Northwood; or Life North and South*, which lauded the virtue of the New England manner of living over the decadence of the south. The success of her novel launched a career for Hale as a periodical editor, eventually landing the job for the widely circulated *Godey’s Lady’s Book and Magazine*. Hale used the magazine as a platform to launch her campaign (on the heels of a similar declaration by the Governor of Pennsylvania) “to make the last Thursday in November a national Thanksgiving Day” (ibid).

Combining editorials with persistent letters to governors of every state, Hale’s campaign rose in the wake of religious fervor from the Second Great Awakening, especially as the Presbyterian Church (and manifest destiny) helped move Thanksgiving into new territories and states. Hale continued her campaign even as the United States was torn by Civil War, but the difference in northern and southern convictions prevented even the possibility of a unified national holiday for a few more years.

Still, days of thanksgiving were proclaimed on both sides of the battle such that by the time of the North’s victory, President Lincoln could effectively invoke unifying religious rhetoric in a national Thanksgiving Day proclamation on the third of October (ibid). “By having Lincoln as a midwife,” Elizabeth Pleck writes, “Thanksgiving... celebrated the blessings of American nationhood as well as its domestic ideals” (1999). But thanks to an almost thirty-year campaign, the determined Sarah Hale got her wish, and the last Thursday of November, 1863, became the first legal, national Thanksgiving Day (Crager 1986).

### The Evolution of Diverse Traditions

The nineteenth century, however, was not devoted solely to determining the date of Thanksgiving. It also saw the emergence of many of America’s now deeply revered Thanksgiving Day traditions. While the Western turkey hunt may have largely fallen out of favor, the more secular feel of the holiday, from sporting events to parades, developed over the course of the century and into the early twentieth century. New York City “Fantasticals” were groups of cross-dressing young men parading merrily about the streets—often drunk and outwardly ridiculing authority, all while masquerading door-to-door for alms or treats (the tradition, now tied to Halloween in the United States, is still practiced in some European countries in connection with the St.

Martin's Day harvest festival, while Thanksgiving has also emerged as a time for charity) (Pleck 1999). The Fantasticals have been variously suggested to have their origins in an American-transplanted Guy Fawkes Day observation or a "celebration of the final evacuation of British troops from New York" (Appelbaum 1984).

Though the Fantasticals disbanded in the 1910s, elements of that general merriment carried over, perhaps most directly into a bigger, more organized parade. Meanwhile, Thanksgiving became a "festival of the home," a domestic occasion of the kind of which Sarah Hale would have been proud. On the one hand, from the Progressive Era through the 1920s, American education focused the holiday on the home and community. But as the old traditions moved into the home, so too did transforming aspects of technology and commercialization. So, on the other hand, the evolving traditions were not precisely as Hale had imagined (Pleck 1999).

The modern-day Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade is known for its colossal balloons, astonishing floats, and marching bands. The first official parade was held in 1924, having been organized by a group of Macy's employees who were mostly recent immigrants to the United States looking to re-create harvest festival celebrations of their home countries. In the first parade, "employees dressed as clowns, giants, cowboys and cowgirls, knights in armor, and sheiks." The Central Park Zoo provided live animals and floats and bands became a part of the tradition that first year, and the parade has gone on to be held every year except for three years during World War II (Crager 1986). Yet the department store also had an eye on Christmas and, early on, the connection was made explicit when "Macy's at first called its November spectacle a 'Christmas parade.'"

Commercialization had touched Thanksgiving—and ever since, the following day has kicked off a fervor of holiday-inspired shopping (Pleck 1999). But it was the afternoon football game that most forcefully carved out its niche among Thanksgiving Day traditions. As Diana Appelbaum puts it, "The dinner hour, once set to coincide with the return of the faithful from morning church services, was now scheduled to avoid conflict with the football game" (1984). Football entered into the home in the 1920s with extensive radio broadcast, and for many families it became indispensable after-dinner ritual. Football games were televised by the 1950s, maintaining afternoon kickoffs so as not to conflict with the Macy's parade (Pleck 1999).

As Thanksgiving began to incorporate elements of the harvest feast, some of the day's more secular connotations began to emerge. When turkey, parades, football, and shopping came to rule the holiday, its religious aspect waned and "thanksgiving was rudely demoted to serve as the official opening day of the Christmas shopping season" (Appelbaum 1984). Thanksgiving may be the onset of the holiday season, but even with football and parades on the television, many families—those not participating in these events—have nevertheless gathered to pause and give thanks, if not for good football, for the time of having gathered together, for better or for worse. With so many qualifiers, it is difficult to imagine a Thanksgiving feeling even remotely like the "old-fashioned" Puritan ideal. But the spirit of the holiday, like many holidays, is a flowing current of American tradition.

### The Feast of Tradition

and Adelin Linton's 1949 book, *We Gather Together: The Story of Thanksgiving*, epitomizes the traditional sentiment of Thanksgiving as "a gathering," and one undertaken frequently by means of travel, whether near or far. Their first chapter invokes the familiar American holiday song in its title, "Over the River and Through the Woods," (the next lyric: "To grandmother's house we go") to suggest the importance of family to the holiday. The Lintons suggest that "even more than Christmas, [it] is the holiday which brings scattered kindred together. The head of the family, or the member with the biggest house and the longest tablecloth, calls a



gathering of the clan.” While the longest tablecloth may not be necessary, the gathering of family, whether physically or the mind, is an integral part of the tradition.

The dinner, meanwhile, may be “a national institution,” but the traditions that guide them are often as individual as the family, whose belief in the proper way to stuff a turkey, among other traditions, is passed down through the family lineage (Appelbaum 1984). Pumpkins, corn, and cranberries were certainly present at the earliest feast, though without molasses or flour, pumpkins were likely boiled and plain (later, indigenous people showed the colonists how to obtain maple syrup, which would have been a welcome addition to the Thanksgiving Day table). If they were lucky, wild honey could have sweetened the bitter native American cranberries prepare in a simple sauce to accompany the meat—which would have been venison hunted from the environs and mollusks gathered from the bay.

Later Thanksgiving dinners began to include smaller game, such as ducks, geese, or turkey, while New England cooks began to develop a variety of dishes based on pumpkin and the women began preparing various versions of cranberry sauce. These two traditions of the feast, the pumpkin and the cranberry, are the longest-running traditions of Thanksgiving—aside, of course, from the traditions inherent in the name of the holiday (ibid).

Thanksgiving is easily reducible to the sum of its parts: “the giving of thanks,” the unity of which the *Online Etymology Dictionary* dates to 1533. And whatever the range of traditions celebrated by individual families, Thanksgiving Day is as welcome a time today as was the bountiful harvest that first summer in Plymouth, or at any autumnal harvest celebration around the world. So give thanks and eat up, for winter is right around the corner.

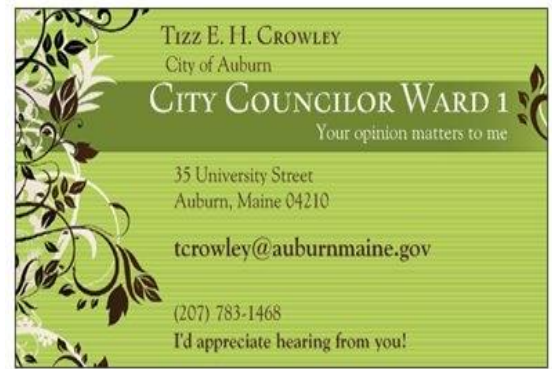
-- Posted October 23, 2008

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## **Auburn Water District Report for Meeting Monday 2015.10.15**

**TO:** Residents of Auburn and the Auburn City Council  
**FROM:** Tizz E. H. Crowley- Auburn City Council Ward 1



The Auburn Water District Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at the District office- 268 Court Street.

The financial update showed revenue remains favorable. We should end the year on December 31<sup>st</sup> doing better than budget. The UV plant operations are also on budget for the year. It is expected we will have about \$800,000 on hand at year end. This is an adequate reserve based on expenditures.

During the ratification of payment of bills, the concern of having all of the LAWPC expenses run through the Water District books was raised. Hopefully action will be taken as part of the year end budget vote.

The overall water quality of the lake remains excellent as compared against historic measures. Graphs are available on the District website for those interested in more detail.

November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will focus on the District budget. The public is always welcome.

It is with great pleasure that I report the Board of Trustees for both Water and Sewerage have hired Sid Hazelton as the Superintendent of the Districts. He has been acting superintendent since John Storer left about 6 months ago. We have great confidence the quality work, excellent customer service, and prudent fiscal planning will continue.

As always, Mr. Mayor, thank- you for the opportunity to serve in your place.