



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

November 2023



The **Eastern Coyote** is larger than other Coyotes and did not populate the East until the extermination of wolves in the area. They are opportunistic omnivores whose diet shifts with the changing seasons. They are also strictly monogamous.

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

Selectboard FY'25 Budget Workshops

The Selectboard will begin working on the FY'24 Budget in October, Upcoming workshops will be held on:

- 10/26
- 11/9
- 12/14

If needed, additional meetings will be held. The Board encourages residents to attend these meetings to provide feedback to assist the Board in developing a budget to be voted on in March 2024.

Senior Luncheon

Boy do we have a good deal for you....Turkey dinner w/all the fixins' without the fuss of cooking and cleanup! Sounds perfect, right?!?! Let our group of amazing volunteers serve you up a Thanksgiving meal amongst friends and neighbors. Any Westford resident 55+ are welcome to join us on Monday November 13th at the Red Brick Meeting House. Doors will open at 11:30 with lunch service beginning around 12 noon. We will have an Age Well representative on hand selling restaurant meal tickets and information about upcoming community meals in our area. Give us a try...you might win the 50-50 raffle, a table decoration and maybe even our true/false game! Please reach out if you have any questions or are in need of a ride. We respectfully ask folks to pass on lunch if you are having any respiratory symptoms. Thank you!

Co-presidents Mary Fay (802- 878-1215) & Cori Hill (802-238-1018)

Newsletter Deadline

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

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open:

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

The office is **CLOSED**:

- November 7 – Wastewater Bond Vote

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



FALL ROADS

What you need to know about fall road conditions

- **Tourists:** watch for tourists “leaf peeping”. They may be driving slowly or be in need of directions.
- **High Winds:** can damage trees which then may block roads. Come across a tree blocking the road? Give the town office a call!

Reminders:

- Several hunting seasons occur during fall. Watch for vehicles parked on the side of roads. Pedestrians and pets should wear orange/yellow reflective clothing.

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://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://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 d-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.



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: John Roberts, 1713 VT Route 128, Westford, VT 05494.

For more information, contact John Roberts at road_foreman@westfordvt.us or 802-879-4306
Position open until filled. Westford is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

DOG WARDEN

The Town of Westford is looking for someone who is interested in serving as Dog Warden. What is a Dog Warden? A Dog Warden is a person who helps dog owners comply with the Westford Dog Ordinance.

Qualifications: A love for dogs, the ability to communicate effectively and a location to bring dogs until they can be reunited with their owner to name a few. You may think you need a kennel to be a Dog Warden. This is not the case. However, a stray dog does need to be kept in a healthy environment until it is reunited with the owner. A healthy environment includes shelter, food, water, and a suitable area for them to relieve themselves.

The Dog Warden position receives an annual stipend of \$500 and there are funds available for training, supplies and mileage. The Town also has supplies, including a dog house, that can be utilized. If you would like more information on helping your community by serving in this position, please contact the Selectboard at selectboard@westfordvt.us or call the Town Office at 802-878-4587. Westford residency is preferred but not required.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

NOVEMBER 1st

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – 6PM @ The Westford School (NO ZOOM OPTION)

Shall the voters of the Town of Westford elect two additional Selectboard Members for terms of two years each? Come to the Westford School at 6pm to discuss and cast your vote. Please note this is a floor vote ONLY. There will be no zoom option.

NOVEMBER 1st

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – 7pm @ The Westford School

This is a Public Informational Hearing for the Community Wastewater Project Bond Vote. Come to the Westford School to discuss the project before votes are cast and counted on November 7th. There is a zoom option to participate if you so desire: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82428695329?pwd=UHZJZ3pzZTQ0VjFBcUk2OUNHemdWdz09>.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE WASTEWATER BOND VOTE

**The Wastewater Bond Vote will be held on
November 7th, 2023 at the Westford School from 7am-7pm.**

The town sent mail-in ballots to ALL ACTIVE VOTERS the week of October 16th. This was a decision made by the Selectboard during their August 10th meeting. Your mail-in ballot comes with return postage so you can easily send your ballot to the town. You may also drop your ballot off at the town office in the secure drop box outside of the office to the left of the front door OR in the drop box inside by the front counter. On polling day, please drop all ballots off at the polling location: the gym at the Westford School on Brookside Road.

If you want to vote physically at the polls you are always more than welcome to do so! Please bring your ballot with you if you can, but no worries if you forget, we always have ballots available. You are also welcome to come with your already filled out absentee ballot and put it through the tabulator yourself!

Not sure if you're registered to vote in Westford? Check your voter registration status here: <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>

If you have questions about the ballots and voting process? Feel free to give the Town Clerk's office a call: 802-878-4587 or email us: townclerk@westfordvt.us

We will continue to post updates and new information in the months running up to the election both in the Newsletter and on Front Porch Forum.

Questions about the Community Wastewater Project in general? Visit: <https://www.westfordsfuture.com/>





WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TRAIL CLEAN UP DAY

Thanks to all who joined us on trail maintenance/clean-up day! We really appreciate the help, and there's always more to do! Feel free to push debris off to the side whenever you are out enjoying the trails. All debris must be placed within the trail right-of-way limits, which are 25' on either side of the center of the trail. Do not throw sticks, logs etc. way into the woods. Let us know of downed trees and other large obstacles.

ACTIVE HUNTING

HUNTING IS A PERMITTED ACTIVITY IN THE MAPLE SHADE TOWN FOREST. HUNTING OF ANY SPECIES IS PERMITTED DURING DEER AND TURKEY SEASONS. Orange vests have been provided at the entrance of the forest. Please return them after your walk.

Hunting, whatever and whenever permitted, also takes place on private lands. All trails in Westford either pass through or abut private lands. Therefore, please take precautions when traveling on trails during hunting season. Hunting and Trapping Season Schedule can be found here: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/hunt/hunting-and-trapping-seasons>.

GROOMED TRAILS

It's not too early to start thinking about snow! The WCC and volunteers will be grooming trails at the Elementary School. The trails are open to all, but to maximize everyone's enjoyment, please maintain "lanes" on the groomed trails. The set track is for cross country skiers, the corduroy is to be shared by snowshoers and skate skiers. We will endeavor to install signs to provide guidance.

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 Route 128, Westford, VT 05494. Thank you!

And as always,

Please let us know if you see downed trees or other required maintenance to any of the trails.

Email westfordcc@googlegroups.com

Our next meeting will be on November 16, 2023 at 6pm at the Westford Town Hall. Agenda will be posted in advance.

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 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



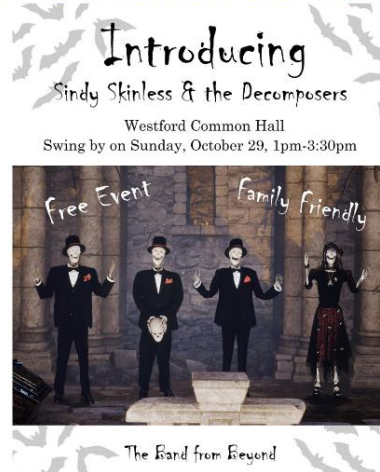
WESTFORD
COMMON
HALL



Westford Halloween Walk - October 29th!

The WCH is so happy to once again be participating in this year's Westford Halloween Walk by hosting the bone-chilling animatronic singing quartet **Sindy Skinless and the Decomposers!** Sindy and her talented troupe have been delighting Halloween audiences since 2007 and they will be performing at the WCH on October 29th from 1pm - 3:30pm. Drop by at any time during the show - they'll be sure to tickle your funny bone!

See what they're all about at:
<https://www.sindyskinless.com>



Westford Music Series:
Sunday November 12th, 4 - 5pm

Marsh Lights

Free will
donation
and
Pie Raffle



Thanks for Celebrating With Us!



The WCH Board wishes to thank all town folks who came out for the "Raise a Glass with the Westford Common Hall Celebration", a community good-will gathering hosted by the WCH last Friday, October 20, 2023. We toasted the warmth and the transition from a failing fossil fuel heat system to the new efficient, quiet and clean heat pump system and gave thanks for the opportunity provided by federal ARPA funding administered by the Town!

[FUN FACT: Ask any WCH Board member how the behemoth of the old noisy, smelly furnace was removed from the building!]



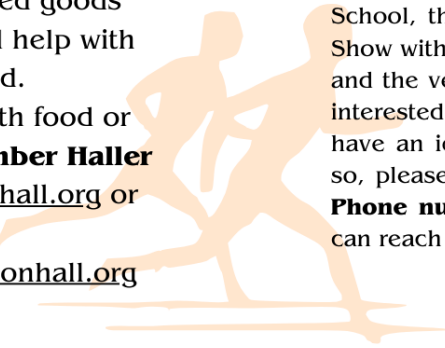
Volunteers are stepping up - will YOU join?

As we did last year, the WCH will be helping out the **Westford Annual Turkey Trot** with a water station and food concession at the Westford Elementary school. Donations of food (chili, quiche, soup, baked goods (desserts, cornbread) and help with serving are needed.

If you are able to help with food or serving, please contact **Amber Haller** amber@westfordcommonhall.org or **Maura O'Brien** secretary@westfordcommonhall.org



The WCH Board Members would appreciate any help in providing this and other community-building events. Over the past year the WCH has provided many events for our town. We have hosted the Music Series, concessions for the Turkey Trot, events for the February Winterfest, the Spring Adult Prom, the Collaborative ART SHOW with the Westford Elementary School, the Fourth of July Hot Dog Sale, Dinner and Show with Steve Hartmann, the Natalie Padilla concert, and the very popular July Garden Tour. Would you be interested in helping us in the future? Perhaps you have an idea of an event you'd like to spear-head. If so, please contact **Amber** or **Maura** with your **Name, Phone number and Email address**. From there, we can reach out as needs arise. **Thank you!**



Gratitude and Farewell

The WCH Board gives our heartfelt thanks as we bid farewell to **Heather Armata** as she leaves the role of part-time Executive Director. All who know Heather know that she put in enormous amounts of time beyond the position of 10 hours per week and was successful in helping launch the WCH as a viable community asset. As a result we were able to open our doors more fully than ever and to run more programs and events than ever before, helping to build Community Spirit. Give a shout out to Heather when you see her and please join us in thanking her!

[See the note from Heather that follows]

Thank you for welcoming me into the position of Executive Director in July of 2022. I was excited to help the Westford Common Hall continue to morph from a church into a community space that welcomes everyone. Over the last year, I realized that holding a full and part time job is not sustainable for my business, my family or myself, so I made the difficult decision to step down. I am very proud of what I was able to accomplish in a short time, from small tasks like starting the Instagram account, to larger events, like hosting an Adult Prom. I hope that my presence at the Westford Common Hall will help continue moving the mission forward of offering diverse and different events and I can't wait to see new community members step forward to support the efforts in motion. The Board is filled with wonderful people who all have amazing talents, interests, and expertise. I wish everyone the very best and look forward to supporting you, when I can, through volunteerism and donations. Thank you for your trust and understanding.

*Fondly,
Heather Armata*

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.





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: FALL

- 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>).

Westford Music Series 2023/2024

Sundays: 4-5 pm at the Westford Common Hall

21 Brookside Road, Westford, VT

October 15, 2023: Twangtown Paramours

November 12, 2023: Marsh Lights

December 17, 2023: Carol Ann Jones and Friends

January 21, 2024: FREVO

February 25, 2024: Will Patton Ensemble

March 24, 2024: Dale & Darcy Trio

April 7, 2024: Heliand

May 5, 2024: Howling Waters

Calling all crafters and vendors!

Reserve a table at the
Westford School Holiday Craft Fair!

WHEN:
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 2ND, 2023
9 AM - 3 PM

Email WestfordVTPTO@gmail.com for more
information. Space is limited.
First come, first served!

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

MARSH LIGHTS



ACOUSTIC FOLK-GRASS

-free will donation-

4 - 5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL

SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 12, 2023

Featuring Colby Crehan and former band members of the well-known group Possum Hall, this original folk-grass with a hyperliterate edge will thrill audiences their eclectic, alternative execution. They've received many accolades including Vermont Vocalist of the Year and Vermont Song of the Year.

A pie raffle is included for extra fun!

Call Mike 802-363-0930 for more information.



WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<https://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT

READING
makes me



The Library will be **CLOSED** Nov. 23 & 24 for Thanksgiving. We are also closing early on Nov. 1 at 6:30pm.

Seeking artists to display their work at the library. Art hangs for about three months. Contact Bree to learn more.



**Coffee and Cards
10:30am-Noon**



This month - November 14 & 28

Cribbage, Euchre, Hearts, Rummy - whatever your game - we will play it. Meet 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, especially looking to connect with seniors.

Have you tried Biblio+?

Sign up with your library card at www.biblioplus.com to start streaming their selection of films and TV series today! The biblio+ app is available for download on Apple devices (iPhone, iPad, Apple TV), Android phone and tablet, Amazon Fire TV, and Roku, or stream directly from www.biblioplus.com.



Puzzle Swap - Nov. 30 thru Dec. 2 during regular library hours.

Do you need some new puzzles to get you through the winter?

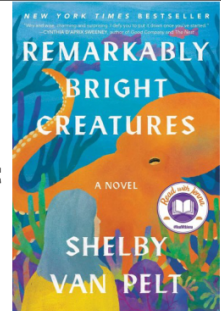
Drop off complete (must have all pieces) puzzles during open

hours 11/14-11/29. Bins will be available to sort at drop off. Then come back for the swap on Nov. 30 thru Dec. 2 during regular library hours - come early for best selection. This is completely FREE - take what you will do. Kids & adult puzzles accepted. You do not have to drop off a puzzle to take a new one.

OPEN HOURS:

Tuesdays 10am-7pm
Wednesdays 1-7pm
Thursdays 10am-7pm
Fridays 1-7pm
Saturdays 10am-2pm

**Adult Book Group
Wed., Nov. 29
7:00-8:00 pm
Remarkably Bright
Creatures
By:Shelby Van Pelt**



For fans of A Man Called Ove, a charming, witty and compulsively readable exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus.

After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago.

Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors—until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova.

Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late.

Shelby Van Pelt's debut novel is a gentle reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible.

Print copies available at library, ebook and audiobook available on Libby for simultaneous use.

Early Literacy Storytime - Thursdays at 11:30am inside the library.

11/2/23: Theme: Trains

11/9/23: Theme: Fire Safety Storytime - with WFD and a real firetruck!

11/16/23: Theme: Turkeys

11/23/23 - NO STORYTIME - CLOSED

11/30/23: Snow

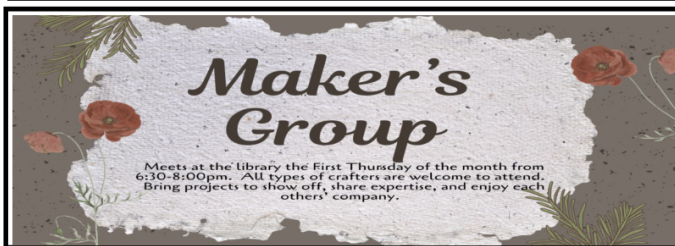


We sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome.

November Library Events

November 1 - Library CLOSERS EARLY at 6:30pm
 November 2 - LEGO Club begins - sign up required
 November 2 - Maker's Group meets 6:30-8:00pm
 November 7 - Crafting Club begins - sign up required
 November 8 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
 November 9 - Fire Safety Storytime 11:30 - with WFD and a real firetruck - part of this is outside.
 November 9 - Tabletop Game Night 6:30-8pm
 November 14-29 - Bring in puzzles for our swap anytime during open hours - see newsletter for more details
 November 14 - Coffee and Cards - 10:30-Noon
 November 15 - Space Themed PJ Storytime 6:30-7:30
 November 23 - CLOSED
 November 24 - CLOSED
 November 28 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon
 November 29 - Adult Book Group - Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt 7-8pm
 November 30 - December 2 - Puzzle Swap during normal library hours
 November 30 - Tabletop Game Night 6:30-8pm

Crafting Club meets Tuesdays 4-5pm
Storytime Thursdays 11:30 in the Library
LEGO Club meets Thursdays 4-5pm



Get Excited About Space Series: PJ story time
Wednesday, Nov. 15
6:30-7:30pm

Cozy up with some out of this world stories and wear your jammies to the library! We will read stories about space and get excited about the upcoming April eclipse!

Families who attend are guaranteed eclipse glasses when we pass them out closer to the April Eclipse.

Fire Safety Storytime

Thursday, Nov. 9 at 11:30am

Fire Chief, Steve Willard, will be reading us stories, showing us equipment fire fighters use to keep us safe, show what to do in case of a fire, and letting us explore the firetruck! We will be outside for part of this.



LEGO Club!

Thursdays from 4-5pm in November (not 11/23)

Grades 1-4 - sign up required (call or email)

Kids will ride the bus (with note from home and EWSD transportation form) to the library each week. More information on bussing to those who sign up.

Snack included.

We will do a combination of free building, building challenges, and have lots of LEGO fun!

Space is limited, so plan to attend weekly and sign up early.



Crafting Club!

Tuesdays from 4-5pm in November (not 11/21)

Grades 3 and up - sign up required (call or email)

Kids will ride the bus

(with note from home and EWSD transportation form) to the library each week. More information on bussing to those who sign up.

Snack and all supplies included

We will work on a variety of projects using a variety of mediums - not just coloring. Perfect for kids who are focused on coloring, art, and crafts.

Space is limited, so plan to attend weekly and sign up early.



New Story Walk on the school trails

Enjoy "Jody's Beans" on the school trails. Story starts at the front parking lot kiosk. Late fall hiking is the best!

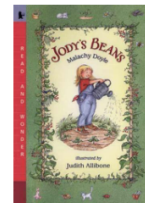


TABLE TOP GAME NIGHT - NEW GROUP!

MEETS THE 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 6:30-8PM

Meets this month on Nov.

9 and Nov. 30 (fifth week due to Thanksgiving)

Hosted by avid table top gamers Bill & Martha McClintock.

Bill and Martha will bring games from their extensive home game collection to share with those who come. This is a new group, so we will see how it goes. Please come to make things like this possible. Snacks provided. Bring your own beverages.



November



WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

UPCOMING RECREATION Board Meeting November 7, 2023 7pm @ Town Office & via Zoom



WRD needs you! There is a board seat open. If you have 2 hours on the first Tuesday each month from 7 to 9 p.m. to help guide WRD programming, please e-mail recreation@westfordvt.us with your interest.

What programs and equipment do you think Westford Recreation needs? Find the forms on the website and let us know! We want to hear what equipment you think Westford needs, and what programming you would like to see offered.

Remember, the WRD Committee doesn't provide the programming, we just facilitate. The Board is made up of volunteers, and the Coordinator is just a 12 to 15 hour per week position. Other nearby towns have paid staff to run programs, WRD does not. Please let us know if you would like to provide a program!



It was great to see so many people at the
Westford Bike Park Grand Opening!

Big Air, Small Wheels, Prizes, Pizza, Ice Cream
and best yet, great weather!

Wonderful fun for all ages.

Thanks to: Fellowship of the Wheel, Richard
Tom Foundation, Westford Country Store,
Bootleggers Bikes, Wheels on Wheels,
UVMHealth, and friends!

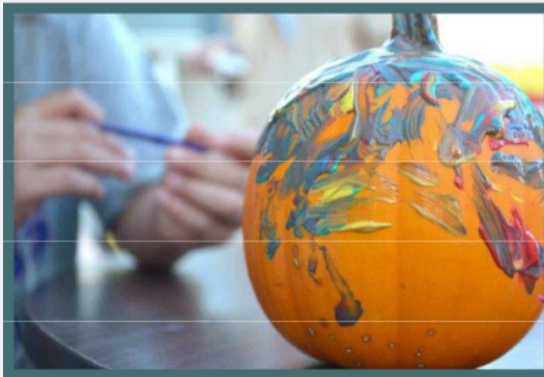


Continuing PROGRAMS:

- ❖ **Adult Pick-up Basketball** @ Westford School – Wednesdays 7 to 9 p.m. when school is in session Ages 16+ October - January (fall session) & February - June (spring session) \$5 drop in, \$20 for fall session, \$25 for spring session, or \$40 for both sessions

Coming soon:

- ❖ **Pumpkin Painting** @ the Gazebo on the Westford Common – Saturday, 10/28 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - pumpkins and paints provided, while supplies last. Then bring your painted pumpkin to the Halloween Walk!



- ❖ **Halloween Walk** - Sunday, 10/29 1 to 3 p.m. the safest/easy way to enjoy Halloween!
- ❖ **Haunted Forest** @ Westford School Trails – Friday, November 3 - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. FREE - suggested for ages 8 to 13.



- ❖ **Women's Futsal** @ Westford School – Mondays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. when school is in session Session 1 - November 13, 2023 through January 29, 2024 - \$30.00 Session 2 - February 5, 2024 through April 29, 2024 - \$30.00 Both Sessions - \$50.00 Drop in - \$5.00 per night

- ❖ **Turkey Trot** - find the flyer in the newsletter, and register! Saturday, November 18.



- ❖ **Youth Basketball** - let us know what you want for a Recreation youth basketball program! Skills drills only? League games? E-mail today. Coaches still needed as well.



- ❖ **Santa's Mailbox** - look for letters to fill out at the Westford Library, and for Santa's mailbox to arrive November 25. Be sure your young writer includes a return address!



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

E-mail - recreation@westfordvt.us

WESTFORD TURKEY TROT

3K 10K WESTFORD VT 2023

**JOIN THE WESTFORD
RECREATION DEPT. &
BE A PART OF THIS
HISTORIC TOWN EVENT!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR:

- PHOTOGRAPHY
- RACE DAY SETUP
- RACE COURSE MARSHALS
- POST-RACE CLEAN UP
- RAFFLE DONATIONS
- WATER TABLES
- AND MORE...

VOLUNTEER

**INTERESTED?
SEND US A
MESSAGE...**

**EVENT COORDINATOR
MEGHAN VALYOU ORISKO
VALYOU@GMAIL.COM
617-999-4772**

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH 2023

WESTFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 146 BROOKSIDE ROAD

**8:30-9:30AM RACE DAY REGISTRATION & PACKET PICKUP
SIGN IN & COLLECT YOUR BIBS & SHIRTS IN THE GYM**

9:45AM TOT TROT

**RUNNERS & SPECTATORS LINE THE DRIVEWAY TO CHEER
ON THE TOTS**

10AM 5K & 10K RACE START

**RACERS LINE UP ON BROOKSIDE ROAD, JUST BEYOND THE
SCHOOL DRIVE ENTRANCE**

POST-RACE REFRESHMENTS IN THE GYM

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE WESTFORD COMMON HALL

11:45AM WINNERS ANNOUNCED & RAFFLE IN THE GYM

**AWARDS FOR: TOP 3 RUNNERS OVERALL & IN EACH AGE &
GENDER CATEGORY**

RACES

TOT TROT 100 yd.

3K RACE 1.71mi.

10K RACE 6.1mi.

RACE T-SHIRTS

FREE

**IF YOU REGISTER ONLINE
BY NOVEMBER 1ST**

**\$18 PRE-REGISTER ONLINE
[RUNREG.COM/WESTFORD-TURKEY-TROT](https://runreg.com/westford-turkey-trot)
\$20 RACE-DAY REGISTRATION**

ALL RACERS ARE ENTERED INTO THE RAFFLE

REGISTRATION

Do you like the Westford Community Ice Rink?

Do you want to see this long-standing tradition continue?

Please help! We can't do this without you!

We need a Rink Master! Someone who will organize the snow removal crew, identify when it needs resurfacing, share when the conditions are not good for use, be sure all pucks and goals have been pulled off in the evenings, etc. Someone who will ensure the board pieces are ready to set up, and call out the volunteers when it's time to take down.



E-mail recreation@westfordvt.us to offer help



HAUNTED FOREST

SPONSORED BY THE WESTFORD REC DEPT

WHERE: WESTFORD SCHOOL TRAILS

WHEN: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD 6:30 - 8:00 PM

COST: FREE!

COME JOIN IN THE FUN AND GET A SCARE OF A LIFETIME!

RECOMMENDED AGES 8 - 13

YOU ALL ARE IN FOR A GREAT NIGHT!!!

Westford Halloween Walk organizers, in collaboration with Westford Recreation Department, present our newest Westford tradition which we've all made possible...

THE 4TH ANNUAL

WESTFORD HALLOWEEN WALK IV:

POTIONS & PUMPKINS

OCTOBER 29, 2023
1:00PM - 3:00PM

ON THE WESTFORD COMMON

Come and park your broomsticks for a spooky **free trick-or-treat walk** for our Westford youngsters and young-at-heart folk, planned and (g)hosted by your friends and neighbors!

- 👁️ Fill up your candy pails on the Westford Common!
- 👁️ Show off those drop-dead gourd-eous costumes!
- 👁️ Vote in our Spooky Table Decoration Contest!
- 👁️ Carve or paint a pumpkin and win a prize
- 🍂 See Westford Recreation Department social media (FPF & Facebook) for more details
- 👁️ Even more to come! Stay tuned on Front Porch Forum

Bring a non-perishable item for the Westford Food Shelf if you can



Interested in hosting a table, or making a candy or pumpkin donation?
Have questions? Email: westfordhalloween@gmail.com



WESTFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thank you to families for attending Open House. We look forward to seeing you again for family conferences to discuss students individually. The conference window begins this week and includes evening conferences on Thursday, November 2nd.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

We know that quality family-school communication is key to each child's learning and we have set up a series of opportunities to provide ongoing communication with parents about their student's experiences throughout the year. The outline below captures much of our assessment plan. At this time, families should also have individual student reports from the state assessment given at the end of the 2022/23 school year.

- November Family Conferences & First Round of Progress Monitoring
- January Winter assessment window and progress reports
- March Family conferences
- May Spring assessment window
- June Final report cards

Personal Device Use Update

I am pleased to report that our new procedures for collecting students' personal devices are positively impacting students attending to learning, being more engaged in peer-to-peer interactions, and in reducing incidents of mean online behavior. Our next step is partnering with families when a student fails to turn in their device and states it is because the parent told them to just hide it in their locker instead. I assure you our procedures for collecting devices are safe and the best method to meet the ultimate expectation of being free from checking their personal devices throughout the school day. I encourage all families to watch the [Social Dilemma](#) as well as this 4-minute video, [What the Internet is doing to our brains](#).

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/>