



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

March 2024



Vermont **Maple Syrup** has made up a majority of the United State's Maple Syrup since 1916. Maple sugar was a major cash commodity in the North East during the civil war when cane sugar lost its appeal due to its association with slavery.

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

Candidate Forum

The Candidate Forum that was hosted by the Library on February 15th can now be viewed online! You can view it here: <https://lcatv.org/westford-candidate-forum-2024-02-15>.

Town Meeting Day & Presidential Primary

Ballots for the Town Meeting Australian Ballot articles were sent to all active voters the week of February 12th. Voters can return their ballots with the provided return postage, at the town office drop box, inside the town office, or at the polls during polling day, March 5th 7am-7pm at the Westford School. For more information on the in person Town Meeting Day for non-Australian ballot articles, please see further down in this newsletter.

Presidential Primary ballots are now available! To receive a primary ballot by mail you must request one. You can find absentee ballot request forms in person and online. For online requests go here: <https://mvp.vermont.gov/> For in person requests stop by the Westford Town Office. You can also email in your request to townclerk@westfordvt.us or give us a call 802-578-8141. The latest you can request an absentee ballot is 5pm on Monday March 4th.

Dog Licenses

Dogs in Westford are required to be vaccinated against rabies and licensed with the town by April 1st. This is required legally by the State of Vermont. The fee for spayed/neutered dogs is \$11.00 and the fee for intact dogs is \$13.00 after April 1st late fees will begin being assessed.

Senior Luncheon

How does a St. Patrick's Day feast sound? Westford's current and past residents are encouraged to join us on Monday, March 11th at the Red Brick Meeting House for our next luncheon. Following this meal, we have a speaker lined up to give a fraud watch presentation. This is information we could all benefit from! Doors open at 11:30am for socializing and the meal service should begin around 12 noon. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions and if you are feely poorly, please pass on lunch so we can avoid spreading any illness.

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



Opportunities to Serve the Community – Appointed Positions on Boards & Committees

The Town of Westford has several opportunities to serve the community! These appointments are for non-elected positions and are made by the new Selectboard after Town Meeting Day. To apply for one of the positions below, please submit an application ([APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT](#)) to townadmin@westfordvt.us or mail/drop off at the town office.

Development Review Board

There are 2 terms coming up for re-appointment in 2024. Both seats are for 3-year terms. There are also 2 Alternate seats up for re-appointment for 1-year terms.

Members of this board review and makes decisions on:

- Appeals of Administrative Officer decisions
- Conditional Use, Site Plans
- Subdivisions & Planned Unit Development
- Variances & Waivers.

[Learn more on the website!](#)

Planning Commission

There is 1 term coming up for re-appointment in 2024. This seat serves for a 5-year term.

Members of this commission prepare the Town Plan, Land Use & Development Regulations and participate in other planning studies as necessary.

[Learn more on the website!](#)

Conservation Commission

There are 2 terms coming up for re-appointment in 2024. Both seats are for 4-year terms.

The Conservation Commission helps preserve the rural character of the town. [Learn more on the website!](#)

Recreation Committee

There are 2 terms coming up for re-appointment in 2024. Both seats are for 3-year terms.

Members of this Committee organize and runs programs for Westford residents of all ages including Futsal, basketball, annual Turkey Trot and more. [Learn more on the website!](#)

Cemetery Commission

There is 1 term coming up for re-appointment in 2024. This seat serves for a 3-year term.

The Cemetery Commission oversees the care and maintenance of the seven Town cemeteries. [Learn more on the website!](#)

Please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or townadmin@westfordvt.us if you have questions about any of these positions.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the April Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, March 25th.

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/>

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open:

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

The Office is **CLOSED**:

- March 5 – Town Meeting Day Election
- April 9 – School Budget Election

We Need Your Ideas!!

The newly formed Wastewater Committee is investigating wastewater/septic system alternatives to the Maple Shade community system which is on pause. If you have an idea that may help provide septic capacity for some of our Village Center, please let us know! Alternatives can include septic systems for the Town Office and Library alone, or for any combination of those buildings plus the Brick Meeting House, Westford Common Hall and/or private residences/businesses. We are gathering all ideas, so don't be shy. Are you a property owner near the Village Center who would be willing to have your property considered and perhaps evaluated? Are you a septic installer who knows of a new technology we could try? Are you an engineer with experience and ideas to share? Send your idea(s) to the Town Administrator, Holly Delisle, at townadmin@westfordvt.us.

Whether you have ideas to share or not, you can keep up to date with the work of the WSOC on the town website's new Wastewater page (<https://westfordvt.us/wastewater-alternatives-study/>), or by attending a public meeting of the Committee on Tuesdays at 3pm via Zoom or in person at the Town Office.



SLOW

MUD SEASON!

What you need to know about spring road conditions.

- **Mud:** appears on gravel roads as snow thaws. Reduce your driving speeds to ensure safety and to preserve road conditions.
- **Snow:** a mix of precipitation can occur. Snow on top of muddy roads will become more slippery.
- **Potholes:** WILL appear on gravel roads. They cannot be fixed in freezing temperatures. Do your part to help reduce potholes by driving slowly and avoiding areas in poor condition if you can.
- **Heavy Loads:** do damage to thawing roads. Traveling on roads with heavy equipment may be prohibited at any time.
- **Repairs:** roads are repaired as weather allows. Know that this takes time, it might take the road crew some time to get to your road. Highly traveled roads in poor condition are given priority.

Reminders:

- Watch for increased activity by wildlife including bears coming out of hibernation, wild turkey and young animals navigating roads for the first time.
- Pedestrian & recreational use of roads will increase starting at this time of the year, slow and allow room for all road users.
- Please keep pets and other animals under leash or vocal control when on or near roadways.

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

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



- March 24 – Dale & Darcy Trio
- April 7 – Heliand
- May 5 – Howling Waters
- June 23 - FREVO



MUNICIPAL JOB OPENINGS

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.

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

THE DALE AND DARCY TRIO



ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

-free will donation-

**4 - 5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL
SUNDAY: MARCH 24, 2024**

Folk will be in store for a lively performance celebrating Irish history with energetic and cohesive music. Dale and Darcy Cahill started out playing together with Neil Rossi 15 years ago and built up a wide fan base through the Eastern United States. They have been playing old-timey, Americana Roots, Bluegrass and Irish music ever since.

A pie raffle is included for extra fun! Call 802-363-0930 for more information.

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 CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TRAIL CLOSURES: During mud season, various trails will be closed to prevent erosion from pedestrian traffic. Please adhere to trail closures while we wait for things to dry out. We may not have enough signs to close all affected trails, so please use your best judgment; if you need to go off the trail to walk the trail, you should not be on the trail. In other words, if conditions are so muddy or deteriorated that you need to go well off the traveled way in order to go forward, it's time to turn back. It may be possible to walk on parts of a trail, but not all the way through.

"Trails that are oversaturated are vulnerable to damage from soil compaction and erosion with every footstep. Soil compaction degrades the quality of the trail by reducing its ability to absorb water, causing increased flooding later and making it harder for vegetation to grow. Erosion then carries the soil away, leaving rocks and roots exposed." – Green Mountain Club

GROOMED TRAILS –But if we happen to ever see any snow again...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 try to provide ski reports when it's warranted.

FLICK A STICK - 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! Feel free to flick sticks and other small obstacles as you enjoy the trails. All debris must be kept within the trail right of way, so debris should be just off to the side of the traveled path.

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, March 20, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the Town Office



**WESTFORD
COMMON
HALL**



Gratitude

THANK YOU to all of the local businesses, artists and craftspeople who generously donated to the Westford Common Hall's WinterFest 2024 Raffle - and THANK YOU to ALL of the people who came to buy tickets! We're happy to report that the raffle was a big success - all proceeds go to ongoing building upgrades and maintenance, as well as future events for the town!



WESTFORD/ESSEX HOUSE DELEGATION: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION



**SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH 3:00PM - 4:30PM AT THE
WESTFORD COMMON HALL**

Your Westford-Essex House delegation will be available to provide updates on bills they are working on and answer more general questions about the legislative session. This is part of their "Community Conversations" series that they host each month during the session. Come with your questions, or just come to listen and gain insight into the lawmaking process.



Present for the conversation will be: Julia Andrews, Alyssa Black, Leonora Dodge, Rey Garafano, Lori Houghton, and Karen Dolan



WESTFORD
COMMON
HALL



WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES PRESENTS:

THE DALE & DARCY TRIO

SUNDAY MARCH 24TH, 2024

4:00 - 5:00 P.M.

AT THE WESTFORD COMMON HALL



Folks will be in store for a lively performance celebrating St. Patrick's Irish history with the energetic and cohesive music of the Dale & Darcy Trio. The trio play multiple instruments including Irish Fiddle, Guitar, Mandolin Strings, and Tenor Banjo along with offering strong vocals. You'll be treated to musical flavors of old-timey, Americana Roots, Bluegrass and Irish music.



FREE WILL DONATION
AND
PIE RAFFLE



A lot of people have been inquiring about when we will hold our next Adult Prom/Dance... Well, we have not yet set the date, but stay tuned because it's going to happen - we will keep you posted!

OUR COMMITMENT

We strive to make the Westford Common Hall accessible, welcoming, and open to everyone. Our goal is to promote inclusion, diversity, equity, and access throughout the organization with policies and practices that foster transformative change.

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: Spring

- Scavenge for compostable material during your spring clean! This is an easy way to recycle cardboard boxes, just remember to take off any tape!
- When adding new material to your compost pile, breaking down that material into smaller pieces will help it compost faster.
- Did you know you can add ash? Just do so sparingly. Coffee and coffee filters make great composting material as does citrus, just be aware that citrus takes a long time to break down.

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-10491883811423>).



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 - March 12 & 26

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. Please be prompt so we can include all in play.



The World of Weather—Pulling Back the Curtain on What the National Weather Service Does

Presented by NOAA Meteorologist
Jessica Storm

Tuesday, March 19 from 7-8:30pm

Do you find weather fascinating? Always wondered how the forecast comes to be? Staff from the Burlington Office of the National Weather Service will give a presentation on how they forecast the weather. Bring your weather questions!

Community Conversation about possible Library Capital Improvements

Wednesday, March 6 from 7-8pm

The Westford Public Library has the opportunity to apply for a grant through the U.S. Treasury Capital Projects Fund for Libraries. We hope to use this grant to make significant improvements to the interior space of the library and make the building fully ADA compliant. We have worked with Black River Designs architects to come up with conceptual plans in order to apply for this once in a lifetime grant opportunity. Come see what we are thinking of doing.

We will plan more of these meetings if we secure this grant. This is more of a conceptual “show and tell”. We hope to see our active library users.

OPEN HOURS:

Tuesdays 10am-7pm

Wednesdays 1-7pm

Thursdays 10am-7pm

Fridays 1-7pm

Saturdays 10am-2pm

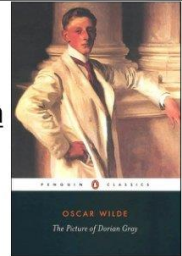
Adult Book Group Wed., March 20

7:00-8:00 pm

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Gray

By: Oscar Wilde



An astounding novel of decadence, debauchery, and secrecy from one of Ireland's greatest writers. Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read.

Enthralled by his own exquisite portrait, Dorian Gray makes a Faustian bargain to sell his soul in exchange for eternal youth and beauty. Under the influence of Lord Henry Wotton, he is drawn into a corrupt double life, where he is able to indulge his desires while remaining a gentleman in the eyes of polite society. Only Dorian's picture bears the traces of his decadence.

A knowing account of a secret life and an analysis of the darker side of late Victorian society. The Picture of Dorian Gray offers a disturbing portrait of an individual coming face to face with the reality of his soul. Shocking in its suggestion of unspeakable sin, this novel was later used as evidence against Wilde when he was tried for indecency in 1895.

Print and audio copies available at the library, ebook and audiobooks available on Libby.

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

3/7/24: Theme: Chicks

3/14/24: Theme: Green

3/21/24: Theme: Bunnies

3/28/24: Theme: Eggs

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

March Library Events

- March 5 - Benefits of Yoga for Men - 7-8:30pm
March 6 - Community Conversation about possible library capital improvements 7-8pm
March 7 - Maker's Group 6:30-8:00pm
March 12 - Coffee and Cards - 10:30-Noon
March 12 - Zentangle Afterschool Session #1 - 4-5pm, sign up required.
March 13 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
March 19 - Zentangle Afterschool Session #2 - 4-5pm, sign up required
March 19 - The World of Weather—Pulling Back the Curtain on What the National Weather Service Does - 7:00-8:30pm
March 20 - Adult Book Group 7:00-8:00pm, discussing The Picture of Dorian Gray
March 21 - Table Top Game Night 6:30-8:00pm
March 22 - Opening Reception for Janet Jaffe's Over Time - A Multimedia Exhibition
March 26 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon
March 27 - Zentangle Class for Adults 7-8:30pm

Storytime Thursdays 11:30 in the Library

Forge Strength, Gain Mobility, Find Balance: Benefits of Yoga for Men

Presented by: Doris Bitruff

Tuesday, March 5 from 7-8:30pm

I let you in on a secret: Men can do yoga! Although there is still the common misconception that yoga is primarily for woman, or the super flexible, or the spiritual, more and more men recognize the benefits that yoga offers: from physical strength and mobility to mental clarity and stress reduction. Many top athletes practice yoga to enhance performance, prevent injuries, and improve overall physical conditioning. Desk-bound professionals use the mindfulness and meditation aspects of yoga to manage stress, anxiety, and even depression.

Still many men may feel hesitant or self-conscious about stepping onto the mat. If you curious would like to try it out, bring an exercise mat or a blanket and an open mind. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Doris at info@happycat.yoga

New Art - Over Time - A Multimedia Exhibition

Long-time Westford resident Janet Jaffe will display selected artworks from her diverse personal collection at the Westford Public Library from mid March through June. Although primarily recognized as an improvisational art quilter, Janet has long maintained her primary form of creative expression is doodling. She finds inspiration everywhere. In addition to a collection of wall quilts, viewers can expect to see pen drawings, as well as assorted works assembled with recycled components, items found in nature, acquired at flea markets and found in her world travels.

Art Opening Reception - Friday, March 22 from 6:30-8:00. Meet the artist, refreshments served.

Maker's Group - Meets the First Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm.

All types of crafters are welcome to attend. Bring projects to show off, share expertise, and enjoy each others' company.



TABLE TOP GAME NIGHT March 21 from 6:30-8pm

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. Snacks provided.

Zentangle Classes - 2 opportunities - Taught by Zentangle certified instructor Julia Davenport.

Kids - March 12 & 19, afterschool (4-5pm), signup for both days required. For 2nd grade and up. Kids ride the bus from school with a note from home. Snack and supplies provided.

Adults - March 27 from 7:00-8:30pm, signup required. Come relax and have fun with other adults! All supplies and snacks provided.

Zentangle is a relaxing and forgiving drawing art form. We work on a small scale with minimal tools. If you can write your name you can do this art form. It is a great brain break and calms the nervous system. And you will be amazed at what you can create.



WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY: Providing a community hub for everyone to explore, engage, and enjoy.



Are you ready for the upcoming Total Solar Eclipse?

The Westford Public Library is here to help! We are so excited to be part of Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries (SEAL). This means we have had training, equipment and solar glasses for FREE thanks to the generous sponsors below.

Eclipse Timing for Westford:

Partial Eclipse begins: 2:14

Totality begins: 3:26:20

Totality ends: 3:29:42 (that's an incredible 3 minutes 22 seconds of totality!)

Partial Eclipse ends: 4:37

Learn all about the Eclipse at this Eclipse Talk - Saturday, April 6 from 2:00-3:30pm

Solar eclipse ambassador and avid space enthusiast, Molly Drapa, will explain all about eclipses. Her presentation will cover what they are, why they occur, and teach you all about this upcoming, once-in-a-lifetime event. Great for all levels of learners - older kids to experts. The presentation will last about an hour, with plenty of time for questions afterwards.

Experience the Eclipse Together! Eclipse Viewing Party on the Common - 2:00-4:30pm

- * Eclipse Crafts in the Gazebo with Westford PTO
- * Cool sun viewing equipment - Sunoculars and a SunSpotter
- * It is cool to view something like this as a community!

Use certified solar-viewing glasses



Glasses - How and When do I get eclipse glasses?

- * March 26 - April 8 while supplies last (we have 500 pairs!)
- * Anyone who attended our space programming will have a reserved pair
- * All students at Westford School and the Barn School will receive their own pair
- * Pick up glasses at the library with a [valid Westford Library Card](#) (max 2 per household)
- * NASA recommends 1 pair of glasses per 3 people - you do not need glasses at all during totality!



Senator Irene Wrenner, Chittenden North

February 26, 2024

With one week to go before Town Meeting break, legislators are doubling down on committee work while boning up on other committees' bills, so we can answer constituent questions in our respective towns.

State House hallways are brimming with visiting students and people advocating for various causes each day. Evenings offer competing presentations, films, and meetups with passionate hosts. Emails to legislators get read in between.

The projected education tax increase is a dark cloud on the horizon. Inflationary pressures (including a 16% increase in health care costs) and a new pupil weighting plan have driven costs considerably higher. For details on the latter, see vtdigger.org/2024/02/22/how-vermonts-education-funding-landscape-has-changed.

Another dark cloud is the growing number of Vermonters who are food insecure and lack a place to call home. Having met someone who sleeps in their car, I'm hard pressed to imagine how people survive our winters this way.

Vermonters Bess O'Brien has documented both challenges in her moving new film, *Just Getting By* (kingdomcounty.org), which will screen at Main Street Landing in Burlington on March 22 and 23. I've seen it and highly recommend it!

The child car seat bill that I wrote about last month is now part (sections 24 - 25) of S.309, which the Senate has passed. It awaits consideration by the House.

Three months' research into \$20M of regional dispatch activity led me to draft an amendment to the budget adjustment act (H.839). While it didn't pass, I plan to continue educating peers on the need for oversight and accountability there.

Made it to Winter Festival this month, as well as the Senior Luncheon. I'm grateful to everyone who hosts these community-building opportunities.

Feel free to contact me if you're planning a weekend or Monday event this spring. Find me at the Essex/Westford State House Reps conversation on March 16th at 3 pm at the Westford Common Hall. Send email to iwrenner@leg.state.vt.us. Follow highlights at www.facebook.com/SenatorIreneWrenner. Thank you!



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 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.



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 dog warden:

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



SAVE THE DATE

April 13th



IRENE ALLEN'S 120TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Westford Library

Irene Allen (1904-1986) was Westford's librarian for decades. She was also a historian and genealogist as well as an author and newspaper reporter.

We will present some of the trove of her papers from the UVM Special Collection and we invited anyone who remembers her to participate in a discussion.

Refreshments provided.

More information will be in April's newsletter, on Front Porch Forum, and on the Westford Historical Society Facebook Page.

IN PERSON TOWN MEETING DAY & PUBLIC HEARING FOR AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ARTICLES

Come to Westford's FIRST in person Town Meeting Day since Covid!

WHEN & WHERE

March 4 @7pm at the Westford School, 146 Brookside Road.

HOW:

Come in person or view remotely via Zoom (please note that you cannot vote on Floor Articles via Zoom).

WHAT:

Articles being voted on the Floor on March 4th are Articles 1-3 on the Warning which can be viewed here:

<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Town-Meeting-Warning-2024.pdf>

You can view the proposed budget here:

<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Proposed-Expenses-FY25.pdf>

You can view the budget presentation here:

<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/PDF-of-Budget-Presentation-March-4-2024.pdf>

ZOOM LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88567831859?pwd=S3NmWTVUZ1IncGtjSmdhQk5tTVRhdz09>

Meeting ID: 885 6783 1859

Passcode: Fc4D4J or dial +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)





WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

March 2024

March WRD Committee Meeting - March 5 7:00 p.m. @ Town Office & via Zoom

Registration is required for all WRD programs, including drop-in (but you only have to register once for each program).

Easter Egg Hunt 2024 - 3/30 10:00 a.m. Town Common



Continuing PROGRAMS.

- ❖ **Adult pick-up basketball** - Wednesdays evenings, Westford School gym
- ❖ **Women's Futsal** - Monday evenings, Westford School gym

New PROGRAMS.

- ❖ **MS Girls Basketball** @ Westford School - Tuesdays, 3/12 to 5/14 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. FREE
- ❖ **Slow Flow Yoga** @ RBMH - Thursdays, 3/14 to 4/11 except 3/20 Wednesday - 5 sessions for \$50 or \$12 drop in.
- ❖ **Flying Disc Fun!** @ Westford School - Saturday mornings 3/23 to 5/25 Are you interested? See the flyer and e-mail!



Links to registrations and more information available on the town website:

<https://westfordvt.us/recreation/> E-mail - recreation@westfordvt.us

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Westford Recreation is considering offering



Flying Disc Fun!

Saturday mornings March 23 through May 25
Westford School gym.



All ages - Younger players should probably have a parent or teen play with them.

Skills and learning starting at 9:00 a.m., moving on to more skilled and possibly team play around 10:00. Finishing at 11:00.



E-mail if you are interested in guiding/coaching, and also to let us know if you have interest in playing! recreation@westfordvt.us

RECREATION PROGRAMS

NEW BEGINNINGS FOR BODY AND MIND

Discover the joy of New Beginnings through the transformative power of yoga. Release the clutter of everyday life, start fresh - both physically and mentally - and fill your life with purpose and vitality. Sounds good? Then join Doris for an hour of Slow Flow Yoga practice. This Vinyasa style class gently guides you into the practice with breathing exercises followed by a warm-up phase to lubricate the joints and prime the core area. While you slowly flow through a main sequence of poses, you can let go of any worries and surrender to your inner-most self. We finish the class with a cool-down and rest which will leave you physically and mentally refreshed and content.

Five Classes at the Red Brick Meeting House

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Thursday, 3/14, 3/28, 4/4, 4/11 and Wednesday, 3/20

\$50 for the whole block, or \$12 per class for walk-ins

For both choices, please register with the Westford Recreation Department <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>



The classes are open for adults 18+. No previous yoga experience is required but a certain degree of mobility is suggested. All classes will be different and options will be provided to make the practice accessible to every body.

If you are still unsure whether this class is for you or if you have any yoga related questions, please reach out to Doris via email at info@happycat.yoga

Please, bring your own mat and a blanket or towel; props like blocks or thick books and straps or a belt may also come in handy.

Summer Archery

Hosted by Westford Recreation Department & Pelkey's Archery



Mondays June 17th & 24th

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

Ages 5 and over \$50 fee

**Pre-Registration is REQUIRED by May 1, 2024.
Sign Up on the Registration Form at**

<https://westfordvt.us/recreation>

WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT GIRLS BASKETBALL



Welcome to the Westford Recreation Department Girls Youth Basketball program.



SPRING SESSION

Focus: To help the girls build confidence and self-esteem through the great game of basketball. Whether your daughter is a beginner or experienced, we will match the instruction to the player.

The girls will work on basic skills, shooting and ball handling through potential game-like situations. We will focus on proper shooting techniques with multiple drills to encourage good habits.

Location: Westford School **Grades:** 4 through 8

When: Tuesdays 3/12 to 5/14, 2024

TIME: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

COST: FREE

If you have any questions, please email Karen Chesser (Organizer) at kchesser@ewsd.org

[Register here](https://westfordvt.us/recreation/) or at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>

Westford Recreation Annual

EASTER EGG HUNT



Saturday, March 30, 2024

10:00 a.m. sharp, Snow or Shine!

Prize bag for every child.

**Youth aged 18 months to 4 years will search one side of the common.
Youth ages 5 to 9 years will search the other.**