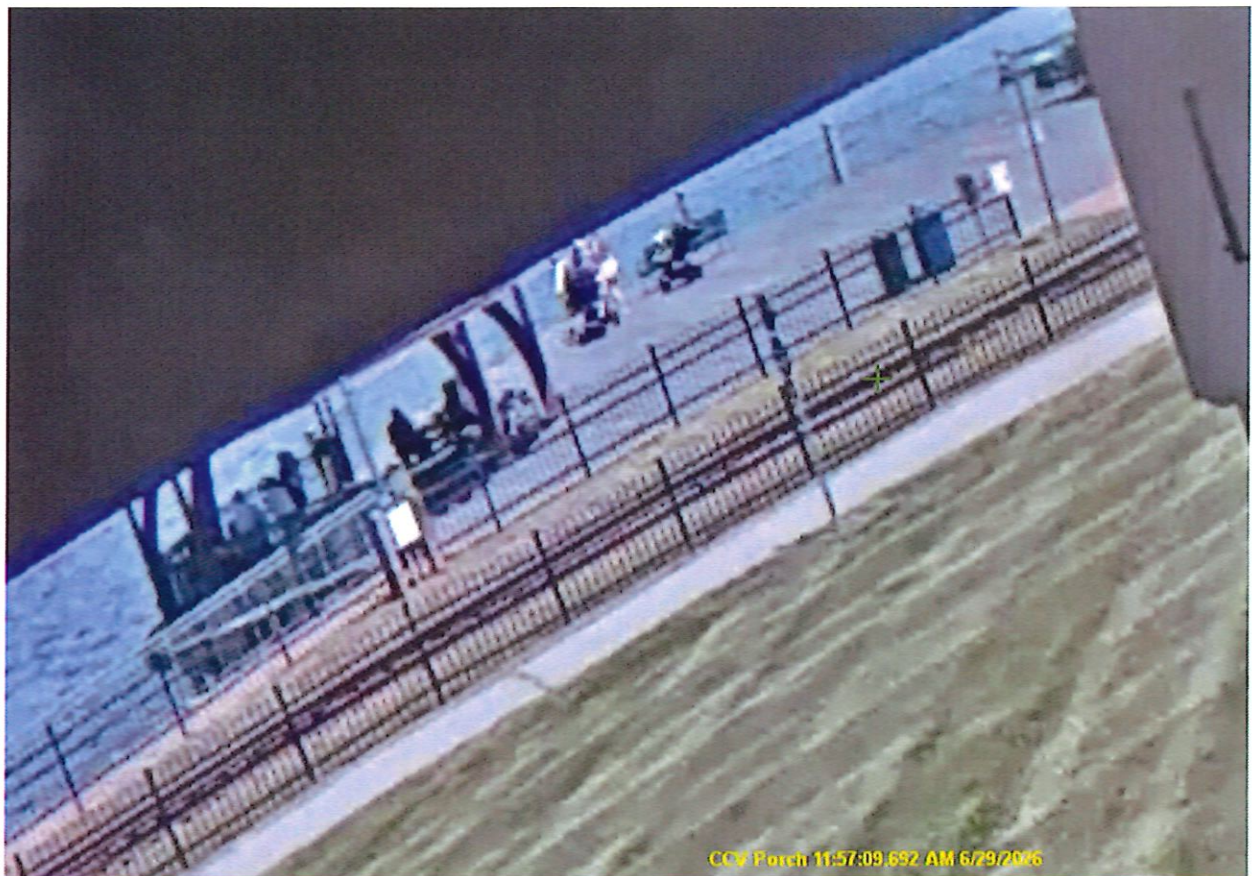


BGS Safety And Security Officers Coordinates Effort To Have The Windham County Sheriff Provide Executive Protection For The Vermont Secretary Of State. (BGS): At the request of the Vermont Secretary of State, who believes that a security detail is warranted based on threats to her safety, BGS Safety and Security and BGS Contracting and Procurement have coordinated with multiple sheriffs offices and security firms in an effort to provide a security detail at the secretary's residence overnight for both the primary and mid-term elections. Efforts are continuing.

Transients Create Safety Concerns For Newport City Officials And Businesses. (BGS): As many as 17 transients congregating on the state-owned walkway a BGS Safety and Security is coordinating with the Newport Police to address the issue. The video still below shows activity at noon on a Monday. There are 3 shopping carts with transient possessinos. Newport Police Chief Bingham wrote a letter describing the problem.





Newport Police Department
222 Main Street
Newport, VT 05855

Chief Travis R. Bingham
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

Tel: (802) 334-6733
Fax: (802) 334-2818



To whom it may concern:

I want to address issues we are having with people loitering and hanging out all hours at the Gazebo area in Newport City. The Gazebo's are located on State property on the waterfront in front of the state building. Since the summer months we have had a gathering of folks that hang out all day long drinking and causing issues with members of the public that are trying to use the space. Intoxication, disorderly conduct, assaults, threatening and harassing behavior are mostly what we have been responding to. The general public feels threatened to use the space that is open to everyone because they take over the space daily. One (1) specific individual we have dealt with ten (10) times mostly for intoxication. We issue civil tickets for open container violations when we witness it. This issue is draining my resources every day because we have to focus on complaints and trying to keep civil order. Below is an email I received from the mayor after a citizen spoke in public comment at our council meeting on Monday night.

Travis,

Last night Kristy Griggs attended the Council meeting and described her growing frustration with loiterers who are hanging out in the Gazebos on the boardwalk and being verbally abusive to visitors. She described an incident where she was asked for a light, responded that she didn't smoke, and then was treated to an aggressive, foul verbal assault for not having a lighter.

There was general agreement among those in the Council room that this is a growing problem. Sharon Pare, a council member, described a recent decision in which she took her grandchildren for ice-cream and then chose not to follow through on a plan to go down to the gazebo because there were a group of folks who were obviously intoxicated.

Dena Gray, owner of Le Belvedere, called me two weeks ago to complain that the group assembled there is impacting her business because of their loud yelling, aggressive behavior towards others, and physical altercations with one another. Her staff called the police in an instance that devolved into a fistfight between two people hanging out in the gazebos.

This afternoon, I received a report from Donna, who staffs the Welcome Center, that she had a highly agitated older woman who was visiting the area with a group of 8 friends and who came in to ask Donna to call the police because "they were afraid to file a report themselves."

Those are three specifics, in addition to a steady stream of complaints I have been hearing over the past few weeks.

Seckington, Troy

From: Bingham, Travis
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:11 PM
To: Dailey, James
Cc: Champney, Gary
Subject: Re: Transient issues at Gazeboes in Newport

Yes, I can get you all the names for sure.

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham
Newport Police department
222 Main Street
Newport, VT. 05855
802.334.6733 (phone)
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

From: Dailey, James
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:01 PM
To: Bingham, Travis
Cc: Champney, Gary
Subject: Re: Transient issues at Gazeboes in Newport
Hi Travis,

This is the first I'm hearing about this issue as no one has reported anything to our office. Let me talk with my team and see what we can do to help. Are you able to share names and DOBs of the most common offenders?

James Dailey | Threat Mitigation & Training Coordinator
Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety & Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633
802-522-0554

From: Bingham, Travis
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 12:48
To: Dailey, James
Cc: Champney, Gary
Subject: Transient issues at Gazeboes in Newport
Hi James, I have been receiving a bunch of complaints about our friends hanging out at the Gazeboes in Newport. We have detoxed several individuals they are openly drinking; we are trying to deal with what we can and arrest when they commit a crime. I was not sure if there was anything on your end that would help us out. It's consumed a lot of our time day after day.

Let me know

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham
Newport Police department
222 Main Street
Newport, VT. 05855
802.334.6733 (phone)
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

Seckington, Troy

From: Bingham, Travis
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 6:15 PM
To: Champney, Gary
Subject: Re: Checking in

The Encampment only covers city owned property...just FYI

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham
Newport Police Department
222 Main Street
Newport, VT. 05855
802.334.6733
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, 20 July 2026 15:21:24
To: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Cc: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Checking in

Lance, I'm also curious as to what we are to do about a camp. In the woods that the state owns at the top of Seymour Lane there's a homeless encampment and the city of Newport has passed an ordinance of no encampments in city limits. They're leaving a ton of trash back there and going to the bathroom wherever they feel like. Any guidance on this?

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
(W) 802-334-4377
(C) 802-535-4537

On Jul 20, 2026, at 12:29 PM, Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov> wrote:

Agreed, They have moved out of the public's eye a bit...I would say more successful than not.

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham
Newport Police department
222 Main Street

Newport, VT. 05855
802.334.6733 (phone)
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:25 PM
To: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in

Yes.....been a lot less traffic down there. They have been out in front of Emory drinking and harassing my summer temp a couple of times but other than that it's worked well.

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager, NE District
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
gary.champney@vermont.gov
O: 802-334-4377
C: 802-535-4537

From: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:05 PM
To: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: Checking in

Just checking in to see if removing the chairs and tables from the gazebo have discourage the local transients to hang out there? And or any new issues ?

Thank you,

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief
Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.

Seckington, Troy

From: Champney, Gary
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 7:29 AM
To: Taylor, Lance
Subject: RE:

Lance, I went up this morning and the bedding and makeshift tent was gone. There is some trash there but didn't see anyone sleeping. If they decide to return I'll let you know.

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager, NE District
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
gary.champney@vermont.gov
O: 802-334-4377
C: 802-535-4537

From: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 3:55 PM
To: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Subject:

Gary, can you download a pic and circle the area you're talking about, and are you able to take pics of the encampment and their mess so I can present it to Bill and have a better idea of how bad it is. We had the same issue here behind the State Capital and it cost the state approximately 15,000 to have it cleaned up. We spoke to the transients in person and left pamphlets informing them they had to be out by a certain date and if not, the police would be called and then posted "No trespassing"

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief
Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 3:21 PM
To: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Cc: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Checking in

Lance, I'm also curious as to what we are to do about a camp. In the woods that the state owns at the top of Seymour Lane there's a homeless encampment and the city of Newport has passed an ordinance of no encampments in city limits. They're leaving a ton of trash back there and going to the bathroom wherever they feel like. Any guidance on this?
Gary Champney

District Facilities Manager
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
(W) 802-334-4377
(C) 802-535-4537

On Jul 20, 2026, at 12:29 PM, Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov> wrote:

Agreed, They have moved out of the public's eye a bit...I would say more successful than not.

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham
Newport Police department
222 Main Street
Newport, VT. 05855
802.334.6733 (phone)
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:25 PM
To: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in

Yes.....been a lot less traffic down there. They have been out in front of Emory drinking and harassing my summer temp a couple of times but other than that it's worked well.

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager, NE District
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
gary.champney@vermont.gov
O: 802-334-4377
C: 802-535-4537

From: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:05 PM
To: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: Checking in

Just checking in to see if removing the chairs and tables from the gazebo have discourage the local transients to hang out there? And or any new issues ?

Thank you,

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief

Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.

Seckington, Troy

From: Taylor, Lance
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 3:55 PM
To: Champney, Gary

Gary, can you download a pic and circle the area you're talking about, and are you able to take pics of the encampment and their mess so I can present it to Bill and have a better idea of how bad it is. We had the same issue here behind the State Capital and it cost the state approximately 15,000 to have it cleaned up. We spoke to the transients in person and left pamphlets informing them they had to be out by a certain date and if not, the police would be called and then posted "No trespassing"

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief

Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 3:21 PM
To: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Cc: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Checking in

Lance, I'm also curious as to what we are to do about a camp. In the woods that the state owns at the top of Seymour Lane there's a homeless encampment and the city of Newport has passed an ordinance of no encampments in city limits. They're leaving a ton of trash back there and going to the bathroom wherever they feel like. Any guidance on this?

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
(W) 802-334-4377
(C) 802-535-4537

On Jul 20, 2026, at 12:29 PM, Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov> wrote:

Agreed, They have moved out of the public's eye a bit...I would say more successful than not.

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham

Newport Police department
222 Main Street
Newport, VT. 05855
802.334.6733 (phone)
travis.bingham@vermont.gov

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:25 PM
To: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in

Yes.....been a lot less traffic down there. They have been out in front of Emory drinking and harassing my summer temp a couple of times but other than that it's worked well.

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager, NE District
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
gary.champney@vermont.gov
O: 802-334-4377
C: 802-535-4537

From: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:05 PM
To: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: Checking in

Just checking in to see if removing the chairs and tables from the gazebo have discourage the local transients to hang out there? And or any new issues ?

Thank you,

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief
Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.

Seckington, Troy

From: Taylor, Lance
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:44 PM
To: Bingham, Travis
Subject: RE: Checking in

That's good news, thank you.

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief

Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.

From: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:30 PM
To: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>; Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Checking in

Agreed, They have moved out of the public's eye a bit...I would say more successful than not.

TB

Chief Travis R. Bingham

Newport Police department

222 Main Street

Newport, VT. 05855

802.334.6733 (phone)

travis.bingham@vermont.gov

From: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:25 PM
To: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Checking in

Yes.....been a lot less traffic down there. They have been out in front of Emory drinking and harassing my summer temp a couple of times but other than that it's worked well.

Gary Champney
District Facilities Manager, NE District
100 Main St.
Newport, VT 05855
gary.champney@vermont.gov
O: 802-334-4377
C: 802-535-4537

From: Taylor, Lance <Lance.Taylor@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:05 PM
To: Champney, Gary <Gary.Champney@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bingham, Travis <Travis.Bingham@vermont.gov>
Subject: Checking in

Just checking in to see if removing the chairs and tables from the gazebo have discourage the local transients to hang out there? And or any new issues ?

Thank you,

Lance Taylor | Preparedness & Threat Mitigation Program Chief
Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services
Safety and Security
133 State Street, 1st Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-2101
802-272-3438
www.bgs.vermont.gov

If your concern is an emergency or requires immediate action, please call me or the BGS 24/7 Duty Phone at (802) 828-0777.