

Health, Safety, and Security

The Health and Safety are vital to a strong and functional community. The factors must be adequately addressed to allow residents to live long, prosperous lives, and a feeling that residents can live a safe and healthy life. Health, Safety, and Security Newfield has characteristics that reflect the variability in relation to health. Reviews of state statistics show this variability in relation to Female Breast Cancer, Colorectal Cancer, Prostate Cancer and Lung and Bronchus Cancer, in addition to Air Quality, among the Towns within Tompkins County and other counties in Central NYS. Safety reflects the importance of the Law Enforcement Community (Sheriff's Department, State Police), and Newfield Fire Department community. Waste Management must be managed to also reflect the quality of a healthy community environment for the Newfield residents. These priorities are vital to the Newfield Comprehensive Plan.

Health

Four cancer tissue sites account for most of the total cancer burden in New York State; lung, colon, breast, and prostate. Breast cancer now strikes more women than any other type of cancer. Lung cancer is responsible for more cancer deaths, more than any other cancer site. Prostate cancer is the most common non-skin cancer in America, affecting many men. Colorectal cancer is the fourth most diagnosed cancer in the U.S.

Detailed information is available from the New York State Cancer Registry showing the comparison by Incidence type in relation to towns by Zip Code within Tompkins County. Refer to the web site for more detail. <http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/cancer/registry>

Air Quality

Air pollutants originate from many human activities. Most pollutants come from industries that manufacture chemicals and other goods, from off-road vehicles and power equipment, and from energy facilities that burn oil, gas or coal. Air pollution damages health and the environment in a variety of ways. Hot summer weather sets the stage for formation of ozone and fine particulate matter, two pollutants of concern for human health.

The Town of Newfield is a rural community that enjoys superior air quality. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation delineates the NYS Ambient Air Quality in terms of Inhalable Particulates and Air gas components (Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Ozone) for NYSDEC Region 7, which includes Tompkins County. Refer to the DEC web site for Newfield/Tompkins County Air Quality Index (AQI). <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/54719.html>

Waste Management and Illegal Dumping

There are many providers of Waste Management services available to Newfield residents. The towns of Tompkins County are subject to illegal dumping. Tony Petito, Newfield Junk Code Enforcement Officer (residents can report illegal dumping by contacting the Town Clerk's office at: 607-564-9881), the Sheriff's Department, and Department of Environmental Conservation investigate cases of Illegal Dumping and issue tickets and fines to violators. For Recycling and Solid Waste visit Tompkins County website for Current Licensed Haulers Companies and Commercial/Residential Dumpster Service Companies.. For information relative to breakdown of illegal dumping by municipality visit the Tompkins County|Solid Waste web site. It is to be noted that Newfield has a lower number of violations of Illegal Dumping among the municipalities. Tompkins County Solid Waste website: <http://www.recycletopkins.org/>

Law Enforcement and Fire Protection

The Security of the Newfield town environment is dependent on the first responders i.e., Volunteer Firemen, Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and Law Enforcement (County Sheriff, State Police).

Law Enforcement

Tompkins County Sheriff's Department

The Tompkins County sheriff's primary presence in the Town of Newfield is a Satellite Office located in the Newfield Town Hall. A new software system is being installed with communication links to local, NY State and Federal for crime calls. The Tompkins County Sheriff's Office pursues Law Enforcement, serves legal papers and responds to calls (generally minor crimes, Burglary, Larceny, and Domestic Violence). The Sheriff's office responds to Traffic Accidents and checks various types of domestic licenses. The Sheriff's office also provides Education and Awareness classes to the school population. The level of crime activity and traffic accidents are relatively low as noted in the Sheriff's Office Annual Report and consistent with the relative accident and crime free environment in the town.

The Sheriff's Office Annual Report includes data on Law Enforcement, Corrections, Civil Matters, Records, Sex Offender Registry, Local Resources (Other Local Police Departments), Special Programs (D.A.R.E. ; R.A.D. Defense Program, Child Seat Program, Media Releases and Links); such as Traffic, DWI, MWA and DWI Arrest, Missing Persons Investigations and Reward Posters (Homicide Investigation) ; and State/National Web Links. Refer to Tompkins County Sheriffs web site for detailed information.

<http://www.tompkins-co.org/sheriff/division.aspx?sectionID=20>

New York State Police

New York State Police provide essential police services to the public statewide. NYS Police provide regular patrols to assist motorists and other members of the public to ensure highways are safe and traffic flows smoothly. NYS Police through its Uniformed Force and Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) conducts criminal and non-criminal investigations and provides technical and support services to local police departments and assists law enforcement agencies at all levels in investigating serious crimes; related to drug enforcement, violent felonies, violent crime, firearms tracing, and forensic investigative support services.

Troop "C" monitors the Newfield area and provides law enforcement, crime prevention, ensures highway safety, promotes peace and order to provide disorder control and safety and security for individuals and groups of citizens. Troop "C" has a Zone 3 Satellite Station located near NYS Highway "13", on Test Road in the Town Of Newfield. For additional information the NYS Police web site is <http://www.troopers.state.ny.us/> and http://www.troopers.state.ny.us/Contact_Us/Troop_Information/Troop_C/

Fire Protection

Town of Newfield is within a Fire Protection District. Newfield Fire Department is contractually obligated to the Town with a yearly contract to respond to fire alarms, and incident calls. Currently the Town Of Newfield has a three-year contract with the Newfield Fire Department commencing with October 2009. At contract negotiation the Newfield Fire Department presents an annual report to the Newfield Town Board.

The Newfield Fire Department is organized as a private corporation with a CEO, Operations Chief, EMS Chief and two assistant chiefs. Lead firefighters undergo Incident Command System Training. The Volunteer Firemen undergo 40 hours per year of fire training. Current Fire Alarm calls are approximately 400 calls per year. Presently there are over 50 Volunteer Firemen. The Fire Department oversees Accessible Ponds with "Dry Hydrants" and provides the school student population with classes on "Sparky the Firedog" concerning Fire Safety. Refer to Town Of Newfield Fire Department Web Site for detailed information.

<http://townofnewfieldny.com/community/fire/fire.html>

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

The Newfield Fire Department has a limited number of trained EMT personnel. In order to provide for daytime medical emergencies, when most fire personnel are at their livelihood employment; the Newfield Fire

Department has mutual aid agreements, both in fire safety and emergency medical response services with the City of Ithaca, in addition to, the Ithaca City hazardous material team.

Disaster plans for natural or otherwise disasters are being drafted. Since the Town of Newfield is primarily a rural area, the Newfield Fire Department has designated "accessible ponds" with "dry hydrants" to be used for sources of water as needed. The Fire Volunteers meet several times a month for training and other activities throughout the year. Refer to (<http://tompkinsfireems.com/main/>).

The town of Newfield has a part-time building and code enforcement officer, appointed by the Town Board. The code officer processes building permits and makes inspections to assure building projects meet state code requirements. Residents can contact the code enforcement officer by contacting the Town Clerk's office at: 607-564-9881.

Useful websites:

Community Health Assessment, Tompkins County Health Department
<http://www.tompkins-co.org/health/cha05/index.htm>