



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

June 2023



The **Black Bear** is an omnivore, but 85% of their diet consists of vegetation. They have an average lifespan in the wild of 18 years and feature prominently in Indigenous mythology. Their young are born during hibernation.

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses were due on April 1st. If you have not yet licensed your dog, please do so as soon as possible (Dog licenses obtained after April 1st are subject to a late fee). **Licensing your dog is Vermont Law** AND helps the town be able to return your dog more quickly to you if they ever get out or lost.

A current rabies certificate is required. If you are unsure if the current certificate is on file, please call the Town Office. **If you no longer have your dog or your dog has passed away, please let us know.** For your convenience you may mail or drop off the fee and rabies certificate along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and your license will be mailed to you.

Senior Luncheon

How does a picnic lunch followed by a magic show by Westford's very own Christopher McBride sound? Any Westford resident 55 + is welcome to join us on Monday, June 12th at the RBMH (Red Brick Meeting House) for our last luncheon before the summer break. Doors will open at 11:30am with lunch to begin around 12 noon. We hope to see many faces.... familiar and new!

Please reach out if you have any questions or need a ride:

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

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the July Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, June 26th.

Spring Yard Clean Up

Spring has arrived! When cleaning up your yard, please keep the following in mind:

- Burn permits are required prior to any burning. Burn permits are available online (<https://westfordvt.us/administration/fire-warden/>), 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, therefore Myers will not collect these materials when picking up your garbage. You can compost yard waste or bring it to a participating CSWD drop off center. For a list of centers please visit <http://www.cswd.net/>

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open:

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

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



SUMMER ROADS

What you need to know about summer road conditions

- **Road Projects:** many projects are being done on the roads at this time. Slow down and give crews space to work.
- **Dust:** roads can become dusty in dry weather and potholes can appear in heavily traveled areas. Going the speed limit can reduce dusty and damaged roads.
- **Roadside Mowing:** roadsides are mowed to increase visibility and keep invasive plants at bay. Mowing occurs twice a year: once in late spring/early summer and once later in summer.
- **Traffic Speeds:** due to the hard-packed conditions of the roads this time of year, overall vehicle speeds can increase. Be aware of speed limits.
- **Repairs:** roads are repaired as weather allows. Know that this takes time, especially if conditions are poor so it may take the road crew some time to get to your road. Highly traveled roads are prioritized.

Reminders:

- Watch for increased pedestrian traffic including walkers, bikers, horseback riders etc. Please slow down and give other road users lots of room as you pass.

Phelps Road Closure Notice



The road crew will be performing work on Phelps Road that requires the road to be closed. The work involves tree cutting, ditching and stone lining, and adding gravel. The work will be done in the latter half of June, after school is dismissed for the summer.



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.

WESTFORD COMMON USE POLICY

With spring upon us and summer not far behind, the Westford Common Committee wants to remind residents that any major use of the Common requires a written request. This does not apply to small gatherings like parents and kids having a picnic. This policy has been implemented to avoid conflicts since there is more use of the Common. An application is especially necessary if you plan to use the Gazebo and will guarantee you the exclusive use of the Gazebo. We ask all town organizations to also follow this procedure so the calendar will reflect all plans.

Here is a link to the application: <https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Common-Use-Application-Policy.pdf>

If you have any questions, please call the Town Office for assistance: 802-878-4587

ASSESSOR VISITS HAVE BEGUN!

It is the time of year when site visits are done on properties that have been issued a building permit in the past year or have an open permit from a prior year. This site visit is separate from the Zoning Administrator's inspection. The Town contracts with NEMRC (New England Municipal Resource Center) to gather the information necessary to determine the assessed value of the improvements (ex. new home, addition, garage, porch, etc.). When an assessor visits your property, they will leave a notice to let you know they were there.

Notices of Change of Appraisal will be sent in May with the new assessment based on information gathered during the site visit. If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Listers at listers@westfordvt.us.



Community Wastewater Project – Ledge Investigations



Ledge investigations within the potential wastewater system service area are tentatively scheduled for the week of June 19th.

Why is this happening? This work is being conducted to determine the depth of bedrock in specific areas.

How do ledge investigations work? This work involves using a mini drill rig called a Geoprobe, which is mounted on a rubber tracked ATV unit. The Geoprobe will push a two-inch diameter probe into the ground until it reaches “refusal,” or the point where the probe hits a material that it cannot go through - bedrock.

Where will this work happen? The bedrock probes will be advanced within the right of way along roads where the collection system is proposed to run.

Will any work be done on private property? If site specific information outside of the right of way is required, Stone Environmental Inc. will contact the individual property owners in advance to request permission to use the geoprobe on their properties.

Is there any noise, traffic, or earth disturbance? The bedrock probes create minimal earth disturbance but do create noise. For this reason, ledge probes are scheduled for later in June to avoid creating noise during school times, and to prevent creating delays around Westford School drop-off and pick-up times.



Photographs of Typical Geoprobes

Where can I get information? For information regarding the Community Wastewater Project, please refer to the FAQs at westfordsfuture.com. This website has answers to commonly asked questions about the Community Wastewater Project and is updated as information becomes available.

Residents may submit questions by attending a Planning Commission meeting or emailing the Commission at planningcommission@westfordvt.us. You may also contact Melissa Manka, Town Planner, at planner@westfordvt.us or (802) 878.4587 for accurate information on what is happening, when, and how questions will be addressed.

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.



WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TRAIL CLEAN-UP DAY! – Join us **Saturday, June 17 at 9:30 a.m.** for a clean up of all your favorite trails. We will **meet at the school parking lot** and spread out from there to the trails in town: Misty Meadows, Maple Shade, Seymour, Schultz, Goodrich, Covey. Bring tools for clipping, snipping, raking, digging, and stick-flicking. Weed-whacking of Seymour, Schultz and Goodrich would also be appreciated! Rescheduled only if heavy rain. Thank you!

BEE THE CHANGE – A pollinator garden space will be installed at the Westford school to create habitat for vital pollinators like bees and birds and butterflies. Students will be engaged in the installation and maintenance of the space and will be educated on species at risk and the crucial role pollinators play in our lives. Consider dedicating some of your own space as a pollinator habitat. Learn more at www.beethechange.earth

FUNDING FOR LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION IN WESTFORD

The headwaters of the Browns River have been identified by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as a source watershed protection area. The Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District (WNRCD) is interested in facilitating technical and financial assistance to farmers and forest landowners in these areas to implement best management practices on the land.

Best management practices include those that promote soil health, reduce soil erosion and reduce nutrient runoff. These practices can be applied on any size land parcel, whether it be a working farm, working forest, or simply private property.

Furthermore, if you are a landowner within the headwaters of the Browns River watershed you may be eligible to receive increased funding to implement conservation practices on your land!

The Westford Conservation Commission has had some great conversations with the WNRCD and would be happy to assist in any way we can. This program will benefit the Browns River Watershed ecosystems and your drinking water!

Please contact us, the WCC at westfordcc@googlegroups.com if you have questions about this program. You can also contact the WNRCD at info@winooskinrcd.org for more information on the full list of what practices are covered under this initiative and determine if you would be a good fit for this program.

We hope you will consider getting involved!

TRAIL CLOSURES: Memorial Day Weekend is the unofficial start of summer and the unofficial opening for trails. We plan to have all trails open, but ask that you continue to be cautious if any trails remain saturated. We know there are perpetual wet spots, and we're trying to remediate as many as we can. Please let us know of any large areas of standing water in a trail.

TICKS: Ticks are expected to be bad this season, so take precautions by tucking pantlegs into socks, using tick repellant, and always performing tick-checks after outside activities.

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!: 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 WCC's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the Town Office (gazebo if weather-permitting).



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: SUMMER

- Break up material (both food scraps and browns) into small pieces. This allows for decomposition to happen quickly, meaning you'll have usable compost faster!
- Water your compost! If compost is dry it stops generating heat. Keeping compost moist will help things decompose quickly.
- Dry grass and egg shells make great additions to your pile. For best decomposition your pile should be 1/4th browns and 3/4th other items such as food scraps, coffee grounds and green lawn clippings.

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>).



WESTFORD
COMMON
HALL



With GREAT Gratitude

We are so thankful to the community, the students, their parents and the Westford Elementary School Staff, especially Art Teacher Amanda Feller, for the AMAZING

Fine Arts Festival held on May 12th!

The WCH was buzzing with music, art, a live mural painting by artist Charlie Hudson, face painting and snacks galore!

**CHECK OUT THE
WRITE UP IN THE
ESSEX REPORTER
BY SCANNING
THIS QR CODE**



VISIT US ON THE 4TH OF JULY, AFTER
THE PARADE....WE'LL BE SELLING
STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE FOR YOU TO
ENJOY WHILE YOU PERUSE OUR LATEST
ART INSTALLATION!!!!



CD Release Concert "Montana Wildflower" by artist Natalie Padilla w/Quinn Bachand

(Rescheduled from April 8th)

July 12th at 7:00pm (doors open at 6:30)

FREE WILL DONATION.....grab a friend and come join us!

Small concession stand offering non-alcoholic drinks and snacks will be open.

Steeped in the traditions of Old-Time, Bluegrass, and Texas-Style Fiddle music, Natalie also has deep roots in classical violin.

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
COMMON
HALL



SAVE THE DATE!

Westford Garden Tour Fundraiser

July 16th

11:00-3:00pm

We have a fun **summer** activity for you!

Visit **6 amazing gardens** within the town of Westford....at your own pace!

Gardeners will be on site to help inform you of their own garden layouts, designs and various species of plants that they grow. **Several gardeners will also have items for sale like photographs, flowers, vegetables, etc.,** so please support them and their business, as they are gracious enough to help support the Westford Common Hall!

Tickets are \$25/person and days before the event you will receive a map of the six gardens, with host names and addresses, which you'll visit at your own pace during the 11-3pm timeframe. This is a **rain or shine event**, so plan accordingly with your attire and wear your **garden boots!**

Tickets will go on sale in June, via our online store;
<https://westford-common-hall-2307.myshopify.com>



WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<https://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT

Coffee and Cards

10:30am-Noon

This month - June 6 & June 20

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.



MANGO

Mango Languages

Visit our Resource Tab on our Website or download the App.

To sign up - create an account with your email, library card number (starts with 2vsr5), and a password of your choosing. Mango for libraries offers over 70 world language courses expertly designed to adapt to a diverse range of learning needs, styles, and backgrounds.

The Westford Public Library is accepting donations for our Fourth of July Book Sale

Please, stick to these times only.

Saturday 6/3, and 6/17.

From 9-11am.

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, DVDs, and audiobooks in good condition. **DO NOT USE THE BOOK DROP FOR DONATIONS - IT DAMAGES THE LIBRARY BOOKS.**



Adult Summer Reading?!?!?

Why should kids have all the fun - adults can benefit from additional reading, relaxing, and socializing opportunities over the summer. See later in this newsletter for our Adult Summer Reading Brochure.



OPEN HOURS:

Tuesdays 10am-7pm

Wednesdays 1-7pm

Thursdays 10am-7pm

Fridays 1-7pm

Saturdays 10am-2pm

Adult Book Group

Wed., June 28

7:00-8:00 pm

Lessons in Chemistry

By: Bonnie Garmus

The perfect Summer read!

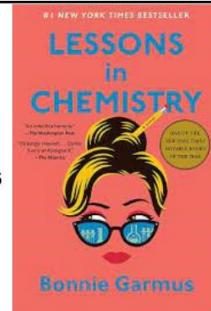
Meet Elizabeth Zott: "a gifted research chemist, absurdly self-assured and immune to social convention" (The Washington Post) in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show.

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studied with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

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



Storytime - Thursdays at 11:15am in the Library.

6/1/23: Theme: Dinosaurs

6/8/23: Theme: Cows

6/15/23: Theme: Dads of all kinds (Happy Father's Day!)

*6/22/23: Theme: All Together Now! - Kindness

*6/29/23: Theme: FWNI Summer Storytime

We will sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome. *outside and part of the Summer Reading program.

Storytime moves outside rain (gazebo) or shine for the Summer June 22.



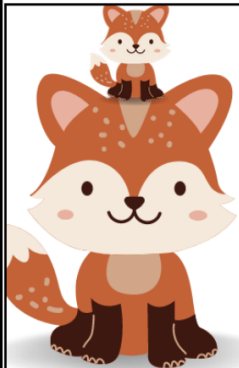
June Library Events

- June 3 - Book Donation Drop off - 9-11am**
June 6 - Pick up your puzzle pieces to decorate - due July 6
June 6 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon
June 7 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
June 10 - Welcome Baby Tea - 10:30-Noon
June 17 - Book donation drop off 9-11am
June 20 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon
***June 20 - Kick Off Summer Reading -**
Come grab your reading logs, stickers, bookmarks and more - Noon to 7pm
***June 21 - Drop in Book Hedgehogs 4-6pm**
***June 22 - Walk with Will - 4:30pm, meet at the Westford School parking lot**
***June 23 - Drop in Book Hedgehogs 2-4pm**
***June 23 - Rain date for Walk with Will 4:30pm at the Westford school parking lot, if day before is rained out**
***June 27 - Cookies and Cards - 10:30-Noon**
***June 27 - Drop in Giant Lawn Games on the Common 4-6pm**
****June 27 - Read to Bob 5:30-6:30pm**
****June 28 - Tini-Tiny Terrariums 4-6pm, sign up appreciated for supply purchasing**
***June 28 - Adult Book Group discussing Lessons in Chemistry 7-8pm**
***June 29 - Special FWNi storytime 11:15**
***June 30 - Float Building 4-6pm, last day to sign up to ride the float is July 1.**
- Storytime Thursdays 11:15 at the Library**
Drop in Chess - for all ages - Every Thursday 6-7pm June 22-August 10
***part of the Summer Reading Program**
****Sign up required**

Welcome Baby Tea

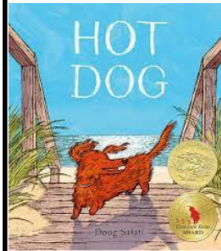
Saturday, June 10 10:30-Noon.

We are celebrating all children born on March 2022-March 2023. If your child was born in Westford, you should have received an invite in the mail. If you have moved into town and your child fits into that age category - you are invited too! Please contact the library with your child's info. We can't wait to celebrate our littlest patrons! RSVP by June 7.



Drop in Chess
Thursdays from 6-7pm
June 22-August 10
Open to all ages!

Drop in for some inter generational chess play. Open to all ages, adults should be willing to play with kids and offer some advice (not teach). Kids, you should know the basics. This is not a class, but an opportunity to hone your skills through play. If chess does not catch on, this might morph into a board game night.



New StoryHike will be up in June - look for the signs in the kiosk at the school trails. Enjoy this year's Caldecott Medal winner- Hot Dog, a beautifully illustrated, if sparsely worded "tail" of friendship. Thank you to the Westford Conservation Commission for their continued partnership.

Community Art Project - Artists Needed!

"All Together Now" Puzzle Art

Starting June 6 - pick up your large, unfinished wooden puzzle piece and decorate it how you choose. Favorite things, what community means to you - your choice. Open to all ages. Pieces are due back by July 7 and will be part of an art display that will be up all summer. We have 70 pieces and would like them all done - we NEED everyone!



Check out all the cool events happening this Summer - brochure and sign up info in this newsletter and on our website.



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 Summer Reading Program 2023 June 20-August 11
www.westfordpubliclibrary.org 878-5639 westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

*Online registration opens June 20. Registration link on our website, Facebook page, and Front Porch Forum. You can also register in person on June 20 during our kickoff event at the library or anytime later.

Age Levels, Reading Goals, and Prizes

Ages 0-2 (babies and toddlers) - fun activities for families to do together, stuffed animal prize at the end

Ages 3-8 (kids) - 10 books/150 minutes read per raffle ticket, one sticker per book or 15 minutes read

Ages 9-12 (twins) - 3 books/240 minutes read per raffle ticket

Ages 13-18 (teens) - 1 book read per raffle ticket

Raffle tickets will be made by Ms. Bree when reading logs are turned in - logs are due August 10. Raffle tickets will also be given for coming to programs. Prizes consist of gift certificates to Essex Cinemas, Phoenix Books, & more! Prizes will be awarded at the end of the SRP Ice Cream Party on August 11.



Every time you come to the library you can work on our sticker mosaic! Last year it was an underwater scene, what will it be this year? Get a strip of stickers to place every visit. Together is better!

Every time you visit, find the hidden smiley stuffy in the library and get a prize! All ages welcome to participate each visit to the library.



All Together Now at the Lake Monsters Game!

Tuesday, July 18 - 6:35pm vs. New Britain Bees

The library has purchased 20 kids tickets (12 and under) and reserved a block of seats. Call the box office to reserve your kids tickets (no max this year - so bring a friend!) & order reduced price tickets (\$7/\$5) in our very own "Westford" block. It's also 25cent hotdog night! Gates open at 5:30. Champ is coming to visit Saturday, July 8 from 10:30-

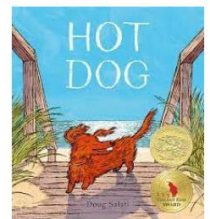


Westford's hiking trails and storywalks!

Poetry Walk on Maple Shade Trails

Story Walk - Enjoy "Hot Dog" on the school trails starting in June. See the kiosk for the exact trail.

Westford Trail Passport - This exciting program is back and better than ever! Kicks off July 4!



All Together Now Storytime - On the Common - Thursdays at 11:15am

Bring your lunch, a blanket and be ready for fun! Rain location is the gazebo. Every week we will read stories, sing and move too! Take home crafts will be available for some storytimes. 6/22 -Kindness, 6/29 - Special FWN Summer Storytime, 7/6- Food and Friends, 7/13 - Excited!, 7/20 - Classic Friends in books, 7/27 - Same/Different, 8/3 - Hugs or Not, 8/10 - Expand Your World



Splash of Math - "QuickDips" of math added each Monday to our Facebook page. Activities include a pdf and video. Brought to you by Bedtime Math.



Summer Reading Program Events Schedule and Details Events with a (*) require pre-registration.

June 20 - Sign up online for SRP starts today, signup link on our website, FPF, and Facebook - Stop the library after school lets out to pick up SRP material (Logs, stickers, etc.) 12:00-7:00pm, if you can't make it then, you can pick up anytime later at the library.

June 21 - Drop in Book Hedgehogs 4-6pm - Using a recycled book, make a new forest creature to delight a friend or sit on your bookshelf. Folding and patience are musts!

June 22 - Walk in the Westford Woods with Will Dunkley 4:30pm - Meet at the Westford School Parking lot. Westford resident and naturalist, Will Dunkley, will lead families on a nature walk in the Westford woods - a new perspective on familiar places. Rain date is June 23 at 4:30. Great for hikers of all ages.

June 23 - Drop in Book Hedgehogs 2-4pm- Using a recycled book, make a new forest creature to delight a friend or sit on your bookshelf. Folding and patience are musts!

June 27 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon - Why let the seniors have all the fun? Let's meet up to play Uno, War, Go Fish, or other games the group wants to play. Please arrive on time at 10:30 so we can get started. Adults are encouraged to stay and play too!

June 27 - Giant Lawn Games on the Common 4-6pm - Giant Jenga, Huge Connect Four, Lawn Bowling, and more -we will have BIG fun with these BIG games - thank you to the Fletcher Free Library for lending us these!

***June 27 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

***June 28 - Tini-Tiny Terrarium 4-6pm** - Make two little terrariums, one for you and one for a friend, includes an air plant

June 30 - Float Building 4:00-6:00, also July 1 is the last day to sign up to ride the float in the Fourth of July parade, limited to kids entering first grade and older.

July 4 - Library Book Sale 9am-1pm - \$5 per bag - bring your own bag. Parade 11am (riders meet 10:30 at Town Garage)

July 6 - Puzzle Pieces are Due for "All Together Now" Community art Project - see newsletter for more details

July 7 - Friendship Bracelet Series - 4-6pm - We will make Friendship Bracelets every Friday in July from 4-6pm. Different weeks, different styles, and you can always make one for a friend!

July 8 - Champ Visit on the Common! 10:30-11:30am - The Lake Monsters lovable mascot will stop by for fun and photo ops! This is a great time to get excited about our Westford Night at the Lake Monsters Game July 18!

July 11 - Community Rocks! 4-6pm on the Common - We will paint rocks that spread positive vibes throughout the Westford.

***July 11 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

***July 12 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

July 14 - Friendship Bracelets 4-6pm

July 18 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon - Why let the seniors have all the fun? Let's meet up to play Uno, War, Go Fish, or other games the group wants to play. Please arrive on time at 10:30 so we can get started. Adults are encouraged to stay and play too!

July 18 - "All Together Now" at the Lake Monsters Game - 6:35pm - see front for details

***July 19 - Finding Family 7pm - Vermont Genealogy Library Program for Families looking to start their Genealogy.** Have you ever wondered about your family tree? Do you want to learn how to interview your older relatives? Need tips on what sources to use? Ideal for adults or families just starting out with genealogy. This presentation will be geared toward adults and children starting this process out. Recommended for third grade and up.

July 21 - Friendship Bracelets 4-6pm

July 22 - Scribblebots with Green Mountain Robotics 10:30-Noon - Chittenden county's FIRST Robotics Competition Team will be here to help kids make scribblebots. What's a scribblebot? It combines learning about basic circuitry and art - just like FRC's new season "Crescendo" combining robotics and the arts. If you are too old to make a scribblebot (gasp!), you can still come learn about what competition robotics looks like at the high school level and meet the team.

July 28 - Friendship Bracelets 4-6pm

August 1 - Cookies and Cards - Why let the seniors have all the fun? Let's meet up to play Uno, War, Go Fish, or other games the group wants to play. Please arrive on time at 10:30 so we can get started. Adults are encouraged to stay and play too!

August 1 - "Stone Salad" Community Dinner 6-7:30pm - see August newsletter for more details.

***August 2 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

August 4 - VINS 4:30-5:30pm on the Common - Learn about the vital role raptors play in our ecosystem from REAL raptors.

August 10 - Reading Logs are due by 5pm - Turn in at the library or online via google form.

August 11 - End of Summer Ice Cream Party and Raffle - 4:30-6:30pm on the Common - Celebrate the end of Summer Reading with "All you Should Eat" Ice cream! We will announce the winners of our Summer Reading Prize Drawing as well! You do not need to be present to win. Prizes can be picked up anytime at the library. **Volunteer scoopers needed.**

Adult Summer Reading 2023

June 20-August 11

No need to sign up for anything - you even make your own raffle tickets!

Why should kids have all the fun - adults can benefit from additional reading, relaxing, and socializing opportunities over the summer.

Reading:

Adults (18+) receive one raffle ticket for each book read - just ask for one at the library

Programs:

Attend an Adult Summer Program (not one for your kids!) and earn a raffle ticket too!

Prizes:

Two \$25 gift cards to J&L Hardware

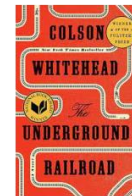
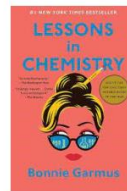
Reoccurring events:

Adult Bookgroup -Wednesdays from 7-8pm

June 28 - Lessons in Chemistry

July 26 - The Underground Railroad

August 23 - Americanah



See monthly newsletter for more information about each book and how to get them.

Coffee and Cards - Tuesday from 10:30-Noon

June 6 and 20, July 11 and 25, and August 8 and 29



Special Events:

“All Together Now” Adult Karaoke with the Westford Common Hall - Friday, July 28 at 7pm

Inspired by the Beatle’s song “All Together Now” - The Library and Common Hall are teaming up to provide a fun night of karaoke! This 21+ BYOB event will ask for a goodwill donation at the door (split between the library and WCH) and non-alcoholic drinks and snacks will be sold. Come to sing or just to laugh and listen. We guarantee a fun night! More details to come.

“Stone Salad” Community Dinner - August 1 from 6:00-7:30pm on the Common Inspired by the classic tale “Stone Soup” the library will host a community dinner where everyone brings a little something to make the meal. A sign up genius will go out closer to the event, but mark the date on your calendars. Local foods, homemade goodies and garden bounties will be shared.



Westford Historical Society

The Westford Historical Society proudly presents its Second **ANTIQUES APPRAISAL** fundraiser on **Sunday, June 11th at the Brick Meeting House from 11 until 3:00.** Both Lyle Scanlon and Greg Hamilton have graciously agreed to take a look at our treasures and give us an estimate as to their worth. For a mere \$20.00 you can bring up to 3 "hand held" objects. Those attending last year not only learned a lot about their items but also had a blast! We hope you will think about what items you might bring and join us on the 11th.

For questions, please contact Barry Conolly at 802-878-8929 or Beth Menut at 802-893-2263.



The Westford Historical Society has a number of events coming up this summer so mark your calendars. On August 5th Kurt Sherman will give a talk on Discovering Westford's History via Archeology digs. Many of you will know Kurt from his years of teaching at the school. He will begin his talk at 1:30 at the Brick Meeting House.

Howard Coffin has agreed to come and present a talk entitled "1800 and Froze to Death" on September 9th. It seems it was a major disaster for the state and beyond. That talk will be on September 9th at 1:30, also at the Meeting House.

And, Christine Hadsel, Director of Curtains without Borders, will talk about painted theater curtains which graced stages in town and grange halls between 1880 and World War 11. Westford's own curtain will be featured in the talk which is scheduled for October 7th. As an aside, the Brick Meeting House will be closed from September 25th until October 2nd while restoration on our painted curtain is taking place. The public is welcome to stop in and see what is involved in the restoration process. Donations are appreciated for this costly work.

These are just 3 of the presentations being planned and which we hope will be of interest to many. Come and bring a friend. Stay tuned for more details.



Westford Historical Society Fundraiser



Antiques and Collectible Appraisals

Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: Brick Meeting House
Route 128, Westford, VT

Cost: \$20.00 for 3 “hand held” items
Note: Please, NO large furniture items
All appraisals will be on a first come first served basis
All appraisal values are at the discretion of the appraiser
and not a certified appraisal

**This promises to be a fun, as well as educational, event with two professional appraisers.
Questions: Contact Barry Conolly at 802-878-8929 or Beth Menut at 802-893-2263**

**Thank you for supporting the Westford Historical Society.
Looking forward to seeing all your treasures and collectibles.**



WESTFORD SUMMER CONCERT LINE UP 2023

This year there will be two sets of three concert Sundays in a row, with a break of one week between them. I am still looking for sponsors to help with funding, so if anyone would like to support any of the following acts, please contact me and you can get credit for helping out with this series. I will be making some poster designs for the series sometime soon. If anyone would like either a hard copy or a digital PDF file for your own use and distribution, please contact me at mpk802vt@gmail.com. All shows run from 6:30-9 pm. I am still hoping to line up food and or beverage vendors, too. Please forward contact info for anyone that may be able to provide this service. Here's what we've got on tap for 2023:

July 9 – The Dimmer Triplets:

This is a brand new band with local favorites Mr. Charlie of Blues For Breakfast fame and Al Lemery of the (now retired) Starline Rhythm Boys. With Gary Wade as added support.

July 16 – The Marinara Brothers:

Local Westford musician Tom Schmidt's second outing for the concert series sharing both original material and covers. Expect some saucy rock-n-roll.

July 23 – The Hokum Brothers:

These brothers share a love of vaudeville-tinged tunes and attitudes and have played at various festivals and burlesque shows in and around Burlington for many years now.

July 30 – No show tonight, go camping...

August 6 – Paul Asbell:

Paul is well known around Vermont and has been a local A lister in the Burlington music scene for years. He will be doing a solo show of roots, Americana, and jazz treats. We are fortunate to have him contribute.

August 13 – Mango Jam:

Back again from last year, we will be in for a treat of New Orleans inspired rhythm and mayhem for a summer evening of foot shaking frenzy.

August 20 – Les Dead Ringers:

Another newly formed band by D. Davis, of Red Hot Juba, Larkspurs, and Cookies Hot Club renown.

WESTFORD CEMETERY REMINDERS

Artificial flowers, glass containers and items with wire are NOT allowed in any of the Westford cemeteries. They will be subject to removal 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

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 \(westfordvt.us\)](#) 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 \(ccrpcvt.org\)](#). 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 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR OPENING

The Town of Westford is accepting letters of interest for the Emergency Management Director (EMD). This role is a non-paid volunteer position with no defined hours. Training is offered through the Vermont Emergency Management website.

Who is the EMD? They are an appointed individual in each town or city who has direct responsibility for the organization, administration, and coordination of the local organization for emergency management, subject to the direction and control of the executive officer or legislative branch. Generally, the EMD manages the local emergency management organization, including the identification of the resources and organizations that would be used to support incident command; manages the creation and maintenance of the Local Emergency Operations Plan; manages the maintenance of the Local Emergency Operations Center; facilitates Emergency Management meetings with municipal stakeholders to discuss current emergency management plans, organization, equipment, training, and exercises; coordinates citizen preparedness initiatives; coordinates volunteer recruitment; participates in the creation of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; participates in the Emergency Manager Certification program offered by Vermont Emergency Management; and, if determined necessary, appoints an Emergency Management Coordinator to assist in executing any of these responsibilities.

For more information on the EMD role, please go to [Emergency Management Director \(EMD\) & Emergency Management Coordinator \(EMC\) | Vermont Emergency Management](#).

Familiarity with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) is preferred.

If interested, please submit a letter of interest to townadmin@westfordvt.us.

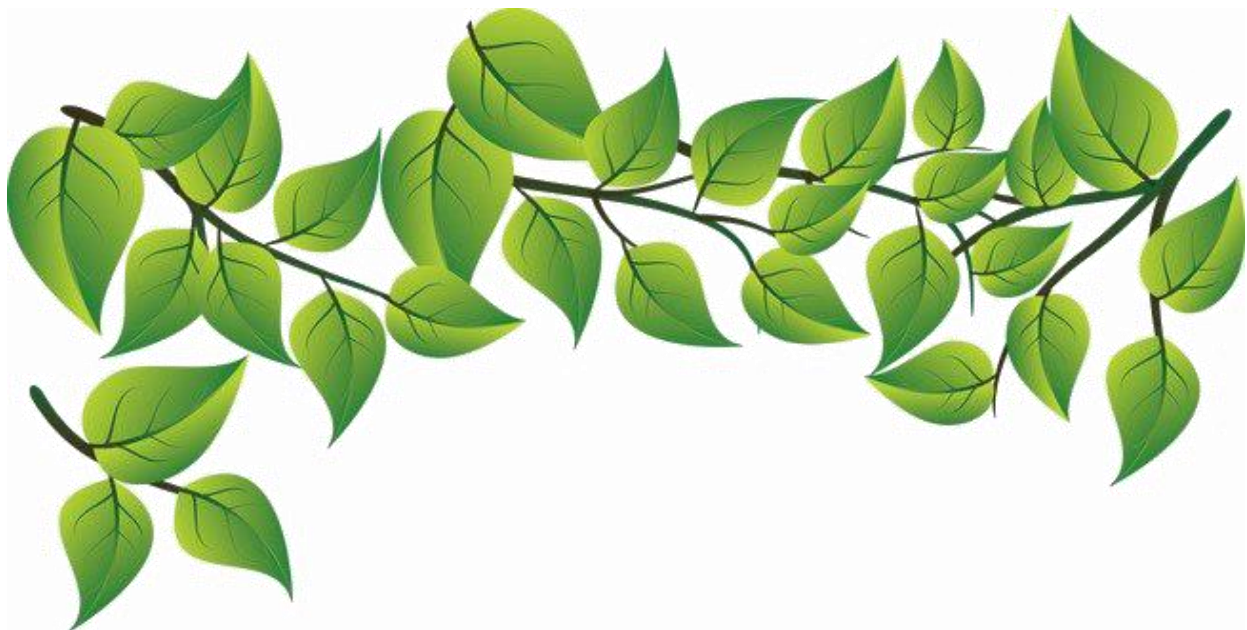
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING WESTFORD'S DELEGATE?

In February, the Town of Westford joined the Chittenden County Communications Union District (CCCUD) and is looking for a town resident to serve as Westford's delegate on the Governing Board.

A CUD is a municipal organization made up of two or more towns for the purpose of building, or causing to be built, communication infrastructure together. The main function of the CUD would be to deliver public funds to the providers to build the network and to provide public oversight to ensure broadband services is provided to underserved locations in accordance with Act 71. By working together, municipalities are more likely to attract a provider and leverage financial resources. For more information, please visit <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/broadband/>.

Currently, the CCCUD Governing Board meets two times per month (2nd and 4th Wednesdays) at 3pm. The meetings are approximately an hour long.

If you have a background or general knowledge of broadband and would like to represent Westford in this capacity, please submit a letter of interest to Nanette Rogers, Town Administrator, at townadmin@westfordvt.us. If you have any questions, please email townadmin@westfordvt.us or call 802-878-4587. Compensation: \$400 annual stipend.





WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER June 2023

RECREATION Department Meeting:

June 6 Board Meeting 7pm @ Town Office & via Zoom

Continuing PROGRAMS:

- ❖ **Slow Flow Yoga @ Westford School Gym** – For Adults age 18 and over - Thursdays, 5:30pm - 6:30pm, May 25, June 1 & June 8 \$12 per class for walk-ins

New PROGRAMS:



- ❖ **Bird Call Nature Walk** - Saturday, June 3 - 8:30 p.m. - Jacob Crawford - bird calls - American Woodcock territorial aerial displays and Wilson's Snipe winnowing calls and flights. Sign up on the Recreation Webpage

❖ **Adult Game Night @ RBMH** – Sunday, June 4, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. - Bring your own games, or play what others have brought. At this introductory night, folk will decide how often to meet and what future nights will look like. Bring your own snacks.



- ❖ **Archery with Pelkey's** - Session 1 - Mondays June 19 & 26; Session 2 - Tuesdays June 20 & 27. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (be on time!) Limited to 12 participants ages 12 and over for each session. Registration opens 8a.m. May 30.

❖ **Paint & Sip** for Adults and a separate one for Kids - Paint Red winged blackbirds! Details coming soon, look for the information on FB, FPF, and on the Recreation Webpage.



- ❖ **4th of July Event!** - July 4 10:00 to 1:00 on the Common. Parade - March by registration only! Farmer's Market, Arts & Crafts Market, Face Painting, Olde Tyme Games, Live Music! More information for the public and registration forms to march or have a vendor space, on the Recreation Webpage soon!

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

E-mail - recreation@westfordvt.us

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Summer Archery

Hosted by Westford Recreation Department & Pelkey's Archery



Session 1: Mondays June 19th & 26th

Session 2: Tuesdays June 20th & 27th

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Westford Elementary School

Ages 5 and over \$50 fee per session

Pre-Registration is REQUIRED. Sign Up on the Registration Form at

<https://westfordvt.us/recreation>

Registration will open 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 30

Parent & Me

For Pre-K youth.

Must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Head Coach - Meghan Valyou Orisko

T-Ball

Focus on the fundamentals of
baseball and softball

Dates - Tuesdays - June 20, 27; July 11, 25;
August 1, 8, 15, 22

Time - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Ages 3 - 6 at time of program

Fee - for 6 to 8 sessions - TBD



Soccer

Focus on the fundamentals

Dates - Wednesdays - June 21, 28;

July 12, 26; August 2, 9, 16, 23

Time - 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Ages - 1 to 6 at time of program

Fee for 6 to 8 sessions - TBD

Register mid-April at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>






FOURTH OF JULY

WESTFORD TOWN COMMON
JULY 4, 2023 • 10AM – 1PM

Westford Recreation invites you to join
the celebration and enjoy the festivities

Parade, Live Music, Market Vendors, Face Painting and
other activities for kids, Lawn Games, and so much more!



Senator Irene Wrenner, Chittenden North

May 22, 2023

This year's legislative session has ended, but lawmakers may return to Montpelier for a veto session in late June.

The Senate introduced 161 bills; the House presented 523 bills.

Bills recently-passed by the Senate, and how I voted on them, include:

NO - S.5 Affordable Heat Act

YES - S.17 County sheriff reforms

YES - S.18 Regulate flavored tobacco

YES - S.25 Ban PFAS in cosmetics, menstrual products, textiles, athletic fields

YES - S.47 Transport of individuals requiring psychiatric care

YES - S.56 Child care and early childhood education

YES - S.135 VT Saves (Employee Roth IRAs)

YES - S.190 Expand patient choice at end of life to non-residents

YES - S.222 Reduce overdoses

YES - H.53 Driver's license suspensions

YES - H.89 Protection for medication abortions

YES - H.148 End child marriage

YES - H.230 Suicide Prevention

YES - H.494 Budget Bill



All bills may be viewed here: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/search/2024>

My voting record here: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/people/single/2024/37415#voting-record>

I received the most feedback on bills H.230 and S.5.

The Senate passed H.230, a suicide prevention bill, on Friday, April 28th, after modifying its language around safe storage of firearms to that of negligence, similar to New Hampshire's and Maine's laws. If no one commits a crime with or brandishes a gun of yours, you won't be at fault for storage or lack thereof. How you choose to keep guns out of the hands of children and vulnerable others in your domicile is up to you.

I supported H.230 in memory of Vermonters who have gotten unfettered access to guns and taken their own lives or others' lives.

I repeatedly voted down the (un)Affordable Heat Act, S.5, which is predicted to saddle rural Vermonters, especially, with higher heating costs. One estimate is that propane, fuel oil and kerosene dealers would pass on an increase of 35 cents to \$1.40 per gallon. These numbers are based on the assumptions detailed in Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources Julie Moore's testimony to the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee: <https://tinyurl.com/SecMooreTESTIMONY>

The explanation I provided for my vote to sustain the Governor's veto:

"S.5 is a plan that was authored by special interests to benefit foreign-owned energy companies, which supply Vermonters with fracked gas (extracted with chemicals, such as PFAS) and electricity made from burning wood from Vermont forests. If this bill were truly about greenhouse gas reduction, biomass, biofuels and fracked gas wouldn't get a pass. Instead, those without a seat at the table will pay to enrich those who did have one."

To get on my calendar or to send feedback, reach me at iwrenner@leg.state.vt.us or 802 338 2247 (c).

I post occasional updates on Front Porch Forum and <http://Facebook.com/SenatorIreneWrenner>.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive a copy of the Town Newsletter by email, send an email to townclerk@westfordvt.us with your name (required), email address (required) and address (optional). To view current and past newsletters visit:

<https://westfordvt.us/documents/newsletters/>