

## **COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This Section of the Master Plan identifies public and semi-public facilities and services that serve the residents and property owners of Jaffrey. RSA 674:2:III.c recommends including a community facilities section which “identifies facilities to support the future land use pattern..., meets the projected needs of the community, and coordinates with other local governments’ special districts and school districts, as well as with state and federal agencies that have multi-jurisdictional impacts.”

An important function of town government is to provide residents and property owners with a level of service commensurate with taxes and fees paid that meet the current needs of the populace. In Jaffrey's case, these include public safety (police, fire, and ambulance), public works (water, sewer, roads, solid waste disposal, and cemetery maintenance), schools, recreation, cultural facilities, health and welfare services, and the town government operations (selectmen, property maintenance, and assessment).

The degree to which these facilities are developed has a significant impact on the quality of life and general character of a community. This Chapter of the Master Plan presents an inventory of such facilities and services, an assessment of the adequacy of the current level of service, and any plans or recommendations to expand, improve, or add to an existing facility or service.

### **COMMUNITY FACILITIES and SERVICES**

#### *Town Hall/Town Government*

The Town Offices building located at 10 Goodnow Street is a 2,800 square foot, two-story, wood-frame building that houses the offices of the Selectmen/Town Manager, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Property Records, Building Inspector, Finance, Economic Development and the Overseer of Public Welfare. The Selectmen/Town Manager, Property Records, Building Inspector, Finance, and Economic Development offices are open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Town Clerk and Tax Collector offices are open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Overseer of Public Welfare is available by appointment in the evenings.

A large meeting room is located on the ground floor and is available for use by all Town boards and committees. The Town Office building is handicap accessible.

#### Future Needs and Plans

Proper and secure storage space for Town records is presently lacking.

#### *The Meetinghouse*

The Meetinghouse in Jaffrey Center, built in 1775, was originally used for Town Meetings and church services. It is now used for a variety of public and private events from spring through fall. It is overseen by a three-person Meetinghouse Committee. In 1991 a Meetinghouse Trust Fund was created at Town Meeting into which all revenues from events are placed and from which major capital costs are paid.

### Future Needs and Plans

A multi-year maintenance program and budget should be developed to avoid major unexpected expenditures.

### *Public Safety*

The Jaffrey Police Department, located at 26 Main Street is a two-story, 5,280 square foot brick building that was constructed in 1954 as the Town Offices. Police protection is under the direction of a full-time Chief with a force of ten full-time officers and one full-time administrator. The Police Department provides 24-hour coverage; two officers are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Multiple training programs are available on a regular basis both within the Department and from outside agencies. There are two highly traveled state highways in Jaffrey, US 202 and NH 124 that have several locations of concern. The intersection of these two highways is especially problematic. Additional information regarding problem road areas is included in the Transportation Chapter.

### Future Needs and Plans

The police headquarters building is in good condition and is of sufficient size to accommodate current and future police activities.

Many equipment items were upgraded through federal grants in 2000 and 2001. They are now outdated and approaching the need for replacement. Since there is no capital reserve fund in place, replacing these items will result in a significant impact on the budget when it occurs. Funds will need to be allocated in 2006 or 2007 to replace the equipment.

Lack of adequate staffing is an immediate concern which needs to be corrected as soon as possible.

### *Fire and Rescue Services*

Fire protection is provided by a full-time Fire Chief, one on-call Assistant Fire Chief, and 25 on-call Firefighters. On-call Firefighters are compensated approximately \$11.50/hour. 13 Firefighters are certified Level One Firefighters and 11 Firefighters are certified Level 2 Firefighters. 15 Firefighters are also trained as Emergency Medical Technicians.

The Jaffrey Fire Station, constructed in 1981, is located at 138 Turnpike Road in an 8,400 square foot, concrete block and brick building with a steel roof structure. The facility includes a dispatch office and a Fire Chief's office, a large meeting room that is used for fire department training and for state and local meetings and trainings, two bathrooms, a kitchen, 6 bays with overhead doors and room for a 7<sup>th</sup> vehicle.

Increasingly the Fire Department is responding to non-fire emergencies such as motor vehicle accidents. This is a trend nationwide.

The former Jaffrey Center Fire Station a 1,500 square foot building with two garage bays is located west of Jaffrey Center village on Mountain Road (Route 124) and is now used for storage by the Department of Public Works.

### Future Needs and Plans

The existing Fire Station is nearing capacity. All but one of the equipment bays are full. As the Fire and Building Inspection Departments presently work together closely, consideration might be given to combining the two. The Fire Station will need to be expanded at some time in the future.

There is a need for municipal fire hydrants on Old Sharon Road to protect industrial sites.

Consideration should be given to whether or not the Jaffrey Center Fire Station should be reopened.

The only fire apparatus that is planned for replacement in the next five years is the Rescue Truck. This 1991 vehicle was used on over 40% of the calls in 2005. It is presently carrying more equipment than it was designed to carry and this has led to safety and handling concerns.

### *Highway Department*

The Jaffrey Highway Department is located at 23 Knight Street. The building, erected in 1964, is a one story, 6,040 square foot (4,400 square foot of storage/mechanic space) structure. It is not handicap accessible. Also on the site is a Salt Shed, Equipment Warehouse and plow storage structure. Sand, stone and various equipment and supplies are stored outside on the site.

The staff of the Highway Department consists of eight full-time employees. There is one seasonal (winter) per diem employee. Current equipment is reported to be in satisfactory condition. Staffing is adequate for current demands at this time.

Current traffic, transportation and roadway issues identified by the Department include the following:

- Traffic control and movement issues at the Route 124 / 202 / 137 intersection
- Limited level of service capabilities at various intersections (i.e. Old Sharon Roads and US 202, Prescott Road and Squantum Road, Witt Hill Road at Route 124)

There is one designated scenic road in the Town of Jaffrey, Thorndike Pond Road (a two mile section of roadway from Gilson Road to the Dublin Town line).

In the past five years only one new road has been accepted by the Town.

The Town of Jaffrey owns several dams which are regularly inspected by the NH Department of Environmental Services. These are:

- Contoocook Lake Dam
- Bullet Pond Dam
- Contoocook River / Main Street Dam
- Mountain Stream Dam
- Poole Reservoir
- Wastewater Treatment lagoons

Inspections of these dams have shown that maintenance and repairs are necessary. This work is included in the CIP.

### **Future Needs and Plans**

• Equipment: A schedule for equipment replacement has been prepared by the Town mechanic and the Department recommends carefully following this schedule which is included in the Capital Improvement Program.

• Energy and environmental considerations should be considered in the choice and operation of vehicles and equipment.

• Facilities: The Town Highway Garage is 40 years old and in need of a significant upgrade and/or replacement.

- Operations: Staffing is adequate for current demands at this time.

#### *Roads as they relate to Community Character:*

- Roads with special visual qualities and viewsheds should receive careful attention and consideration so as not to have these qualities diminished or compromised by excessive widening, regrading, shouldering, etc. Guidelines could be developed to assist in this.
- Jaffrey's present road layout, particularly in new subdivisions, should be evaluated as to their effect on the avowed master plan goal of 'preserving rural character.'

#### *Solid Waste Disposal*

The Town of Jaffrey maintains a Transfer Station/Recycling Center on Old Sharon Road. The facility includes an uninsulated, 4,000 sq.ft. metal utility structure. The Center employs three full-time and one part time staff. Hours of operation are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00am – 4:00pm and Saturdays 8:00am – 3:00pm.

Also at the site is a 'Swap Shop,' an 800 square foot building erected in 1996 which serves as a place to both drop off and pick up, free of charge, a variety of household items.

The Town accepts municipal solid waste (MSW) and recyclables from Jaffrey residents only through an individual drop-off process. Commercial concerns can use the recycling portion only.

The Town's most pressing problem with MSW disposal today is the disposal cost per ton which is high compared to similar sized communities. After the failure at the 2003 Town Meeting to adopt a new solid waste fee system, a Transfer Station/Recycling Center Committee was appointed to study the situation and make recommendations. A citizen survey was distributed; the facilities of other towns were visited and a number of meetings were held. The Committee made 14 recommendations. Of the 14, the following four seem to be the most relevant for master planning consideration:

- 2) The facility needs physical improvement to include better toilet facilities, heated work areas, safety barriers at the demolition dumpsters, and improvement of the access road.
- 6) Provide shelter from the weather for construction and demolition containers.
- 12) The Town should consider regional household hazardous waste disposal.
- 13) The Town should consider ways to improve awareness of risks and opportunities for disposal of household hazardous waste. Although this is done from time-to-time at the Keene facility, that is too distant to be a reasonable option. Combining with neighboring towns and more actively publicizing the day should be considered in an attempt to increase usership. Possibly encouraging local churches and organizations to pool their members' waste for transport should be explored.

#### *Water System*

The Water Department is presently located at 104 Turnpike Road, occupying a single-story, brick veneer building erected in 1983. The Department is staffed by two full-time employees. The water system for the Town of Jaffrey consists of two gravel packed wells (Turnpike Well and Contoocook Lake Well), two finish water storage tanks having a total capacity of 1,250,000 gallons, a booster pumping station, and

associated distribution system, piping and appurtenances. The water system serves the village area of Jaffrey, west along NH 124 through Jaffrey Center, north to Harkness Road, east along NH 124 to Squantum Village, and south along Hunt Road to the Woodmere and Little Michigan area in Rindge. The Town's water system has approximately 1,500 connections serving approximately 3,600 current users in Jaffrey and Rindge. The average daily demand for the system was 343,000 gallons in 2004. In 2005, the average daily demand was 361,000 gallons.

At this time the Jaffrey water system is satisfactory but the level of service is not commensurate with the cost.

## **SOURCE PROTECTION**

Jaffrey must continue to investigate and develop additional water sources and protect all potential water sources. The Contoocook Lake Well is a gravel-packed well having a reported capacity of 350 gallons per minute (252,000 gallons per day when pumping for 12 hours). DES has approved plans to increase production in stages while monitoring for any changes in water composition. The effort to increase Contoocook well production will be carried out during the second half of 2006. There are also plans to install a backup well in this aquifer to provide mechanical redundancy.

The Turnpike Well is located on the south side of NH 124. The well has an estimated capacity of 325 gallons per minute (234,000 gallons per day when pumping for 12 hours)

Fire Protection is one of the benefits of a public water system, and the ability to provide fire protection is seen as an economic development incentive that helps to attract and keep business and industry. However the town of Jaffrey does not charge for fire protection, despite some very significant capital, operations and maintenance costs associated with providing it. Jaffrey maintains a water main to provide fire protection to the Millipore Company, even though Millipore switched to their own private water supply for, non potable uses.

## *Wastewater System*

The Wastewater Department is presently located on Old Sharon Road. The Wastewater Department is staffed by one full-time and one part-time employee retained through a contract with Aquarion Operating Services (AOS).

The treatment facility, constructed in 1986, consists of a 2,325 square foot administrative building, three aerated lagoons and 15 miles of collection sewers and six pump stations.

The system services 800 connections. The system is designed to treat approximately 2,085 pounds of total suspended solids per day, and has a total capacity of 1.25 million gallons with an average daily flow of approximately 500,000 gallons. A significant portion of this flow comes from industrial users that take water from private wells but rely on the Jaffrey treatment plant for their sewer effluent.

## **THE COST OF SEWER**

Jaffrey's sewer system is part of a reliable infrastructure of the town that serves the downtown business and residential districts as well as the historic district of Jaffrey Center and beyond. Jaffrey is among a handful of towns in the Monadnock Region that provides a sewage disposal system to its residents and businesses. This fact has given rise to a center of town that has attracted more than 250 businesses in less than one square mile. Jaffrey's sewer system has one of the ten highest costs of service in the state.

The town is under an EPA Administrative Order to upgrade its current facilities which will both improve the existing infrastructure and significantly increase sewer rates in future years. Some are predicting that

Jaffrey's sewer rates could double in coming years if the planned advanced wastewater treatment plant is built. While an increase in rates may present problems for some Jaffrey residents and businesses, the installation of state-of-the-art facilities to meet long-term future needs of the community will be an asset to the economic development and growth management of the town with possible positive or negative implications. With the construction of this new facility there will also be an incentive and an opportunity to add more connections. The question of whether this will result in an undesirable pace or appropriate level of development will be the subject of discussion for citizens and town planners.

#### Future Needs and Plans

Existing facilities and staffing are adequate at this time to collect and treat wastewater to secondary standards. However, the Town is under an Administrative Order from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to upgrade the treatment plant to meet stringent discharge limitations. A new treatment plant has been designed although the town is still in the process of determining other solutions to this situation. It will entail a very large expense and when built and in operation will likely have important implications for planning and public policy far into the future.

Additional projects anticipated in the next five years include:

- Continuation of the Infiltration/Inflow program which involves a lining or reconstruction project each year,
- Continuation of the sewer collection system inspection and cleaning which is conducted on 1/3 of the system each year,
- Updating the sewer system mapping,
- Development of a sewer system facilities plan to investigate expansion of the collection system,
- Preparing a GIS map of the system including locating all wastewater system structures, and
- Revising or updating the current Sewer Use Ordinance to ensure it includes defensible local limits.

Future needs and plans include an assessment of staffing needs with the current contractor (AOS) once the new treatment facility is constructed and on-line as well as pump station rehabilitation (River Street and Hillcrest Road pump stations).

#### *Library*

The Jaffrey Public Library, located at 38 Main Street near the center of downtown, is a three-story, 14,190 sq.ft. brick structure constructed in 1896. The addition, which houses a new children's area and meeting room, opened in 1990. Library hours of operation are Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 11:00am – 5:30pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm – 8:00pm, and Saturdays 9:00am – 1:00pm. Library staff consists of two full-time and three part-time employees and four to five volunteers. Administration is carried out by an elected five-member Board of Trustees, who set the policy, oversees the maintenance of the facility, and serves as a link between the library and the community.

Library resources include a book collection of over 31,000 volumes, an audiovisual collection of 1,636 items including DVDs, CDs, audiotapes and videotapes, over 100 puppets and 59 magazines and newspapers. Special collections include the Amos Fortune Papers and an historical collection focusing on Jaffrey and New Hampshire history.

### Future Needs and Plans

As the Library's circulation of materials increases and services are expanded, the most serious issue will be insufficient staffing. Over the next few years, Library staff plan to assess current hours of operation to determine whether an increase or change is warranted to serve the community better. As part of that effort, staff hopes to increase staffing to provide consistent service during all hours of operation.

In addition, machines and software need to be upgraded on an annual basis to remain current with expanding technology. The Town has an Information Technology plan in place and Library staff is hopeful that funding will be made available to allow for the implementation of this plan.

During 2006, the library plans to do an audit of the heating system. Based on the results, a proposal will be developed for a more efficient method of heating and cooling the library building. Once this has been accomplished, the Town will be asked to establish a Capital Reserve for this project.

### *Recreational Facilities and Services*

Jaffrey's Parks & Recreation Department, located at 31 Howard Hill Road, provides a number of year-round recreation programs and services.

#### **Recreation facilities include the following:**

##### **Contoocook Lake Beach**

The Contoocook Lake Beach has approximately 4,000 youth and adult users annually. The facility includes a swimming area, changing rooms, restrooms, concession stand, swimming lessons, volleyball court, horseshoe pit, and covered picnic pavilion. The facility is open seasonally, at which time it is staffed by a number of part-time lifeguards and concession stand operators. Facility and staff are adequate at this time.

##### **Shattuck Park at Thorndike Pond**

The Shattuck Park at Thorndike Pond has approximately 2,000 youth and adult users annually. The facility includes a swimming area, grills, picnic pavilion and tables, boat landing, and portable toilets (seasonal). The facility is open from dawn to dusk seasonally, and is staffed by part-time lifeguards

##### **Humiston Field**

Humiston Field has approximately 3,900 youth and adult users annually. The facility includes a playing field (multi-sport), playground, basketball courts, skating rink, office, youth center, and parking lot. The facility is open from dawn to dusk seasonally with some evening events, and is staffed by a full-time Director, part-time Assistant Director, full-time maintenance support, and part-time clerical support.

##### **Rails to Trails**

Rails to Trails is a relatively new recreational opportunity available in Jaffrey. Trails meant for multiple forms of recreation including walking, biking and snowmobiling are available for use by youth and adults.

##### **Children's Woods**

Children's Woods is an area set aside for trail usage and encompasses 71 acres.

The Parks and Recreation Department oversees over 100 acres of park and recreation areas in Jaffrey.

### Future Needs and Plans

Humiston Field – Secure the property adjacent to field (currently owned by Mr. Hunt) when possible to expand facility (final expansion of the area). This is the last parcel of property that is necessary to provide maximum multiple usage of the facility and will extend the field from Howard Hill Road to Squantum Road. The addition of this parcel will provide more field space (more adequate right field for baseball) as well as more storage space (keep the garage currently on the property) for equipment. Additionally a baseball / softball batting cage could be added to the area in front of the parking lot on Howard Hill Road, allowing teams to practice batting without using the entire field.

Rails to Trails: Expand the trail from the center of downtown Jaffrey towards Peterborough.

In addition, the Town of Jaffrey recently purchased a site located in downtown Jaffrey for use as a future Community Center. The area, approximately 9 acres in size, borders the Rails to Trails path and the Contoocook River. The site is also in close proximity to Children's Woods. Immediate plans include the construction of a ball field. A \$40,000 Land and Water Conservation Funds grant from the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation was secured in 2004-2005 for that purpose. Construction of the field is expected to be completed in 2007. Future plans for the site include the addition of a Community Center for use by all Jaffrey residents.

### *Educational Facilities*

Jaffrey is a member of the Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative School District which serves the towns of Jaffrey and Rindge. The District is administered by School Administrative Unit (SAU) #47 located at 10 Main Street in Jaffrey.

The Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative School District offers a comprehensive program for preschool through grade 12. The facilities serving Jaffrey residents include the Jaffrey Rindge Preschool, Jaffrey Grade School, Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School, and Conant High School, all of which are located in Jaffrey. Further, Jaffrey residents may utilize the special needs preschool located at the Rindge Memorial School (the second elementary school within the cooperative District.)

#### *Jaffrey-Rindge Inclusive Preschool*

The Jaffrey-Rindge Inclusive Preschool, located at Rindge Memorial School at 58 School Street in Rindge, provides services to children three and four years of age. As of December 21, 2005, 19 children were enrolled, 14 of whom were from Jaffrey, the remaining from the Town of Rindge.

#### *Jaffrey Grade School*

The Jaffrey Grade School, located at 18 School Street in Jaffrey, serves children in kindergarten through grade 5. The school had 409 pupils attending as of October 3, 2005, of which 397 are Jaffrey residents while the remaining students are residents of the Town of Rindge. (Note: Students in the "Little Michigan" section of Rindge attend the Jaffrey Grade School due to bus routes.) The school employs 1 administrator, 32.9 professionals, 5 Special Education professionals, and 15.5 support staff members. None of the teachers share responsibilities at the other schools.

### Future Needs and Plans

Present equipment and facilities are used to capacity. Classes are generally an acceptable size, with some variation year-to-year based on each cohort. Should the overall student population grow, additional classrooms would be warranted. Also, due to the limited land parcel on which the school resides, parking



and playing field size are inadequate. The school district should consider the acquisition of adjoining properties. This should be done with caution so as not to overwhelm the local neighborhood.

Staff and programs are often displaced to accommodate other uses. For example, the music and art teachers cannot utilize their rooms during school-wide testing or during book fairs.

#### Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School

The Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School, located at 1 Conant Way in Jaffrey, serves students in grades 6-8. As of October 2005, 412 students were enrolled of which 205 are Jaffrey residents. The remaining population is from the Town of Rindge.

In March 2005, citizens of Jaffrey and Rindge passed a \$678,425 bond to address critical maintenance needs.

Since passage, the following items have been addressed:

- Installation of PA/phone system in each office and classroom
- Installation of controls to fix heating issues (CO2 controls, relays, wiring, etc.)
- Replacement of non-functioning/worn out outside doors

#### Future Needs and Plans

Another bond was approved in 2006 for \$9,445,500 and since that time that school has been working on the following projects and will continue this work in the future:

- 8 new classrooms (a 15,900 s.f. addition)
- 400 s.f. cafeteria/kitchen core expansion
- Upgrade mechanical and electrical systems throughout
- Replace windows
- Renovate 2 science labs; create 1 lab
- Reconfigure office for better entry monitoring
- Upgrade finishes
- Asbestos abatement
- Miscellaneous exterior repairs (repointing, caulking, brick replacement, etc.)
- Gym Floor and Track

#### Conant High School

Conant High School, located at 3 Conant Way in Jaffrey, serves students grades 9 through 12. School enrollment is 484 (October 3, 2005 data) of which 242 are Jaffrey residents while the remaining students are residents of the Town of Rindge.

The School is staffed with 2 administrators, 36.3 professionals, 10.2 Special Education professionals, and 12.5 support staff members. The music teacher has shared responsibilities at both the middle and high school. (*Note: Kitchen staff is not included in the support staff numbers as they are employed through contracted services, Chartwells.*)

The facility consists of 31 full-size classrooms and two modulars which create six classrooms. In addition, the facility includes an Industrial Arts room and Pratt Auditorium and exercise room that are shared with Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School.

The future of the site on Route 202 at the Jaffrey-Rindge border that was purchased as a location for a new high school should be assessed.

In March 2005, citizens of Jaffrey and Rindge passed a \$678,425 bond to address critical maintenance needs. Since passage, the following items have been addressed:

Replacement of outside doors/frames

- Installation of a new fire system (with addressable system) and new scalable security system
- Installation of HVAC for interior classrooms
- Restroom installation in the modulars
- Replacement of all heating convectors
- Window replacement
- Installation of PA/phone system in each office and classroom
- Purchase portable handicap lift for access to stage.

#### Future Needs and Plans

Overall, the existing equipment and facilities are poor for the needs of the students and staff. The school was built to accommodate 400-420 students, though current student population is at 484 and expected to increase to 530+ students. Specifically, special education program space has been in demand since 1973 while current technology requires additional storage needs. Handicap accessibility improvements are also required.

Additional needs and plans projected for the next five to ten years include:

- Space for alternative programs for “at-risk” students;
- Modern science labs;
- High school regulation gym;
- Modern auditorium;
- Athletic fields/track and physical education storage space;
- Storage space for all academic departments;
- Classrooms to accommodate all staff
- Modern family consumer science, health, and food / nutrition programs;
- Art, music, and industrial arts space, storage and staffing; and,
- Vocational programming space, storage and staffing.

In March 2006, voters of Jaffrey and Rindge passed a \$9,445,500 bond article for Phase I of renovation/addition projects at Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School and Conant High School. Key features of the bond, affecting the high school include:

- Addition of sprinkler system
- Replacement of guard rails and frames
- Renovation of 4 science labs
- Addition of ramp to boys’ locker room
- Construction of a 400 meter track and soccer field
- Make existing restrooms handicap-accessible
- Renovation of nurse’s area (add restroom)
- Replace gym floor and bleachers
- Miscellaneous space changes
- Asbestos abatement

## *Cemeteries*

Public cemeteries in the Town of Jaffrey include:

Cemetery	Established	Location	(acres)	Plots	Remaining for sale
Village (Baptist) Cemetery	1829	NH 124	1.9	363	None remaining
Cutter Cemetery	1858	Harkness Rd	1.3	72	None remaining
Old Burying Ground	1784	Blackberry Ln	1.8	1,100	None remaining
Phillips Cemetery	1789	Fitzwilliam Rd	1.4	300	21
Phillips-Heil Cemetery	1985	Fitzwilliam Rd		135	113
Conant Cemetery	1860	Stratton Rd	12.8	1,418	381
Cutter Extension	2004	Harkness Rd	1.5	637	637
Smallpox Cemetery	1792	Off Fitch Rd	<1	6	None remaining
<b>TOTAL</b>			ca.21	4,031	1,152

Source: Department of Public Works and Jaffrey Cemetery Committee

Up until 2002 the cemeteries were maintained by Town employees. The cemeteries are now maintained by a contractor. In 1991 a Cemetery Committee was established to advise the Town on the operation, maintenance and preservation of Jaffrey's public cemeteries. At the 2000 Town Meeting a trust fund was established to cover the cost of monument repair and restoration.

The only private cemetery in Jaffrey is St. Patrick Cemetery on Route 202 at Hillcrest Road. It dates to 1890, is approximately seven acres in size and serves the Roman Catholic community.

### Future Needs and Plans

Cemetery needs identified by the Department of Public Works and the Cemetery Committee include 1) improving cemetery record keeping; 2) restoring the iron fencing in Conant Cemetery; 3) commencing the development of the Cutter Cemetery extension—road and wall building—and the sale of lots there; and 4) selected removal of trees posing hazards; 5) developing pedestrian access to the Smallpox Cemetery, possibly using volunteers.

Instances of recent development close to cemetery boundaries resulting in adverse visual impact need to be addressed.

## *Other Municipal Community Facilities and Services*

### Streetlighting

The lighting along Jaffrey's streets is maintained and operated by Public Service of New Hampshire which charges the Town an electrical rate based on size and type of fixture. There are presently 241 fixtures, 212 of which are of the type known as mercury vapor.

The policy of the Town is to have streetlights at intersections and along roads that have sidewalks.

There is a growing concern in Jaffrey and elsewhere over light pollution which, among other things, can obscure the nighttime sky and give rise to objectionable glare affecting neighbors, drivers and pedestrians. Private flood and security lighting needs to be better controlled to avoid glare and overlighting. The Town itself employs lighting on some of its facilities that does not need to be continuously on, but rather could be motion-activated.

### Town Commons

There are five public greens, squares, parks or commons that are owned and maintained by the Town.

- The first and oldest is the Meetinghouse Common which provides the setting for the Meetinghouse.
- Village Square, now referred to as Memorial Park. The park, approximately 20,000 square feet, includes: the Bandstand, the Buddies Monument, the World War II Gold Star Mothers memorial, the Town Elm.
- The Library Green, on which stands the Soldiers' Monument.
- Charity Square, a triangular open space of approximately 10,000 square feet that stands in front of the Post Office.
- Bissell Alderman Park, located on a strip of land of 5,663 square feet running from the corner of Turnpike Road and Peterborough Street, along Peterborough Street, bordering the Rite-Aid parking lot.

### Future Needs and Plans

The five Town commons are important and historic open spaces and should be well maintained, protected and preserved.

### Public Art and Memorials

Among the public art and memorials in Jaffrey are the Soldiers' Monument, Buddies Monument, World War II – Gold Star Mothers memorial, Humiston Memorial Park, Jaffrey War Memorial Park, the Watering Trough, Baptist Church cornerstone, and the headstones in Jaffrey's cemeteries.

### Municipal Parking Lot

The stand-alone Parking Lot located on Blake Street is .73 acres and can accommodate 37 vehicles (7 spaces are designated for overnight parking). It's the only public facility for legal overnight parking. This lot is owned by The State of New Hampshire.

### Town Clocks

There are two tower clocks in Jaffrey that are owned by the Town. They are located in the Cutler Memorial (Jaffrey Woman's Club), and the Meetinghouse tower.

## **NON-MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

The Town of Jaffrey provides funding support to a variety of non-municipal community facilities and services. This is most often done as specific warrant articles presented at the annual Town Meeting. The organizations so supported in the past five years include:

- a. Home Health Care, Hospice and Community Services
- b. Monadnock Family Services
- c. Monadnock Community Early Learning Center
- d. The Community Kitchen
- e. Southwestern Community Services
- f. Jaffrey-Rindge Memorial Ambulance. (see below):

Jaffrey-Rindge Memorial Ambulance, Inc. (JRMA) is a private, non-profit corporation that provides emergency and non-emergency response for the Towns of Jaffrey and Rindge. JRMA is also a part of the Mutual Aid Service that includes all the communities in the towns of Southwestern New Hampshire. JRMA service coverage area extends for 77 square miles and includes about 12,000 year-round residents and the students and employees at Franklin Pierce College.

## COMMUNITY COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Town has many committees and organizations that have physical facilities used by the public or otherwise have a role to play in providing community services and in bettering life in Jaffrey. Among those that are important in complementing the community facilities and services of the Town are:

- a. The churches of Jaffrey
- b. The Boy Scouts , Girl Scouts and similar organizations
- c. Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce
- d. Jaffrey Woman's Club
- e. The Lions Club
- f. The Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club
- g. American Legion
- h. Veterans of Foreign Wars
- i. Korean and Vietnam Memorial Park
- j. TEAM Jaffrey (see below)
- k. Jaffrey Civic Center (see below)
- l. Jaffrey Historical Society (see below)
- m. Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society (see below)

Several of these are included below in more detail:

### **TEAM Jaffrey**

TEAM Jaffrey is chartered under the state and national "Main Street Programs" under the sponsorship of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Main Street's four-point, eight-principle approach addresses the following four areas of concern and combines activities in these areas to develop a community's individual strategy for redeveloping the downtown. The four points are organization, promotion, design, and economic restructuring and the eight principles are comprehensive, incremental, self-help, public/private partnership, identifying and capitalizing on existing assets, quality, change, and action-oriented. TEAM Jaffrey's mission is "to enhance, revitalize, and aesthetically improve the downtown area of Jaffrey, NH; to promote tourism, support the existing commercial establishments and encourage new business opportunities."

### **Jaffrey Civic Center**

The Jaffrey Civic Center is located at 40 Main Street in a 7,500 sq.ft., brick building constructed in 1965. The Civic Center offers programs and activities to support the artistic, cultural and civic needs of the Monadnock Region and is funded through private sources. The Civic Center employs a full-time Director, part-time assistant and many part-time volunteers.

The Center supports local artistic, cultural and civic needs including hosting art displays, poetry readings and meetings, providing youth activities such as historical lectures, scout meetings and art classes, and maintaining an auditorium which holds up to 125 people.

### Future Needs and Plans

Potential issues for the Center over the next five years include the need for additional funding and staff. In addition, the facility may be renovated to become fully handicap accessible, including installation of an elevator.

**Jaffrey Historical Society**

The Jaffrey Historical Society was founded in 1958 and is fortunate to have modern facilities for storage and display of its collections in the basement level of the Jaffrey Civic Center on Main Street. On the Common close to the Meetinghouse stands the ca. 1822 Little Red Schoolhouse which is owned by the Town but is maintained and managed by the Society.

The Old Fire Station on Main Street in Jaffrey Center is owned by the Society and houses Jaffrey's fire museum. Among the collection are several very early pieces of fire apparatus.

The Society presents a series of public programs throughout the year. Membership in the Society is open to all. The Society is a not-for-profit organization.

**Future Needs and Plans**

The Society would like to increase its membership and is particularly anxious to have more participation from the younger persons. Outreach to the local schools is a long-range goal.

**Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society**

The Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1906. Its mission is "to improve and to ornament the streets and public grounds of Jaffrey Center ... [and] to maintain and protect Melville Academy and its contents..." It owns and maintains seven properties, all of which are for the benefit of the public. Melville Academy is maintained as a local history museum and features artifacts and exhibits portraying the history of Jaffrey.

**Future Needs and Plans**

The Society will continue to protect and preserve its properties and to act as an advocate for the Jaffrey Center village and its historic and cultural resources.