



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

June 2016

Westford Town Office
1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, Vermont 05494
Phone (802)878-4587 • Fax (802)879-6503
www.wstfordvt.us



Town Office Notes

Dogs

Dog licenses were due April 1st. If you have not licensed your dog(s) please do so before June 9th to avoid additional fees that may be assessed. Per State Statute a list of dogs that remain unlicensed as of June 9th will be turned over to the Selectboard and Dog Warden.

A current rabies certificate is required. If you are unsure if the current certificate is on file, please call the Town Office. For your convenience, you may mail or drop off the fee and rabies certificate along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will mail the license to you. The fee is \$17.00 unless your dog is spayed or neutered, in which case the fee is \$14.00.

With warmer weather, we want to remind you to please keep your dog(s) under control at all times either by voice command or restrained by a leash, fence or other appropriate apparatus. Please contact the Dog Warden (Diane Forsey 363-2545) for dog problems.

Senior Luncheons

The Senior Luncheon will be on June 13th at noon at the Red Brick Meeting House. This will be our last luncheon until September. We are taking group pictures this month. Please try to be there. All seniors 55+ are welcome. Join us for hotdogs and hamburgers. If you need a ride, please call me at 878-3090. Hope to see you there. Carol Howrigan, President

Friendly Reminders

- **Burn permits** are needed prior to any burning. Burn permits are available online (www.westfordvt.us), from the Fire Warden (Dennis Angiono, 879-1231) or from the Town Office during regular office hours.
- **Yard waste**, such as leaves, brush and topsoil are not considered household garbage. You can compost yard waste or bring it to a participating Chittenden Solid Waste drop off center. For a list of centers please visit www.cswd.net.
- **Metal items** can be put in the metal dumpster located at the town garage.
- **Hazardous waste materials** must be brought to a participating CSWD drop off center.
- **The Rover** will be accepting household hazardous waste in Westford **Saturday, July 16th, 9am-1pm** at the Town Garage. This is a free service sponsored by the Chittenden Solid Waste District.
-

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the July Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, June 27th.

2016 FARMERS' MARKET

The Farmers' Market will be held Mondays on the Town Common, 4pm -7pm
June 20th – September 19th

Vendor fee for the season is \$65 and day vendor fee is \$8.

Kid vendors are free!

If you have questions about being a vendor or are a musician and would like to perform during the Farmers' Market, please contact Laura Baum at laurabaum108@yahoo.com.

WESTFORD SCHOOL NEWS

News & Events

Fine Arts Night

The annual Fine Arts Night at Westford School was a success in celebrating creative minds! Every student at Westford displayed artwork. Live music by the guitar club filled the school along with instrumental pieces by various Westford band members. The Photo Club exhibit was spectacular, and Reader's Theater was enjoyed by all. The craft fair featured student made crafts alongside those of local professionals. This event is well attended by parents and the community and we welcome all in our mission to highlight the creativity of our students.

Safety Drill

The week of May 23rd, Westford School will practice our evacuation and relocation procedures. Students are well versed in evacuating the building, and during our May drill, we will walk through our relocation procedure to the White Church on Brookside Road. A relocation drill begins with an evacuation of the school and is followed by the movement of all students and staff to our relocation site by school bus. We anticipate the drill will take around 30 minutes.

Emergency services will also be at this drill to practice their communication efforts and operational plan. While the drill is occurring, the community may notice emergency responders and vehicles at the school. You may hear sirens and see emergency vehicles going to and from the school.

Please feel free to call us if you have any questions and thank you as always for your support with our safety procedures.

Upcoming Events

- 8th grade students visited Essex High School on May 17th.
- All current 7th grade students will attend Essex High School.
- The Music Spring Concert is Tuesday, May 24th.
- No School: Memorial Day May 30th.
- Kindergarten Orientation is Friday, June 3rd.
- End of the Year Picnic Lunch is Wednesday, June 8th.
- Step Up Day is Thursday, June 9th.
- 8th Grade Class Trip is Thursday, June 9th.
- K-4 Reader's Theater and Family Breakfast is Friday, June 10th.
- The 8th grade promotion ceremony is Monday, June 13th at 7:00pm.
- Last day of school is Monday, June 13th. Students are dismissed at noon.
- Preschool Open House is Tuesday, June 14th. Meet the 2016/17 preschool teacher.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

As the school year comes to a close, Westford teachers are reflecting on their instructional practices and professional goals. We use student data to inform our instruction throughout the school year. Students are demonstrating their learning through various end of the year assessments. These summative assessments provide a means to evaluate student progress and information in preparing for the next school year, such as informing individual student plans, identifying cohort needs, and prioritizing overall system needs. Summative assessments include SBAC, the state assessment for students in grades 3-8, Science NECAP for students in grades 4 and 8, and local literacy and math assessments grades K-8.

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

This past month saw two of your town officials hold a public meeting to share their research on different school land ownership concepts. Dave Adams (Selectboard) and myself worked in tandem to move the process forward and appreciated hearing from those in attendance. Prior to the meeting, introductory information and all concepts were posted to Front Porch Forum (see the FPF archives to view, will also be posted to the school board website).

The default action under unification is that school lands transfer to the new district. Should a school be closed in the future, the town has right of first refusal at the cost of \$1. This arrangement gets slightly more complicated if the town then chooses to sell the property within five years. In this case, they may be liable to repay school construction aid or outstanding bonds for capital improvements.

All concepts presented assumed action other than the above default.

Our core goal was to enable seamless transition with no change in usage to all users. The town's attorney's recommendations were all crafted to meet this stated priority. With a functioning preK-8 school, recreation fields, emergency shelter designation (and co-located equipment), a trail system, shared parking, and our largest public meeting space, the solution would have to encompass both legally binding easements as well as more fluid usage agreements. Easements perpetually guarantee town access to the emergency shelter and equipment, parking, trail access, and more. Usage agreements mimic the same method we already use to reserve the school facilities for public and private functions.

Many questions, opinions, and ideas were shared. I captured these questions as our to-do list as we continue our research. The list is shared at the end of this document. Please email Dave or myself any further questions that arise and I will include them in the documentation. Answers will be forthcoming as we work through the list.

Personally, I feel it is important to keep access and opportunity available at the school to all Westford citizens. The citizens that most utilize the school and its grounds are our town's children. It is with that focus that I feel we should ask the question again - what benefits or drawbacks does a given ownership arrangement present to students?

In our town-wide school visioning process, citizens were asked to describe their dream for education in Westford. They identified incorporation of nature and sustainability into the curriculum as their highest priority. The long term goal of moving to a "sustainability academy" model was imagined, heavily leveraging the natural resources surrounding the school. With our unified district, we have a chance of realizing this goal. Such a transformation could very well make Westford a desirable magnet school for the unified district. Investment in this model may be better facilitated if we chose a given ownership model. Even with our school's present model, what opportunities do we enable for children with each choice?

I do not think there is a right answer, to be quite honest. Each potential configuration has its pros and cons. My hope is that we answer the question with a student-centered mindset.

Respectfully,

Westford School Board

Mark Drapa, Christian Frennete, Martha Heath, Kim Phinney, Andre Roy

Questions captured from May 9th Joint School Land meeting:

1. Citizens voiced overwhelming support during the school visioning process to incorporate our natural resources into the learning process at Westford School, even going as far as suggesting the concept of creating a "sustainability academy". How do we provide opportunity for the new district to realize our vision and utilize this resource? Will the school have reciprocal easements on the town land? Do easements versus ownership limit the possible school programs?

2. One parcel restricted usage to educational and recreational activity. Will we continue to honor that request if the land changes ownership?
3. Firearm discharge is tightly regulated on school properties. Will we restrict firearms discharge on the land if it is town owned?
4. What model does Jericho use for its school, Mills Riverside Park, etc.? What does Essex do for the ball fields behind EMS?
5. Are reciprocal easements sufficient to realize the goals of access given that the property automatically reverts to the town in the case of school closure?
6. If there are trail easements through school district property, who is ultimately responsible for liability?
7. What is the cost to maintain the ball fields on Parcel 2?
8. What is the cost of maintaining liability/casualty insurance on Parcel 2? Parcel 3?
9. What is the outlook for viability of maintaining/operating a school building in Westford? How should we structure to be conservative?
10. If we were to leave ownership as is, are we able to streamline the process and still guarantee that all property is given to the town if the school closes?
11. Can the district restrict usage on a parcel that includes an easement?
12. What do we do about the deed restrictions on parcels 2 and 3?
13. Town/school ownership might need to consider forest management. Which is the better choice to enable this?

WESTFORD CEMETERY REMINDERS

Artificial flowers, glass containers and items with wire are NOT allowed in any of the Westford cemeteries. They will be removed by cemetery officials. Also the planting of trees and shrubs is NOT permitted. There are signs posted in each cemetery.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Westford Cemetery Commission, Brookside Cemetery Commission & Pleasant View Cemetery Association

ACT NOW TO SAVE OUR PUBLIC LAND
From the Planning Commission

The Westford School Board is deciding how much of the approximately 65 acres of Westford School District land to transfer to the new Regional Education District (RED) in 2017. Should all of the land be transferred, public access to our community playing fields and Town trails will no longer be controlled by Westford residents. The time to take action is now. This is our Town's land, donated, maintained and enjoyed by Westford residents. It belongs to Westford and should be transferred to our Town. Please contact your Westford School Board representative now and let them know that they should not give our public land away.

What we all consider to be "school property" on Brookside Road, actually consists of 3 separate parcels, which were donated to the Westford Town School District through 3 different deeds at 3 different times by Westford citizens. The 3 parcels together total approximately 79 contiguous acres. These are a 14 acre parcel where the school building, parking lots and play ground are located. A 15 acre parcel with playing fields and wooded area. A 50 acre parcel of forest and meadowland where Town trails are located.

With the above being understood, the Planning Commission believes that it will be much more beneficial to the citizens of Westford, in both the short and long term, if the Town owns the 15 acre and 50 acre parcels, rather than the new RED. We do not believe there is any need to spend taxpayer dollars to determine which property interest (ownership vs. leasing) best serves the taxpayers of Westford. On the contrary, we think the decision should be made to transfer the 15 and 50 acre parcels to the Town. The Town should then spend its time and resources determining how to create a mechanism whereby those lands will always remain available for use by the school and remain open and available for citizens of Westford.

In support of its position, the Planning Commission points to the following:

1. The residents of Westford have paid for the upkeep and maintenance of all school property through property taxes and volunteer efforts. It has been through the efforts of Westford residents and Westford tax dollars that these lands have been able to be utilized by many citizens for recreational purposes. It has always been the residents of this Town who have had control over the use and maintenance of these school properties.
2. The Town has no guarantee what the new RED will do, or not do with the school property in the future. It could encumber the parcels with liens, bonds or mortgages that would make it financially impossible for the Town to re-acquire in the future. It could also encumber the lands with additional restrictions and easements that would make it more difficult for Westford residents to access and use these properties. Our Town has no guarantee this brand new school district will manage these lands with the best interest of Westford residents in mind.
3. The 14 acre parcel, on which the school is located, is the only parcel that is required to be retained by the School District for transfer to the Regional Education District pursuant Vermont statutes. The Planning Commission advocates that this 14 acre parcel is all the property the new RED should receive to operate. RED ownership of the additional 65 acres should not effect its ability to provide quality educational services. It does not appear logical for the new RED to take on the additional responsibility of maintaining these extra lands for Westford's benefit. If ownership and management of these lands becomes a burden, the new RED board could conceivably limit, or restrict access and their use. Whereas under ownership of the Town of Westford, we are guaranteed these lands will always be available to our school children and residents. Town ownership will guarantee that these lands will continue to be utilized for educational and recreational purposes and not encumbered with financial liens, or restrictive easements.

4. Our Westford Town Plan, the vision document our Westford by-laws are based upon, clearly states the importance of Westford's recreation trails and public lands. Section 4.2.6 Recreation recognizes the importance of the school's existing trail network, maintained by Westford's Conservation Commission, as a focal point for school and public recreational activities. Section 9.1 Policy directs the Town "...to sustain the existing public trails system and promote its expansion for use by the public for recreational purposes..." Further more, Westford taxpayers have regularly approved tax spending to upgrade equipment necessary to maintain the school trails and recreational amenities.
5. Should the 15 acre parcel with our playing fields go with our 14 acre school parcel to the new RED the Town would lose its access from Brookside Road. Without this contiguous parcel the 50 acre parcel with our Town trails becomes land locked and the Town will lose its control to provide unrestricted public access for our community. Furthermore, the 14 acre and 15 acre parcels contain the only recreational fields located in Town, which are used consistently by the Town Recreational Department to host the Town's sports programs. Therefore, the Town should retain ownership of some portion of the recreational fields to ensure future access for Town recreational programs.

In conclusion it is the unanimous opinion of the Planning Commission that the Westford School Board transfer its ownership of the 15 acre and 50 acre parcels to the Town of Westford. It is only through ownership by the Town of Westford that we can guarantee these lands will continue to serve our community for public education and recreation activities, with access to all.

Please act now. Contact your Westford School Board representative and let them know how important it is for the Town of Westford to own these School District properties.

Sincerely,
The Westford Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm downstairs at the Town Offices. Meetings are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend. For more information on current projects, or to confirm meeting times and agenda visit: <https://westfordvt.us/boards/planning-commission/>

UNITED CHURCH OF WESTFORD SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 5, 8:30am – Traditional Worship Service officiated by Rev. Katherine Arthaud

No Sunday Services for the duration of June and the months of July and August. Sunday Services will resume after Labor Day Weekend, on Sept. 11th. The church **will remain open** all summer for weddings, funerals, food shelf and community functions as needed.

Rev. Katherine Arthaud is available for phone calls, visits, weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc. Call 802-233-8639 if you would like to speak with her for any reason. (or email: karthaud@aol.com)

During our 3 month suspension of Sunday Services, we ask for continued financial support of the church's operating expenses. Send checks to: UCW, PO Box 53, Westford, VT 05494. Thank you.

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY, JUNE 23.

Accepting Book Donations: Read on for times!

The Westford Public Library is accepting donations for our Annual Fourth of July Book Sale. We are doing things differently this year in hopes of bring you a better, more organized book sale. We will be accepting donations on the **2nd and 4th Saturday of June from 10am-Noon. Please, stick to these times only.** So that's **6/11, and 6/25 from 10am-Noon.** We are also limiting drop off of donations to **TWO BOXES PER PERSON PER VISIT.** We **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING:** VHS tapes, Cassettes, Music CDs, textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, and moldy or damaged books. Ask yourself "Would I lend this to a friend?" If the answer is no, then keep it out of the book sale.

We **WILL BE ACCEPTING:** books in good condition, hard covers, paperbacks, kids books, DVDs, and audiobooks.



If you have items that are not accepted here Goodwill and CSWD Drop off locations also accept books for sale and recycling.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE BOOK DROP FOR DONATIONS - IT DAMAGES THE LIBRARY BOOKS AND MAKES A BIG MESS! THANK YOU!

Thank you for your support of the Westford Public Library!



Westford Public Library's Fourth of July Book Sale 9am-1pm

Last Day to donate items: Sat. June 25
\$5 per bag of books!

Shop early and then come back for more!

Regular Library services will not be offered on the Fourth of July - we will be open 9-1 for the Book Sale only.

Helpers needed!

Book Sale Setup and Cleanup Volunteers Needed:

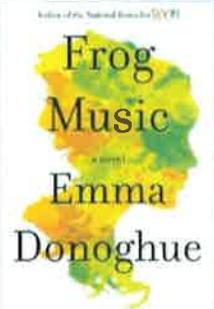
Setup: 7/2 or 7/3 TBD and Cleanup 7/4 starting at 1pm until it's done. All helpers get a FREE bag of books! Let Bree know if you can help!

Library Hours

Wednesday:	1-7pm
Thursday:	10am-7pm
Friday:	1-7pm
Saturday:	10am-2pm
CLOSED THURSDAY, JUNE 23	

There is no Adult Book Group in June
Our next meeting is
Wed. July 20
7:30-8:30pm
(note later time)
Pick up your books at the front desk!

We will be reading
Frog Music
by: Emma Donoghue



Summer of 1876: San Francisco is in the fierce grip of a record-breaking heat wave and a smallpox epidemic. Through the window of a railroad saloon, a young woman named Jenny Bonnet is shot dead. The survivor, her friend Blanche Beunon, is a French burlesque dancer. Over the next three days, she will risk everything to bring Jenny's murderer to justice--if he doesn't track her down first. The story Blanche struggles to piece together is one of free-love bohemians, desperate paupers, and arrogant millionaires; of jealous men, icy women, and damaged children. It's the secret life of Jenny herself, a notorious character who breaks the law every morning by getting dressed: a charmer as slippery as the frogs she hunts. In thrilling, cinematic style, FROG MUSIC digs up a long-forgotten, never-solved crime. Full of songs that migrated across the world, Emma Donoghue's lyrical tale of love and bloodshed among lowlifes captures the pulse of a boomtown like no other.
(from Amazon.com)

Early Literacy Storytime :Birth to Pre-School Every Thursday at 11am No registration required!

6/2/16: Theme: Sink or Float

6/9/16: Theme: Vehicles

*6/16/16: Theme: Father's Day

6/23/16: **NO STORYTIME - LIBRARY CLOSED**

*6/30/16: Theme: Jump on It!

Storytime consists of several stories around a theme, as well as a theme-based craft. All ages and levels of attention are encouraged to come. Don't worry if they fidget - they are still getting a lot out of it!

The WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY provides access to materials, technology, reference services and programs to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Westford community.

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639 ♦ westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

June Library Events

June 1 - 1st and 2nd graders visit to get their library cards!

June 1 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm

June 8 - 1st and 2nd graders visit to get their library cards!

June 11 - Donation drop off for Fourth of July Book sale 10am-Noon

June 15 - Start of the Summer Reading Program - come in and sign up!

June 23 - LIBRARY CLOSED

June 25 - Donation drop off for Fourth of July Book sale 10am-Noon

June 26 - Concert on the Common: The Front Porch Foursome 7-8pm

Storytime every Thursday 11am
The will be a substitute librarian June 15-June 29. New library cards and inter-library loans can not be done during that time. Thank you!

FREE SUMMER FUN!

Passes are available for a 3 day check out
Passes may not be reserved - passes are on a first come first served basis.

- Vermont State Parks - day use (2 passes)
- Vermont Historic Sites
- Shelburne Farms (2 passes)
- Shelburne Museum
- ECHO Center (2 passes) (\$4/person)
- Birds of Vermont Museum
- American Precision Museum (Winsor, VT)

Warmer Weather Brings People and WiFi to the Common!

The Westford Public Library is once again proud to offer WiFi throughout most of the Common. We will be boosting our WiFi signal to cover the Common thanks to a grant from the Vermont Council on Rural Development and their Digital Economy Project. Also, a special thank you to Westford resident, Jeremy Berger, for his key role in helping with this project. **WiFi is free and open to all - please use it responsibly. WiFi is available 24/7 (except during power outages). Contact the library if you are having connection problems.**



Congratulations to the First Graders at Westford Elementary School for getting their library cards!

Library cards do expire every two years- so if you have a 3rd grader, their card is about to expire. 4th graders and up who have not renewed their cards may not be in the system. Parent permission is needed to get or renew a card. Update your card so you can read all summer long!



On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE IN THE WESTFORD TOWN NEWSLETTER AND ON OUR WEBSITE
WESTFORDPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

The Building Bright Futures Playgroup does not meet at the library during the summer. For summer info, contact Danielle Brown at bbfwestford@gmail.com

There is also no CVAA Tai Chi at the Library during the summer. The class will hopefully return in the Fall.

The Library is accepting donations of books, audiobooks, and DVDs at this time for our annual Fourth of July Book Sale. We will begin accepting donations on the second and fourth Saturdays of April, May and June from 10am-Noon. Please drop off donations during those times ONLY. Thank you to community for supporting our annual Fourth of July Book Sale.

The WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY provides access to materials, technology, reference services and programs to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Westford community.



Raffles and Prizes Everyone receives a \$5 gift card to Spare Time and a water bottle!

Summer Reading at a Glance

- June 15 - Registration for SRP begins
- June 23 - LIBRARY CLOSED
- June 26 - Concert on the Common: The Front Porch Foursome 7-8pm
- July 1 - Float Building 3-6pm (Last day to sign up to ride the float)
- July 4 - Book Sale 9am-1pm
- *July 4 - Parade 11am - meet at 10:30am
- July 6 - Art in Action w/MC Baker: Body Art Mural 4:30-6pm
- *July 7 - Read to Reese 5:30-6:30pm
- July 8 - Kick Off event: Big Blue Trunk on the Common 5-7pm
- July 13 - Sports Exploratory: Biathlon 5:00-6:30pm
- July 14 - Ready, Set, Cook! 7-8:30pm
- July 15 - DIY Pinwheels 4:30-6pm
- July 16 - DIY Pinwheels 10:30-Noon
- July 20 - Sports Exploratory: Dog Sledding 6:00-7:30pm
- *July 21 - Read to Reese 5:30-6:30pm
- July 22 - Obstacle Course on the Common 4:30-6pm, also DIY Boomerangs
- July 23 - DIY Boomerangs 10:30-Noon
- July 24 - Concert on the Common: The Starline Rhythm Boys 7-8pm
- July 27 - Sports Exploratory: Fencing 4:30-6pm
- *July 28 - Read to Reese 5:30-6:30pm
- July 29 - Art in Action w/MC Baker: Wire Sculptures 4:30-6pm
- July 30 - Ready, Set, Roar! Dinosaur crafts and story time 10:30am
- August 3 - Sports Exploratory: Tai Chi and Yoga 5-6pm
- August 4 - Ready, Set, Cook! 7-8:30pm
- August 5 - Deconstruction Day 4-6pm
- August 6 - Super Sand Art 10:30-Noon
- *August 10 - Sports Exploratory: Archery 5:30-6:30pm
- August 12 - Ice Cream Party and Raffle drawing 4:30-6pm
- *August 18 - Read to Reese 5:30-6:30pm
- August 19 - Art in Action w/MC Baker: Book Mark making project 4:30-6pm

Storytime every Thursday at 11am
All events marked (*) require pre-registration



On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!
@
Westford Public Library!
June 15-August 12



Kid's Raffle (0-8years old)
Raffle tickets given for coming to Library events and for every ten books recorded on reading log!
Prizes: Essex Cinemas, Turner Toy and Hobby, T-shirts, and lots more!

Tween Raffle (9-12 years old)
Raffle tickets given for coming to Library events and for every three books recorded on your reading log!
Prizes: Essex Cinemas, T-shirts, and more!

Teen Raffle (13-18 years old)
Raffle tickets given for coming to Library events and for every book read.
Prizes: Essex Cinemas, \$25 UMail gift card, City Market gift basket

Adult Raffle (19 and older)
Raffle tickets given for every book read during the summer.
Prize: \$25 City Market gift card

Westford Public Library
Hours: Wed 1-7, Th 10-7, Fr 1-7, Sat 10-2
Phone: 878-5639
www.westfordpubliclibrary.org
westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com
Bree Drapa, Librarian

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET... READ!

July 15 (4:30-6pm) and July 16 (10:30-Noon) - DIY Pinwheels Stop by anytime and make colorful pinwheels of your very own. Great for running around the yard and showing off to your friends!

July 20 - Sports: Exploratory - Dog Sledding - 6-7:30pm Maybe you've seen them running the roads of Westford pulling an ATV? Come see these Alaskan and Siberian Huskies in action. There's no snow, but there's still plenty to see, as owner Barb Shenton explains the training involved in this sport - plus you can pet the dogs!

July 22 Obstacle Course on the Common 4:30-6pm Race to the finish with super coach, Danielle Vierling. Lots of obstacles and other physical challenges await you on the Common. Afterwards, you can make a DIY boomerang to take home.

July 23 - DIY Boomerangs 10:30-Noon Stop by to make your own boomerang, a popular sport in Australia.

July 27 - Sports Exploratory - Fencing 4:30-6pm Join former Olympian, Dale Rodgers, as he teaches us about the sport of fencing. Learn, explore, and *en garde!*

July 29 - Art in Action w/MC Baker - Wire Sculptures 4:30-6pm Using metal wire and colorful plastic coated wire, MC Baker will help artists create a wire figure. Will you be a dancer, an acrobat, a soccer player? Only you can decide! This project will take the whole time.

July 30 - Ready, Set, Roar!: Dinosaur crafts and stories 10:30-Noon. Come by for an informal dinosaur story time and crafts. We'll do scratch art, paint dinosaurs, and have lots of dino stories on hand.

August 3 - Sports Exploratory: Tai Chi and Yoga 5-6pm Inspired by the book, *A Morning with Grandpa*, come learn about the quiet martial art of Tai Chi and the flowing art of yoga. We will read the story and then practice both sports.



Read to Reese: Thursdays 5:30-6:30

Reese is learning to be a therapy dog, just like you're learning to read! Along with his human partner, Jenny, Reese appreciates even the most reluctant reader. Entering first graders through fourth graders. Pre-registration is required. Sign up for a 15 minute slot.



7/7
7/21
7/28
8/18

Visit the library beginning June 15 to sign up for the Summer Reading Program! List the books you read (or your family reads) on your reading log, come to programs and be eligible for prizes at the Ice Cream Party (8/12). **New this year: Everyone who turns in a reading log gets a \$5 gift card to Spare Time and a water bottle!**

Find the Trophy! Find the trophy and win a prize! Visit weekly as the trophy makes its way throughout the library.

Children 9+ may attend all these events without an adult, younger children need to bring an adult. For more information see the Library's Unattended Minor Policy and Behavior Guidelines.

Summer Reading Program Events

July 1 - Float Building 3-6pm Help create our **WINNING float! Sign up at the library required to ride the float by this date.** Ages 6 and up are welcome to ride the float and goodie bags will be given to all riders. You do not need to attend this event to ride the float.

July 4 - Parade and Library Book Sale Meet at the Town Garage at 10:30am, parade at 11am. **All riders need to have signed a Summer Reading Program permission slip.** Library Book Sale 9am-1pm (\$5 per bag)

July 6 - Art in Action w/MC Baker - Body Art Mural 4:30-6pm Help us make some colorful art to decorate the library this summer. Art expert, MC Baker, will trace body parts and we'll use paint to make an interactive community mural.

July 8 - Kick Off Event: The Big Blue Trunk 5-7pm Big fun for the whole family. Interactive games, huge stunts, obstacles - you name it - it's in the trunk. Come for a couple of hours of rip, roarin' fun on the Common. Brought to you by a grant from the Vermont Department of Libraries.

July 13 - Sports Exploratory: Biathlon 5-6:30pm Join Max Cobb, a part of the US Biathlon team, as he talks about what biathlon is and even let's us try it out with some laser rifles (completely safe!).

July 14 - Ready, Set, Cook! Energy Snacks 7-8:30pm We will make and try several recipes. Ideal for tweens/teens. **Sponsored by Sweet Clover Market**

August 4 - Ready, Set, Cook! Energy Snacks 7-8:30pm We will make and try several recipes. Ideal for tweens/teens. **Sponsored by Sweet Clover Market**

August 5 - Deconstruction Day 4-6pm We will take apart and learn what makes common objects work. Great for any age, especially those who like to take things apart.

August 6 - Super Sand Art 10:30-Noon Stop by anytime to make a super hero picture out of sand.

August 10 - Sports Exploratory - Archery 5:30-6:30pm **Pre-registration required - limited to first 15 kids ages 7 and up** Pelkey's Archery will be here to teach us all about archery, including a chance to shoot real bows and arrows. All welcome to watch, must be old enough and registered to shoot.

August 12 - End of the Summer Reading Program Ice Cream Party and Raffle Drawing 4:30-6pm Who doesn't love ice cream? And prizes? Help yourself to a sundae feast, and give yourself one more chance at a raffle ticket! We will pass out certificates and do all drawings (kids, tween, teen, and adult). You do not need to be present to win.

August 19 - Art in Action w/MC Baker 4:30-6pm We will be making bookmarks out of the mural we made at the beginning of the summer. Take a piece of summer reading home with you to enjoy all year long.



Be a Mathlete!
Add a little math to your summer with Bedtime Math's Summer of Numbers Pick up a math log and get started!
Math will never be the same!



Ready, Set, Storytime! Thursdays 11am
 For ages birth - six.
 6/16: Father's Day
 6/23 - LIBRARY
 CLOSED - NO Storytime
 6/30: Jump on It!
 7/7: Old Time Games
 7/14: Int'l Games
 7/21: Race Cars
 7/28: Water Play
 8/4: The Olympics
 8/11: Soccer Stories

State of Vermont
Department of Libraries
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609--0601

Tel: 802-828-3261
Fax: 802-828-2199

Agency of Administration

Contact:

Tess Adone, Executive Assistant to the State Librarian
tess.adone@vermont.gov
802-828-3266

**Vermont Department of Libraries to Hold Press Conference
with Governor Peter Shumlin
Free Early Childhood STEM Literacy at Vermont Libraries**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 20, 2016



Montpelier, Vermont – The [Vermont Department of Libraries](#) has received a National Leadership Grant for Libraries from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to inaugurate the Vermont Early Literacy Initiative in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in partnership with the [Vermont Center for the Book](#) at [25 rural Vermont libraries](#) for implementation with 3- to 7-year olds, parents, child care providers, and key community stakeholders.

A press conference with Governor Peter Shumlin, State Librarian Martha Reid, and Vermont Center for the Book Associate Director Wendy Martin will be held on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at 10:30 in Vermont State House Room 11.

The VELI-STEM grant will provide in-depth professional development implementation to librarians for three years. Results of the training will be used to create a replicable national model for rural libraries to systematically deliver effective and sustainable early literacy STEM practices and projects, as well as to create a STEM Clearinghouse of Resources.

Grant reviewers said the project has a high probability of having impact at both the local and national levels and positively noted the support of Governor Peter Shumlin, Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Bernard Sanders, and Representative Peter Welch.

Please note that parking is limited near the State House when the legislature is in session. Information is available with [directions to the State House](#), the [free Capital Shuttle schedule](#) for parking options besides metered spaces, and a [map of the area around the State House](#). ADA access to the State House is in the rear of the building via Governor Aiken Drive through a secure gate.



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (Leadership Grant LG-80-15-0012-15). The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. Its mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Its grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.imls.gov.

Westford Recreation Department

Mission Statement:

The Westford Recreation Department was created to provide recreational, educational, athletic, cultural, and entertainment activities to all Westford residents and neighbors. We strive to offer programs for a wide variety of ages, abilities and interests. We depend on community input, support and volunteers to make these programs successful.

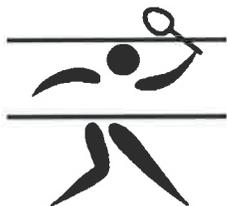
Summer Soccer

Grades PreK - 2

Mondays beginning July 11th
6:00pm - 7:00pm
\$25/Player for 6 Weeks * WES



Pickleball



Pickleball will be coming to Westford!

Jim and Deb Olsen would like to stage a demonstration and give people an opportunity to try the game!

Stay tuned for details on our facebook page, fpf, or our website.

Paint and Sip

Join us for a night of painting with Instructor Danielle Berg
Ages: 18+ * All Abilities Welcome * Location: RBMH * Fee: \$25
Minimum: 8 * Maximum: 20

Lemonade and Iced Tea will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own liquids for sipping.

Supplies Provided.

What will you be painting? That is for you to vote on. Below you will find 3 options. We are asking that you note which option you are interested in when you register. The option with the most registrations will be the painting selected for the evening.

Option 1

Here comes the sun! In this painting class you will learn basic color mixing techniques and gain an understanding of various color relationships.



Option 2

Tulip Palooza!
Celebrate spring with this floral painting. Learn painting basics, sip on your favorite libation, relax and have fun!



Option 3

Welcome to the country. This paint and sip will focus on loosening up your painting style and trying something new. We will learn about complimentary colors and painting with a palette knife.



Family Summer Geocaching Challenge!

Coming June 1st!

We have hidden 5 Caches along the Westford Trails...
Each contain a stamp, a pen, and a guest book...
We challenge you to find all 5 by August 31st!



Here's how it works:

- Pick up a booklet at the Town Office

It will contain information about each of the trails the caches are hidden on as well as the gps location of each of the boxes.

Feel free to use whatever app/device you are comfortable with to track down the boxes.

If you choose not to use a device, that is okay too!

- Once you find a box, sign the guest book and stamp your booklet.
- Once you have found all 5, return the back page of your booklet to the Town Office for a small gift.

If you have any questions or want more information, please email WestfordVTRec@gmail.com.

Thank you to the Westford Conservation Commission for their support in this endeavor!



Discount Attraction Tickets Available Now!

ArborTrek TreeTop Obstacle Course/Climbing Adventure \$47 (\$13 discount)

ArborTrek Climbing Adventure Only \$15 (\$5 discount)

Bromley Adventure Center \$33 (\$12 discount for 48"+)

Great Escape (Good Any Day) \$41 (\$17.99 discount for 48"+ / \$5.99 discount for under 48")

Great Escape Parking Pass \$18 (\$2 discount)

Killington Adventure Center \$35 (\$34 discount age 14+ / \$24 discount ages 7-13)

Killington Mtn Bike Trail and Lift Tickets \$29 (\$23 discount ages 14+ / \$10 discount ages 7-13)

Killington Mtn Bike Trail, Lift and Bike Rental Package \$101 (\$49 discount ages 14+ / \$12 ages 7-13)

Six Flags New England \$41 (\$17.99 discount 48"+ / \$5.99 discount under 48")

Westford Recreation Summer Camps

Mission Statement: The Westford Recreation Department was created to provide recreational, educational, athletic, cultural, and entertainment activities to all Westford residents and neighbors. We strive to offer programs for a wide variety of ages, abilities and interests. We depend on community input, support and volunteers to make these programs successful.

American Revolution

June 27 - July 1 * 8:30am - 4:30pm
Grades 1 - 3 * RBMH * \$175/Child
Just in time for 4th of July!



Participants will explore the time period surrounding the signing of the Declaration of Independence through active games, hands on activities, cooking, and crafts.
Participants are invited to march in the 4th of July parade with the Westford Recreation Department.

Soccer Camp

August 1 - August 5
Grades 3 - 5 * WES
\$55 each session / \$100 for both



Session A 8:30am - 12:30pm * Coach Joe Aiken is back! Practice your soccer skills in a fun way.

12:30pm - 1:00pm Please pack a bag lunch for children staying all day.

Session B 1:00pm - 4:30pm * Sports exploration.

This summer we are offering two sessions per day. The morning session will be spent working on soccer skills and scrimmaging. The afternoon session will be more laid back and offer a variety of sports and physical activities.



Cycles and Circles

July 11 - July 15 * 8:30am - 4:30pm
Ages 6 - 12 * WES * \$175/Child

Let's follow a drop of water. Find the eggs of baby bugs and seeds that will become mighty trees.
Investigate the life cycles that surround the Westford School.

Art Adventures

July 18 - July 22 * 8:30am - 4:30pm
Ages 6 - 12 * WES * \$195/Child

Have you ever painted with a flower or tie-dyed with beets? Explore different out-of-the-box ways to create.



Vikings!

August 8 - August 12 * 8:30am - 4:30pm
Grades 1 - 3 * RBMH * \$175/Child



Want to know more about these Norse explorers? This is the camp for you! Participants will explore the time period surrounding the Viking explorations through active games, hands on activities, cooking, and crafts.

Westford Explorers

July 25 - July 29 * 8:30am - 4:30pm
Ages 6 - 12 * RBMH * \$175/Child

Using the Red Brick Meetinghouse as home base, we will discover the historical and modern town of Westford.

Who built the covered bridge?
Who keeps the town running?
What can you do to help your town?



Registration Deadline: June 1st.

Recreation Department Committee Members

Bekah Gwozdz, Coordinator	662-1042	Danielle Vierling	871-9404
Maureen Carpenter	893-5096	Jeff LaBossiere	
Martha Bennett	878-9269	Meredith Irish	373-9980
Greg Baker	324-5537	Email: WestfordVTRec@gmail.com	

Westford Recreation Department—Registration Form

NAME (Parents) _____

ADDRESS _____ TOWN _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (only to be used for WRD mailings) _____

HOME PHONE _____ ALT PHONE _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PHONE _____

DOCTOR'S NAME _____ PHONE _____

Please list medical conditions, physical limitations, allergies, or restrictions WRD should be aware of: _____

Name	Grade	Program	Fee
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
Total Fee:			_____

Would you be willing to coach or be a parent helper? Yes No

I agree that Westford Recreation may use photographs of registrants with or without their name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

*****Please contact a Recreation Department member if your financial situation is preventing you from signing yourself, or your child, up for a program. Scholarships are available.*****

RELEASE/WAVIER AGREEMENT:

I am fully aware of the inherent risk, and give my consent for the above named applicant(s) to participate in the program(s) listed above. I hold harmless the Town of Westford, Westford School, their employees, elected officials, and/or any volunteers or instructors from any and all liability from any injury, claim, costs or loss of services which may be incurred by me, or us, or our minor children on account of participation in said program(s). Permission is hereby granted for me or us, or my child(ren) to receive emergency treatment if needed and I authorize the attending physician to administer any needed medical attention. Furthermore, I certify that I, or we, or my child(ren) are in good health and that there are no limitations to my/our participation except in writing above. I have read this document carefully and sign it voluntarily with full knowledge of its significance.

Signature _____ Date _____

Send registration with check payable to:
WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT
 Town of Westford, 1713 VT Rt.128, Westford, VT 05494



Westford Summer Concert Series

On the Common

Free Sunday Concerts
Bring Blanket or Lawn Chair

Co Sponsored By:
Westford Library
Westford Recreation Department
Committee for Westford Children and Families

June 26th

7pm - 8pm

Rain Location: WES Gym

The Front Porch Foursome

contemporary folk music covers ranging from the likes of Brandi Carlile, The Wallin Jenny's, and Nickel Creek to Bob Dylan and Simon and Garfunkel.



July 24th

7pm - 8pm

Rain Location: RBMH

Starline Rhythm Boys

Spirited country and juke joint sounds, echoing from the Tennessee Hills and Texas Honkytonks of the '40s and '50s



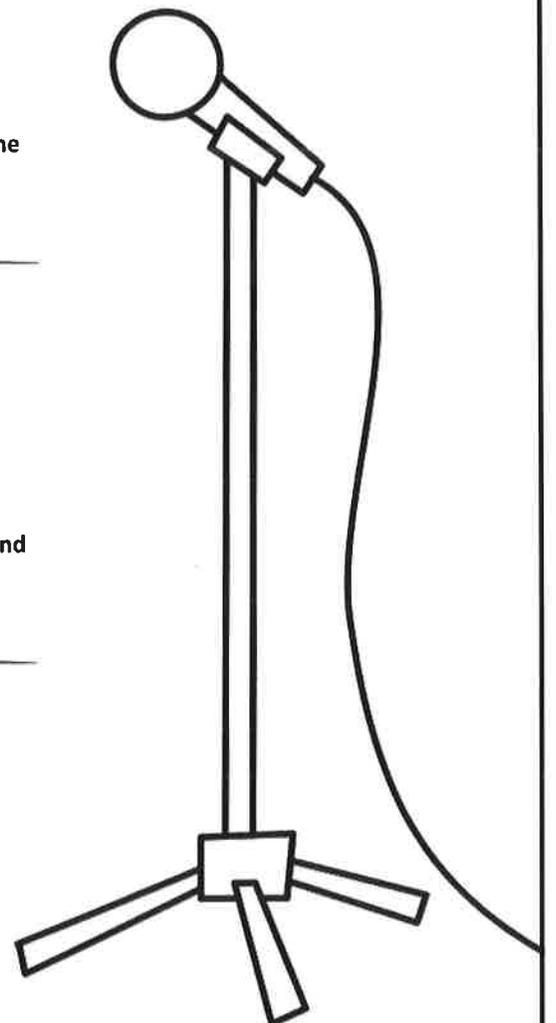
August 21st

7pm - 9pm

Rain Location: RBMH

Red Hot Juba

Blisterin' hot countrified jazz and Green Mountain swing





Westford Common

Parade, Fun, Food

11:00am - 1:30pm

Monday, July 4th



Parade line up 10:30am @ Town Garage

Parade Starts at 11:00am

Library Book Sale

Old Fashioned Relay Races

If you would like to participate in the parade, host a booth on the common or would like more information, please contact westfordvtrec@gmail.com or

call (802)662-1042.

