

# THE BREWER CHRONICLE

MAY 2024

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY OF BREWER

## May Calendar

### Monday, May 6

Planning Board Meeting,  
6pm, City Council Chambers

### Monday, May 13

Spring Cleanup Begins (see  
page 2)

### Tuesday, May 14

City Council Meeting, 6pm,  
City Council Chambers

### Friday, May 17

City offices closed for safety  
training

### Monday, May 27

City Hall Closed in  
observance of Memorial Day

### Tuesday, May 28

FY25 Budget Public  
Information Session, 6pm,  
City Council Chambers.

### Saturday, June 1

Brewer Riverwalk Festival

[Click here](#) to learn more  
about what the Brewer Public  
Library has to offer!

Please visit the City website  
calendar for more  
information on these events  
and meetings at  
[www.brewermaine.gov](http://www.brewermaine.gov)

## The Brewer Riverwalk Festival is Almost Here!

We're thrilled to announce the return of the beloved Riverwalk Festival! Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 1, 2024, and prepare for an exhilarating day packed with entertainment, community spirit, and endless fun. This year's festival is set to be our best yet, with a diverse lineup of events that promises enjoyment for everyone.

Join us as we kick off the festivities at 11:00 AM, with a warm welcome from Brewer's Mayor, Jenn Morin, at 11:15. The day will unfold with a series of events scattered across picturesque locations, making the event map your ultimate guide to exploration and enjoyment along the scenic riverwalk (page 3).

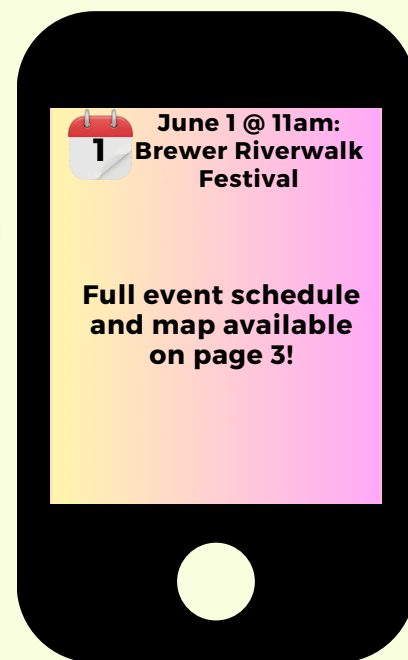
Hop on a free bus ride from the Community Center, courtesy of Cyr bus, and make your way to the heart of the action on Center Street and along the Riverwalk.

### Festival Highlights

**The Children's Garden:** Dive into educational and playful activities perfect for the young and the young at heart.

**Creative Art Center:** Unleash your creativity with free pottery painting.

**Selfie Space:** Enjoy our always-open, always-free Selfie Space starting at 11 AM.



# Riverwalk Festival, continued...

**Robotics Team & Touch a Truck:** Experience the future with our Robotics Team and get hands-on with Fire and Police vehicles in the parking lot on Penobscot Street.

**Corn Hole Tournament:** Check out the Corn Hole Tournament and cheer on your friends starting at 11:00 AM.

**Food Trucks:** Indulge in a range of delicious flavors along Center Street from 11 AM to 4 PM.

**I Want My MTV Retro Band:** Get ready to rock in the Children's Garden at 7:30 PM.

**Alumni Band:** Enjoy the timeless tunes at Next Generation Theatre at the same time.

**Spaghetti Dinner:** Evening plans? Join us at the Joseph F. Ferris Community Center for a delightful Spaghetti Dinner hosted by the American Legion from 5-7 PM.

With arts, performances, food, and fun, the Riverwalk Festival is the perfect way to kick off summer. This event showcases our community's vibrant spirit, made possible by our dedicated sponsors and volunteers.

Stay tuned for updates by following us on [Facebook](#), and let's make this year's Riverwalk Festival a day to remember! See you there!

**Fireworks on the  
Riverwalk, starting at 9PM.**



## 2024 Spring Cleanup

Every spring, Brewer residents can take advantage of the City's free curbside collection service. We'll pick up brush, bagged leaves, non-freon containing white goods, and metals right from your curb. This year, mark your calendars for Monday, May 13, when our spring curbside collection takes place, starting from the north end of the City near Eddington, making its way down to Orrington. Unfortunately, we won't be able to accept construction debris, mattresses, or furniture during curbside pickups.

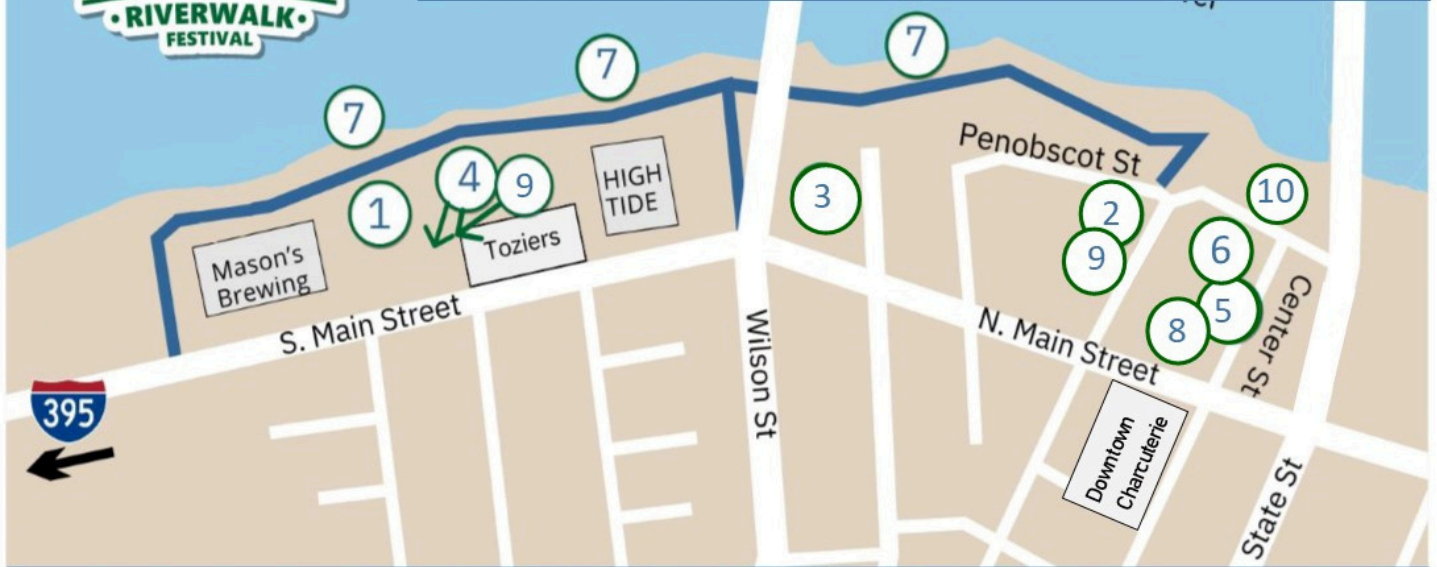
The Brewer landfill will also welcome residents from 7:30am to 3pm, starting Tuesday, April 30, through Saturday, May 4, 2024. Bring in all allowable materials during this time, but please note that regular disposal area fees will apply.

For additional details, refer to the [City's information flyer for the 2024 Annual Spring Cleanup](#). Let's work together to make this cleanup season a breeze!

Saturday, June 1st 2024



Like-follow-share Facebook.com/BrewerRiverwalkFestival



## EVENT ACTIVITIES

### # 1 Children's Garden

11:15 Welcome Speech—Mayor of Brewer  
 11:30-12 Magic Show  
 1:30 Theatre/Dance Performance  
 2:30-3:30 Synergy Twins  
 4:00 Ten Bucks Theater Performance  
 7:30-9:00- I Want My MTV Retro Band

### # 2 Riverwalk Lot on Penobscot/Betton

11-4 Touch-a-Truck  
 11-4 Brewer Robotics Team

### # 3 Creative Art Center

11-4 Selfie Space Open  
 11-4 Free Ceramic Painting

### # 4 Toziers Lot

11-4 Craft Fair  
 11-4 Toziers is Open  
 11-4 American Legion Hot Dogs  
 11-4 Chik-fil-A Food table  
 3:00-3:30 Magic Show

### # 5 Food Trucks 11-4pm

Mossy Ledge Drinks

### # 6 Next Generation

11-4 Welcome Information Desk  
 11-4 Theatre Open for Inside Seating + Drinks  
 7:30-9:30 Alumni Jazz Band \$12 Admission

### # 7 Riverwalk

11-4 Nonprofit Tables & Activities  
 11-4 Theater/ Dance performances

9:00pm Fireworks

### # 8 Center Street

11-4 Food Trucks  
 11-4 Business Tables  
 11-4 Sidewalk Chalk Drawing  
 11-4 Mossy Ledge Drinks Area

1:30-3:30 Scooter and Scoot Jr  
 1pm Theatre/Dance Performance  
 1:30-3 Chris Ross Performance  
 3pm- Theatre/Dance Performance



### # 9 Portable Restroom All Day

### # 10 Outside Gym 9-11 Demonstration by Amy Curry

High Tide open 11-10  
 7PM Aftershock Band

Downtown Charcuterie open 11- 4

Masons open 10:30-10  
 11-4 - Humane Society Booth

Community Center  
 10:30-4:30 Shuttle Pick up  
 8:30-1:00 Brewer Farmers Market  
 5-7 American Legion Spaghetti Dinner \$8

11- 4 pm ■

Afternoon Events ■

Evening Events ■

This event was made possible with assistance from our sponsors:

BOX OF MAINE, FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NEXT GENERATION, WINTERPORT BOOT, W.S. EMERSON, CREATIVE ARTS CENTER, SELFIE SPACE, SOMA NOVO, TWIN CITY TIRE, THRIVING PROOF, CASELLA, RENEWAL BY ANDERSON, TILLER & RYE AND CYR BUS COMPANY

# State Primary Election Absentee Ballot Applications are Available

Absentee ballot applications for the June 11, 2024 State Primary Election are now available at the City Clerk's Office during normal business hours. Applications are also available on the [City's website](#) or through the [State of Maine absentee ballot request portal](#). It is anticipated that absentee ballots will be available and mailed to eligible applicants by mid-May. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at (207) 989-7050 or [city-clerk-office@brewermaine.gov](mailto:city-clerk-office@brewermaine.gov).

## Upcoming Dates and Reminders

### Planning Board Meeting Scheduled for May 6, 2024

The Brewer Planning Board will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 6 at 6pm in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 80 North Main Street. The agenda will be posted at City Hall. If you have any questions, please contact the Linda Johns, Brewer City Planner at (207) 989-8431.

### City Council Meeting Scheduled for May 14

The City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 14 at 6pm in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 80 North Main Street. [Click here](#) to view the agenda (to be posted on May 9), Council meeting schedule, or to review past agendas and minutes. Beginning at the May 14 meeting, City Council meetings will be recorded and posted on the City Council page on the City's website.

### FY25 Budget Public Information Session

A public information session about the proposed budget will be held on May 28, 2024 at 6pm in the Council Chambers located at 80 North Main Street. Prior to the meeting, a copy of the proposed budget will be available for viewing at the City Clerk's Office and the Library. A message will be sent via Notify Brewer and an announcement will be posted on the City's website when these copies of the proposed budget are available to view.

### Sign Up for Notify Brewer!

Want to know what's happening in Brewer? Join Notify Brewer, the City's new alert system that sends important and timely information directly to you through your preferred communication methods, whether email, text or phone. Visit the [Notify Brewer signup page](#) to join!

## Watch City Council Meetings Live

Beginning at the City Council Meeting on May 14, regularly scheduled City Council Meetings will be recorded and broadcast live on the City website. An archive of past recordings of City Council meetings will also be maintained on the City website that may be viewed at any time. Instructions for viewing meeting videos will be sent via *Notify Brewer*.

## Yard Sales in Brewer

With warmer weather on the horizon, it's time to dust off those treasures and get ready for yard sale season! Just a quick reminder: if you're planning to host a yard sale, you'll need a permit. Whether it's on your yard, lawn, garage, or as part of a move, you're allowed up to three sales per year, each lasting up to three consecutive days. Permits cost \$3.00 each. Getting your hands on a permit is a breeze—there are multiple ways to do it. For more details on hosting a yard sale in Brewer, please visit the [City's website](#).

## Upcoming Events at Brewer Recreation

Brewer Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of year-round programming for residents and visitors alike. Whether you are walking with your friends in the community center on a cold winter day, participating in yoga classes, taking part in our cutting edge Afterschool Program or extensive Summer Rec Camp activities, swimming in the municipal pool on a hot summer day, having fun with senior aerobics, or relaxing in any of our parks, playgrounds, and trails, Brewer Parks and Recreation has something for everyone. Below are important dates at Parks and Recreation for the month of May:

**May 6:** Brewer Resident Summer Individual Program & Swim Lesson Registration open.

**May 10:** Mother-Son Dance

To sign up for these events or to learn more about upcoming programming and services offered at Brewer Parks and Recreation, please [visit their website](#). Please direct any questions Parks and Recreation Director Michael Martin at (207) 989-5199 or [mmartin@brewermaine.gov](mailto:mmartin@brewermaine.gov).

## Brewer Farmers' Market

Local farmers selling at the Brewer Farmers' Market offer a wide selection of farm products in season every Saturday mid-May through the end of October. Weather permitting, the first farmer's market for 2024 will be held Saturday, May 11 from 8:30am to 1pm in front of the Joseph L. Ferris Community Center, 318 Wilson Street in Brewer.

Beginning in June, the market is also held Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (open and will be open later on Saturdays) at the Joseph L. Ferris Community Center.

For more information and updates, please visit the [Farmer's Market Facebook page](#) or visit the [City's website](#).

# Eastern Fine Paper: A Brewer Icon

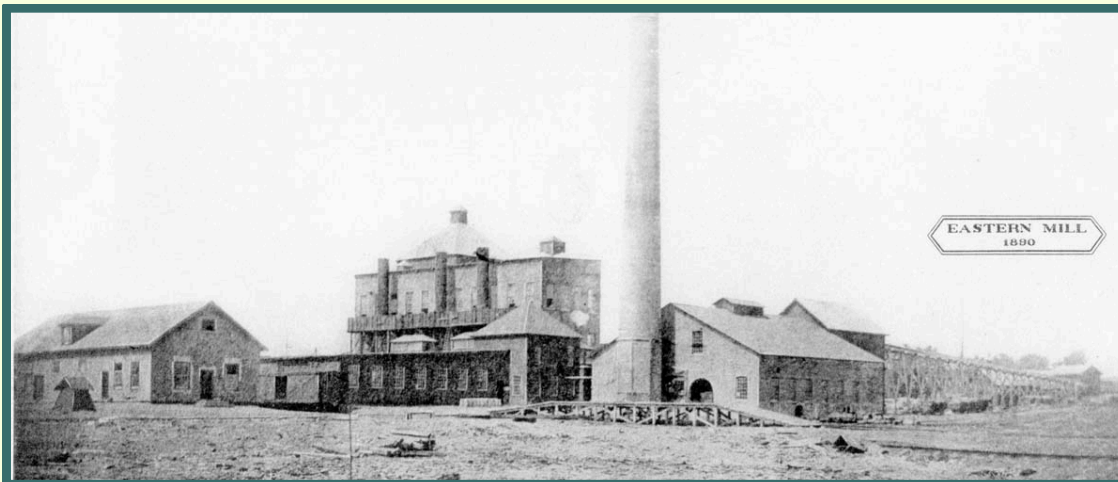
For over a century, the billowing plume from the South Brewer paper mill symbolized prosperity and unity for the community. It wasn't just a factory; it was the heart of South Brewer, shaping its identity and culture.

Brewer's history is rooted in adaptation. In the 1800s, as industries like brick-making and ice-harvesting waned, the paper industry emerged as a beacon of change. Fred Ayer, a visionary, transformed a sawmill into Eastern Fine Paper, setting the stage for a new era. Eastern Fine Paper became synonymous with quality and innovation, driving Brewer's economy through the Depression and World War II. It was the lifeline for thousands, providing not just jobs but a way of life.

The community thrived around the mill, with schools, churches, and businesses flourishing. Generations of families found stability and purpose in the mill's halls, forming a tight-knit community that weathered every storm.

But change is inevitable. In 2004, Eastern Fine Paper closed its doors, leaving Brewer reeling. Yet, from its ashes rose Cianbro, a testament to Brewer's resilience and adaptability.

Today, the skyline may have changed, but Brewer's spirit remains strong. The legacy of Eastern Fine Paper lives on in the hearts of its employees and the fabric of the community they built together. Fred Ayer's vision lives on in the innovative businesses that continue to shape Brewer's future.



## Brewer City Council

Jenn Morin, Mayor

Soubanh Phanthay, Deputy Mayor

Michele Daniels, Councilor

Dani O'Halloran, Councilor

Bill Kimball, Councilor