



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

January 2023



The Fisher is a large mustelid native to North America. Despite their name, they do not eat fish, eating mostly snowshoe hare and porcupines. They are most active at dawn and dusk and prefer forested areas, being competent climbers.

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

Phone: (802)878-4587 Fax: (802)879-6503

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

FY'24 Budget Informational Meeting

Curious what the Selectboard has planned for the FY'24 town budget? The Selectboard invites you to attend an informational meeting where they will present the draft FY'24 town budget. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 12th at the town office with a Zoom option. The draft budget will be an item on their regular meeting agenda. It is anticipated that discussion of the budget will begin around 7pm. This is an excellent opportunity for you to provide feedback prior to the Selectboard finalizing the budget that you will be voting on in March 2023.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the February Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, January 23rd.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open:

- Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4pm
- Friday, 8:30am-1pm

The office is **CLOSED**:

- January 2 – Closed for Holiday

Mask wearing is not required but can be worn by choice based on your personal circumstances. Thank You!

Senior Luncheon

The Westford Seniors gathered on 12/12 for a wonderful holiday meal followed by a holiday sing-a-long with Linda Martin. It was quite fun! The cards and cookies send in by the Westford Girl Scouts were a special treat and much appreciated. THANK YOU!

The PTO Craft Fair we participated in was quite successful. Thank you to all who donated.

Please join us at the RBMH on January 9th as we welcome in 2023 with a potluck meal. As always, doors open at 11:30 and lunch will be served at 12 noon. Following the meal, we will have a local resident come in and give a presentation on how to put together an "emergency go bag".

Just a reminder, if school is cancelled, so is the luncheon. Any questions, please reach out. Happy New Year!

Co-Presidents Mary Fay (802-878-1215) and Cori Hill (802-878-7415)



WINTER ROADS

What you need to know about winter road conditions

- **Plowing:** begins when the snow has accumulated 2-3 inches. Each plow route takes the road crew about 4 hours to complete.
- **Sand:** applied to all gravel roads. Some particles may be large enough to cause windshield damage. Use caution and avoid following other vehicles closely.
- **Mailboxes:** Westford does NOT repair or replace mailboxes damaged by the plow.
- **Plowing Across Town Roads:** plowing snow from driveways across town roads is prohibited.

Read the full Winter Road Policy here: <https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Winter-Road-Policy.pdf>

Reminders:

- Each winter storm is different, roads may be icy and sand may be loose. Drive slow and know what your vehicle is capable of.
- Watch for walkers and wildlife. It will be more difficult to see pedestrians and recreational users of roads this time of year due to snowbanks. Walkers, bikers and other users can do their part by wearing bright, reflective clothing.
- Some VAST trails cross Westford Roads. Know where the trails are and watch for crossing snowmobiles. You can find a list of VAST trails here: <https://vtvast.org/trails.html>
- Several hunting seasons occur during early winter. Watch for vehicles parked on the side of roads for hunting access. Pedestrians & pets should wear orange/yellow reflective clothing during hunting seasons to help ensure they are seen. You can find a list of VT hunting seasons here: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/hunt/hunting-and-trapping-seasons>

Project Timeline Westford's ARPA Committee Process



The ARPA Committee has concluded its work and made its recommendations to the Select Board. Based on those recommendations, the Select Board was able to fully or partially fund all projects that made it through the second round of proposal applications. We appreciated the Select Board's leadership and willingness to listen to our advice on these matters. Work will continue for those groups that received funding – executing their projects and working with town administration to achieve fiscal compliance. To keep up with all things ARPA – see <https://westfordvt.us/arpa-american-rescue-plan-act-information/>

The ARPA Committee would like to thank all groups that submitted proposals – the level of passion and professionalism was evident. We would also like to thank the Westford Community for its patience and space as we tried to navigate a system that did not exist. At times, we felt like we were sailing a boat while building it. Sincerely, Dave Baczewski, Chair, Greg Barrows, Treasurer, Bree Drapa, Martha Heath, Bill Hill, George Lamphere and Nanette Rogers



WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ACTIVE HUNTING

HUNTING IS A PERMITTED ACTIVITY IN THE MAPLE SHADE TOWN FOREST. HUNTING OF ANY SPECIES IS PERMITTED DURING DEER AND TURKEY SEASONS, WHICH ARE IN EFFECT NOW THROUGH SPRING 2023.

TAKE PRECAUTIONS: WEAR ORANGE, LEASH DOGS

SCHOOL TRAILS WINTER USE: In an effort to accommodate everyone, so we can all enjoy the trails, please consider the following:

- These are public trails. They are for everyone.
- **Walkers/Snowshoers – Please walk on the groomed trail on the opposite side of the ski track (the indented tracks that look like skis fit in them) set for cross-country skiers. If there are no x-country tracks set, walkers please try to stay to one side of the groomed trail so the other side can be set for x-country tracks.**
- Everyone needs to be aware of other people on the trail. Let's stay safe!
- Fairfax Elementary will be hosting a multi-school cross-country event on Saturday, February 4, 2023 on the Misty Meadows (school) Trails. Be aware that some trails will be in use by the racers on that day. Come cheer them on!

MAPLE SHADE TRAILS: Once again, Evan Aiken will be doing some forestry work according to the Long-Term Management Plan of the Maple Shade Town Forest. Please heed trail closure signs. Come learn all about this micro-project with Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper at Westford's Winterfest in February. Stay tuned for details!

TRAILS: Please let us know if you see downed trees or other required maintenance to any of the trails. We're happy to go out and clean things up!

DONATIONS!: **'Tis the season of giving!** The WCC is funded in part by donations. If you appreciate our efforts, and would like to help fund our work, please send a donation to:

Westford Conservation Commission
1713 Vt. Rte. 128
Westford, VT 05494.

Thank you!

The next Westford Conservation Commission Meeting will be Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the town office.

WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Email westfordcc@googlegroups.com

FOREST MANAGEMENT AT THE WESTFORD TOWN LANDS

Hi all,

This fall and winter, we will be continuing the forest management of both the Maple Shade Town Forest (MSTF, AKA “Jackson Farm”) and the Misty Meadows Trails and Forest (MMTF, AKA “School Forest”), the parcels that we collectively call the Westford Town Lands. Here’s some more information about these projects.

FOREST MANAGEMENT AT THE MAPLE SHADE TOWN FOREST:

Last winter we were able to get some great work done at MSTF, as well as to do some excellent education and outreach and to generate some revenue which was used in part to fund trail improvements and trail resilience. As with last year, this winter (beginning when the ground freezes in December or January) we will continue working with Evan Aiken to continue to improve the health, resilience and wildlife habitat of the MSTF while demonstrating responsible forest management in an open, transparent and inclusive way. Most trails at the MSTF will remain open, but please follow trail closure signage and be aware that heavy equipment will be using the main entrance to the Maple Shade Town Forest, so use caution when entering.

To learn more about the work at the MSTF or to stay apprised of what’s going on this winter you can watch videos on the Westford Town Lands playlist on the Chittenden County Forester’s YouTube page, here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yhdw7xdm>

or stay tuned for public walks and other educational opportunities by signing up for the Chittenden County Forester’s email list, here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8bcet7>

PRE-COMMERCIAL FOREST MANAGEMENT AT THE MISTY MEADOWS TRAILS & FOREST

I was able to acquire some funding from the Vermont Dept. of Fish and Wildlife’s Habitat Stamp program to continue the pre-commercial forest management at the MMTF with the forestry program at the Center for Technology at Essex High School – this work will probably happen in spring 2023. Like last year, this work will consist of felling small and unhealthy trees to improve the growth of the healthiest trees in the area behind the Westford School. An additional goal for this project was to add dead wood to the forest floor to promote improved habitat, hydrology, and carbon storage and to create a “messier,” more complex forest. As at Maple Shade, please obey trail closure signage!

You can find a video about this project on the Chittenden County Forester’s YouTube page, here:

<https://youtu.be/LUVXQ0EOzvM>

All this forest management work is exciting but can also be confusing and jarring. Understanding the role that forest management plays in our world is extremely nuanced and complex. As a result I’ve been working with Westford and with other Town Forests to provide tons of educational opportunities and resources for folks to learn more – you can visit my YouTube Channel, read an archive of my monthly columns and learn more about some of the other projects that I’ve been working on, all at my LinkTree: <https://linktr.ee/ChittendenCountyForester>

I hope to see you all at the Westford Town Lands this winter!!

Best,

Ethan Tapper, Chittenden County Forester

Ethan.Tapper@Vermont.gov





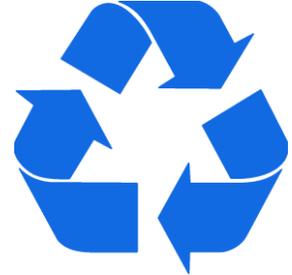
TRASH, RECYCLING & FOOD SCRAPS IN WESTFORD

Can I Recycle That?

Did you know that you are not supposed to put your recycling in plastic bags of any kind? The only exception to this is shredded office paper, which is accepted only if it's in a CLEAR BAG that's tightly closed.

Here are some other items that do NOT belong in your recycling bin:

- Dirty containers
- Plastic wrap
- Durable plastic (e.g., Tupperware, laundry bins, etc.)
- Styrofoam
- Motor oil or hazardous waste containers



For more information on the proper way to recycle, please visit <https://cswd.net/recycling/>. There is even an interesting video of a tour of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where your recycling goes to be sorted.

Food Scraps *(Effective July 1, 2020, per Act 148, food scraps are banned from landfills.)*

What are food scraps?

Food scraps are parts of food that are typically discarded rather than eaten: peels, rinds, cores, eggshells, seeds, pits, bones, shells, coffee grounds and filters, loose-leaf tea, and fats/oils/grease. Food scraps is also food that was eaten but not finished: "plate scraps" or leftovers that went bad. Any type of food can become food scraps including bread, pasta, soup, vegetables, fruit, sauces, meat, fish, dairy, sweets, etc.

What should I do with meat and bones?

If you compost in your yard, the law allows you to put meat and bones in the trash, so they don't attract animals to your composting bin. If you chose to bring food scraps to a drop-off center, you can include meat and bones with the rest of your food scraps.

CSWD has an abundance of information on their website including answers to questions, ways to reduce waste and how to compost to name a few. Please go to <https://cswd.net/scrapfoodwaste/> or call **872-8111** to get more information.

SEASONAL COMPOSTING TIPS: Winter

- Leaves and grass clippings are valuable compost materials because they are carbon rich. Add them in small batches to avoid matting (too many leaves clump together and slow down the compost process)
- Cover your pile or use an enclosed composter to keep things moist but not sodden. This will also deter pests like bears, raccoons, and mice.
- Other items that can go in your compost this time of year include wood ash and the skeletons of annual flowers & plants. Break down large-bodied plants like tomatoes and broccoli before adding them to your pile.
- Store compost material like leaves & grass in a burlap sack near your pile for adding with food scraps.

How to make compost fast: <https://thisismygarden.com/2018/07/summer-compost-pile/>

STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR HAULER

Myers has now set up a Facebook page for Westford specific trash & recycling communications! You can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/Town-of-Westford-Waste-104918838111423>.

MUNICIPAL JOB OPENINGS

FULL TIME ROAD CREW MEMBER

The Town of Westford is seeking qualified applicants for a full time Road Crew position with benefits. This position involves skilled and unskilled labor tasks and the knowledge and operation of highway equipment for maintenance and repair of town roads.

Requirements: valid Vermont CDL Class B license; good driving record; experience operating various highway equipment; willingness to work long hours, especially during winter months; ability to maintain logs; participate in random drug/alcohol testing; possess physical strength, agility, endurance, and mental ability to concentrate, mechanical abilities and good communication skills. Must pass pre-employment physical exam and drug test. A full job description can be viewed at <https://westfordvt.us/administration/highway-department/>.

For consideration, please submit resume, references and employment application (found at <https://westfordvt.us/administration/highway-department/>) to: Town of Westford, Attn: Nanette Rogers, 1713 VT Route 128, Westford, VT 05494.

For more information, contact Nanette Rogers (Town Administrator) at 802-878-4587 or townadmin@westfordvt.us. Position open until filled. Westford is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Our small, but dedicated, Westford Historical Society is deeply appreciative to have received a very generous ARPA fund allotment from the Town Selectboard. These funds will go a long way towards the completion of our new building, as well as signage, landscaping, a security system, restoration and mounting of Westford's Town Hall curtain, future speakers, and more.

We are especially grateful for the long hours and hard work everyone put into this project/proposal. We wish to thank the entire ARPA committee members, the town Selectboard, and a special shout out to Nanette Rogers and Bill Hill, our ARPA Committee Phase I and II facilitators.

We are thrilled to be able to move forward in the near future. Thank you one and all.

Beth Menut, Westford Historical Society



WESTFORD COMMON HALL

2023

Thank you to all who purchased a Mitten or SnowPal!

Our winter fundraiser came to an end and we love seeing all of your creations pop up over town! We raised almost \$1200 and have decided to earmark the funds towards plaster restoration of our interior walls.

A HUGE thank you goes to Jenny & Ross Hughes and Eliza & George Lamphere for bringing back the fundraiser and for cutting out all the mittens and snowpals! We are so grateful for you four!



Exciting news! The town of Westford has granted the WCH one-time ARPA funding to replace our ancient furnace with heat pumps; a cleaner, greener more cost-efficient heating system. The furnace has been a source of worry for many years and we are so fortunate to be able to replace it with an alternative system. The ARPA funds also provide the required match for the Preservation Trust grant we received this year to replace our aging and broken storm windows- work that is underway today. These storm windows will help us prevent heat loss and protect the beautiful stained glass from the elements. Insulation will be added to further weatherize the WCH and funds will also be used for a multipurpose video conferencing system, which takes advantage of the remarkable acoustic properties in the venue, and will provide opportunities for teleconferences, meetings, and presentations. Rounding out the funding, we will now be able to make the building more safe and more accessible for all, by the addition of an emergency exit, a fire alarm system and an ADA accessible ramp. We want to thank the Westford Selectboard for their vision of offering this once in a lifetime funding to benefit the community, along with their enormous effort to make this a fair and equitable process for all. We are also grateful to all the members of the ARPA Committee who spent many months assessing the proposals and providing guidance to the Selectboard. We are most grateful to be on our way to becoming a fully functioning, accessible gathering place for all members of the community!

With Gratitude

We would like to thank Glenn Rogers for donating the tree that adorns the front of the building. It is bringing light to us in the darkest months and we appreciate your generosity!

We would also like to thank the donors who gave on #GivingTuesday and for end of the year giving. Your kindness and support of our non-profit will help continue the mission of providing a space for all to gather and will bring more diverse programming in the new year. Thank you!



WESTFORD COMMON HALL



**2ND ANNUAL
WINTERFEST IS
FEBRUARY 18TH!**
STOP BY THE WCH TO BUY
RAFFLE TICKETS AND TRY TO
WIN SOME AMAZING PRIZES!



WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

SUNDAYS: 4-5 PM @ THE
WESTFORD COMMON HALL



JANUARY 8TH: SAEMUS EGAN & YANN
FALQUET

FEBRUARY 5TH: GREEN MOUNTAIN
CHORUS

MARCH 12TH: MISSISQUOI RIVER BAND

ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED
TO ATTEND! FREE WILL DONATION AND
PIE RAFFLE.

SAVE THE DATE!!

APRIL 1ST IS
ADULT PROM!!

MORE DETAILS TO
COME, BUT WE
HAVE A DJ & CASH
BAR!

IT'S TIME TO GET
DRESSED UP &
DANCE THE NIGHT
AWAY!!!

NOW ACCEPTING RENTALS FOR 2023!

Getting married and need a venue?

Looking to host a baby shower?

Searching for a place to hold a celebration of life?

Want to host a family reunion or birthday party?

Consider renting the Westford Common Hall for your next gathering. Reach out to Heather to schedule a time to tour our building and discuss options. We have very reasonable rates and your rentals will allow us to continue to make additions to the building that will enhance gatherings for years to come!

Email Heather@westfordcommonhall.org.

Our mission is to create a gathering space for diverse communities to connect, share and celebrate.

21 Brookside Road, PO Box 53, Westford, VT 05494

Email us at info@westfordcommonhall.org

Website: www.westfordcommonhall.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/westfordcommonhall>

Instagram: [westfordcommonhall](https://www.instagram.com/westfordcommonhall)

We are a non-profit 501c3.



WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER January 2023



UPCOMING RECREATION DATES:

JANUARY, 2023!

- 1/3 Recreation Board Meeting 7pm @ Town Office & via Zoom

FEBRUARY

- 2/18 Broomball Tournament in conjunction with the Winterfest @ Town Common Ice Rink

WINTER PROGRAMS:

- ❖ **Women's Futsal** @ Westford School Gym Tuesdays 7:30 to 9pm when school is in session. Two sessions: Nov-Jan & Feb-April \$30 fee per session, \$50 for both sessions, or \$5 drop in.
- ❖ **Adult Pickup Basketball** @ Westford School Gym Wednesdays 7-9pm excluding weeks the school is closed Remaining full session Jan-June \$25 and \$5 drop in.
- ❖ **Basketball grades 1-4** @ Westford School Gym Saturday mornings, remaining dates - January 7, 21, 28 Registration is open on the Westford Recreation webpage. \$25



Links to registrations and more information available on the town website:
<https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>

Westford has a new Recreation Coordinator

Amanda Gifford, of nearby Fairfax, started as your Westford Recreation Coordinator in October, 2022.



Amanda has been a 4-H Leader for over 25 years, taught horsemanship for 40 years, and been the Volunteer Coordinator for Dressage 4 Kids, a non-profit equestrian educational program for 4 years, on the D4K volunteer committee for 10 years, and founded and ran a non-profit, Independent School for 15 years.

In this photo with two first time 4-H competitors, two of the lesson horses, and her partner, Paul.

If you have any questions about Westford Recreation Programs, or want to suggest a program, please, reach out! E-mail is best - recreation@westfordvt.us



WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<https://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802)878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT

Thank you - and there's still time!

Book Giving Trees

Choose a star from one of our book giving trees. Each star contains the name of a book that the Library would like to have. There is also an online list on our Facebook page and on PPF if you cannot make it in to the library. Books can be dedicated to a special person or family. Purchase the book anywhere, or Phoenix Books (any location) will give patrons 20% off the book if you bring in the star. **Books purchased at Phoenix will stay there.** Purchase/deliver books by Jan. 17.



OPEN HOURS:

Tuesdays 10am-7pm

Wednesdays 1-7pm

Thursdays 10am-7pm

Fridays 1-7pm

Saturdays 10am-2pm

New Daytime Program: Coffee and Cards

1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month - 10:30am-Noon
Jan. 10 & 24 - this month

Cribbage, Euchre, Hearts, Rummy - whatever your game - we will play it. Meetup with folks at the library for coffee, conversation, and cards - a great opportunity to socialize and keep those card playing skills sharp. Open to anyone, but especially looking to connect with seniors.



We have a new website!

www.westfordpubliclibrary.org

Check it out! If you are not seeing something new, make sure to clear your cache. If you bookmarked the old one, make sure to delete that and bookmark the new one.

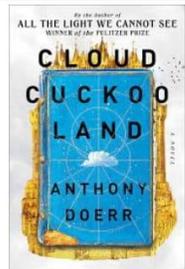


Tech Help - Sign up for a Slot Tues. Jan. 17 from 10am-2pm or Wed. Jan. 18 from 3-7pm

Did you get a new device for the holidays? Do you want to learn how to put FREE ebooks or audiobooks on your phone or tablet? Do you have general computer issues? Call, email, or stop by to sign up for a 30 min. slot with Bree.



Adult Book Group Wed., January 25 7:00-8:00 pm Cloud Cuckoo Land By: Anthony Doerr



Among the most celebrated and beloved novels of recent times, *Cloud Cuckoo Land* is a triumph of imagination and compassion, a soaring story about children on the cusp of adulthood in worlds in peril, who find resilience, hope, and a book.

15th century Constantinople - an orphan named Anna learns to read, and in a city, famous for its libraries, finds what might be the last copy of a centuries-old book, the story of Aethon, who longs to be turned into a bird so that he can fly to a utopian paradise in the sky. Omeir is a boy, conscripted with his beloved oxen into the army that will lay siege to Constantinople. His path and Anna's will cross.

Present day, in a library in Idaho, Zeno rehearses children in a play adaptation of Aethon's story, preserved against all odds through centuries. Tucked among the library shelves is a bomb, planted by a troubled, idealistic teenager, Seymour.

And in a not-so-distant future, on the Argos, Konstance is alone in a vault, copying on scraps of sacking the story of Aethon, told to her by her father.

Print copies available at library, ebook & audiobook copies available on Libby.

Early Literacy Storytime - Birth to Pre-School Thursdays at 11:15am in the Library.

1/5/23: Theme: Snow

1/19/23: Theme: Bears

1/12/23: Theme: Birthdays

1/26/23: Theme: Opposite Day (Yad Drawkcab)

We will sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome.

January Library Events

January 6 - Creative Minds (EHS Art) Art Show - 6-8pm, refreshments provided
Come meet the young artists behind our current art display

January 10 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon

January 11 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm

January 17 - Tech Help Time - sign up for a slot from 10am-2pm

January 18 - Tech Help Time - sign up for a slot from 3-7pm

January 24 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon

January 25 - Adult Book Group 7-8pm, discussing Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

January 27 - Library CLOSES EARLY at 5pm for Staff Appreciation Celebration

Learn to Crochet meet Tuesdays 3-5pm

Storytime Thursdays 11:15 in the Library

LEGO Club meets Thursdays 3-4:30pm

Maker Group meets Thursdays from 6:30-8pm



Crochet Club - Learn to Crochet!
Six Tuesdays 1/17-22/23 afterschool - 5pm
Snack and all supplies included
Grades 3 and up - must plan to attend all six
Kids will ride the bus (with note from home) to the library each week.
Taught by Marianne Bassford
Sign up required, and space is limited.
Sign up by calling or emailing the library.



LEGO Club!
Every Thursday in January - afterschool-4:30pm (pick up as late as 5pm).
Grades 1-4 - sign up required (call or email)
Kids will ride the bus (with note from home) to the library each week.
Snack included.
We will do a combination of free building, building challenges, and have lots of LEGO fun!



The
Palace
Project

The Westford Public Library is part of the Palace Project! Made possible by the VT Department of Libraries, the Palace Project App offers access to eBooks and audiobooks for all ages and in multiple languages.

Library cardholders: To get started, download the Palace Project App on your smartphone or tablet. Select 'Westford Public Library' as your home library followed by your library card number and password. Your password is your last name with the first letter capitalized.

***Please note that this is a relatively new, evolving product. At present, Palace does not support browser use on desktop/laptop computers. Palace is not currently available for Kindle.

New Art up at the Library (Through end of February)

Title of showcase: Creative Minds

Description of showcase: Creative Minds is a collection of artwork created by Essex High School AP art and Art 4 students. In this collection, the observer will embark on a journey through the minds of teenagers and experience the diversity of the concepts they've explored.

Meet the Artists - Art Opening - Friday, January 6 from 6-8pm



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.

Donate Your Used Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids for Recycling

The Jericho-Underhill Lions Club have placed collection boxes in the Westford Library & Westford Town Clerk's Office. The Collection Boxes are there for anyone that has used eyeglasses and used hearing aids that wishes to donate them for recycling. All you need to do is deposit them in the boxes and the Jericho-Underhill Lion's Club will take care of it from there

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

The Town of Westford has several volunteer opportunities to serve the community. To apply for one of the positions below, please submit an application ([APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO \(westfordvt.us\)](https://www.westfordvt.us/application-for-appointment) to townadmin@westfordvt.us or mail/drop off at the town office.

The Clean Water Advisory Committee

The CWAC oversees the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission activities and policy development regarding but not limited to, the Vermont Lake Champlain Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Plan and its related plans and programs. The Committee typically meets the first Tuesday of the month. To view minutes, agendas, and other documents, please go to [Clean Water Advisory Committee - CCRPC \(ccrpcvt.org\)](https://www.ccrpcvt.org/clean-water-advisory-committee). For more information contact Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner, at dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org or 846-4490.

CCRPC Lamoille Basin Water Quality Council

The responsibilities of a BWQC as outlined § 39-502 of the CWSP Rule are:

- (a) The purpose of a BWQC is to establish policy and make decisions for the CWSP regarding the most significant water quality impairments that exist in the basin and prioritizing the clean water projects that will address those impairments based on the basin plan.
- (b) When prioritizing clean water projects and prioritizing the most significant water quality impairments in the basin, the BWQC shall consult with the basin plan and CWSP and utilize the Agency's project selection protocols.
- (c) The BWQC shall participate in the basin planning process established in 10 V.S.A. § 1253(d).

Potential members should be:

- knowledgeable on clean water topics for the applicable basin
- Interested in prioritizing and selecting non-regulatory clean water projects for funding at quarterly BWQC meetings
- Interested in participating in the applicable Tactical Basin Planning process

Please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or townadmin@westfordvt.us if you are interested in being appointed to one of these positions.

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

Free Concerts at the
Westford Common Hall
21 Brookside Road, Westford, VT
4pm – 5pm

- January 8 – Seamus Egan & Yann Falquet
- February 5 – Green Mountain Chorus
- March 12 – Missisquoi River Band
- April 16 – Buck Hollers
- May 21 – Lewis Franco

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

SEAMUS EGAN & YANN FALQUET



IRISH & QUEBECOIS FOLK MUSIC

-free will donation-

4 - 5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL

SUNDAY: JANUARY 8TH, 2023

With tours in over 20 different countries and award-winning CDs, Seamus Egan and Yann Falquet are both master entertainers with distinctive sounds, senses of humor and stage presence.

Seamus founded powerhouse band Solas and lead the band for twenty years before becoming a composer and solo performer. Yann is an active and creative acoustical guitar player on the Quebecois music scene.

Concert open to the public. Call Mike Kirick, 802-363-0930, for more Information



1705 Project Update

In November of 2021, the Westford Planning Commission held a public engagement meeting to introduce proposed redevelopment options for the 1705 Route 128 property, the former home of Roland and Nettie Pigeon.

The purpose of the proposal was to provide affordable home ownership units through a partnership with Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity and Champlain Housing Trust, provide public access to the Browns River through a Vermont River Conservancy conservation easement, and acquire land for the expansion or replacement of the Town Offices.

Three concepts were presented by consultants SE Group at the public meeting. The concepts provided a menu of options for redevelopment of the east side of the former Pigeon home. Public comment was received at the public meeting and a community survey was conducted following the meeting. The Planning Commission, SE Group, Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity, Champlain Housing Trust and Vermont River Conservancy utilized those comments in order to develop a preferred alternative conceptual plan. A webinar has been created in order for residents to view the resulting preferred alternative conceptual plan and associated visual renderings. The webinar can be viewed here:

<https://www.westford1705.com/>

In the Fall of 2022, the Pigeon Family Trust made the decision to place the property on the market for private sale. At this time, the Town does not intend to pursue this project further.

Planning for the 1705 Project was funded by a Vermont Community Development Program (VDCP) - Planning Grant. The Planning Commission will complete the tasks outlined in the VDCP grant scope of work and close out the grant.

We would like to thank the Pigeon family, our partners – Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity, Champlain Housing Trust, Vermont River Conservancy, Lincoln Brown Illustration, and those who participated in the process for their time, thoughtfulness, and willingness to envision a brighter, more inclusive future.



COME ONE, COME ALL!

2ND ANNUAL WESTFORD WINTER FESTIVAL

Saturday, Feb 18th , Noon - 4 pm

Westford Village Common

**LIVE MUSIC: Cookie's Hot Club jazz/blues &
Rockin Ron the Friendly Pirate**

Local Food & Drink • Live Music • Kids Activities
Silent Raffle • Skating • Sledding • History Walk

For more information: Westfordwinterfest@gmail.com & [@WestfordEvents](https://www.facebook.com/WestfordEvents)





REMINDERS FOR DOG OWNERS

Winter can be a difficult time for dogs to go missing, to help ensure your furry companions are safe this winter you can do the following:

- Clear snow from against fencing to avoid over the fence escapes (as snow piles up it can be easier for your dog to go over).
- When your dog is let outside make sure they are wearing reflective and/or high visibility orange/yellow.
- Always make sure your dog is wearing a name tag with a phone number! If you find that dangling tags get lost easily look for “slide” style tags.
- If you use an invisible fence ensure your batteries are still in working order.
- Keep cable runs well lubricated to ensure they are working properly. Cable runs and tie-outs may require more moisture this time of year.
- Train and Maintain a reliable recall. Teaching your dog to come when called reliably is one of the best tools for keeping your dog safe this winter. Practice in a safe area before letting your dog loose. Please make sure that when in public your dog can reliably come when called even if distracted by: wildlife, people, children, livestock, and other dogs.

Loose Dog? Lost Dog? Contact one of our wonderful dog wardens Elisabeth Smith and Matt Bartholomew:

<https://westfordvt.us/administration/dog-warden/>

Happy 2023!

May your new year be filled with comforts and good health!

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