



# WESTFORD NEWSLETTER



*July 2025*

**American Eels** spend most of their lives in freshwater but spawn in the Atlantic Ocean towards the end of their 10-15 year old lifespan. They eat fish, crayfish, insect larvae and mollusks. They feed at night and live at great depths.

## Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

## TOWN OFFICE NOTES

### Property Tax Bills

You should receive your 2025-26 property tax bill no later than July 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the town office if you do not receive your tax bill by this date.

The first of four installments is due Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Payments will be considered timely if they are received by this date, have an August 15<sup>th</sup> postmark (postal, FedEx, or UPS), or are in the drop box located to the left of the Town Office door before the office opens at 8:30am on Monday August 18<sup>th</sup>. **If your taxes are escrowed, it is your responsibility to forward a copy of your tax bill to your mortgage company in a timely manner while retaining a copy for your records.**

Please note – If you pay your taxes using Bill Pay (generating a check online through your financial institution), make sure you allow sufficient time for mailing. These envelopes do not bear a postmark therefore will be acknowledged by the date received at the Town Office not by the date on the check.

In July, the State will send notifications to homeowners explaining the Education Tax Credit. If you are receiving a school tax adjustment it will be reflected on your tax bill. You should compare the letter with your tax bill.

## TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public:

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

**Closed:**

- July 4 – Independence Day

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the August Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMON USE POLICY

The Westford Common Committee wants to remind residents that any major use of the Common or gazebo requires an application. This does not apply to small gatherings like friends meeting for coffee or a couple of folks having a picnic. This policy has been implemented to avoid conflicts since the Common and gazebo are being utilized more. We ask all town organizations to also follow this procedure so the calendar will reflect all activities.

Here is a link to the application:

<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Common-Use-Application-August-2023.pdf>

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



## 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.
- **Dangerous Driving:** We've reached the unofficial start of summer, which means beautiful days for recreating on town roads. This is also a time of year where the Selectboard hears concerns from residents about cars speeding or driving dangerously along our roads. The Selectboard urges citizens to reach out directly to our contracted Deputy Sheriff, Brian Welch, at 802-863-7507 to report traffic incidents or routinely speeding vehicles. The more details you can share, the better! Where was the speeder? What were they driving? What time of day was it? Do you notice a pattern of behavior from a particular driver? Deputy Welch is glad to assist, but if you cannot reach Brian directly, please alert the Town Office and share details that can be passed along.

Happy Summer!

### **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.



## UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION

- **BROWNS RIVER COVERED BRIDGE REPAIRS TO COMMENCE THIS SUMMER**

Westford's beautiful, covered bridge, originally built in 1838, repaired in 1976, and fully restored in 2001, will be getting some needed maintenance to keep it enjoyable for years to come, thanks in part to a grant from Vermont Historic Preservation. Water damage due to faulty flashing has caused the wood to rot at the four corners where the bridge sits on its concrete abutments.

The Selectboard has chosen Miles Jenness from Vermont Heavy Timber

(<https://www.vermonthheavytimber.com/>) to do the repairs which will begin this summer and wrap up in the fall. The bridge will be lifted from the abutments, new wood timbers will be installed, and superior flashing will be applied to keep rot from forming again in the future. During this work, there will be times when traffic may be limited to one lane on Cambridge Road. Any disruption will be minimized as much as possible. Thank you for being patient while we fix up this wonderful, historic landmark in the heart of Westford!



### SUMMER IS IN THE AIR – AND SO ARE HOME PROJECTS!

As the days get longer, many of us are getting excited to tackle new projects. Whether you're building a shed, expanding a deck, or starting a home business, don't forget – you may need a zoning permit!

- ✓ Building something larger than 100 square feet?
- ✓ Moving more than 50 cubic yards of material?
- ✓ Changing how you use your property or structure?
- ✓ Adjusting or relocating a boundary between two parcels?

If you're unsure whether your project requires a permit, I am here to help! Give me a call at (802) 878-4587 or email [zoning\\_admin@westfordvt.us](mailto:zoning_admin@westfordvt.us) – let's chat about your plans!

**Happy building, Westford!**



## GET READY FOR SUNDAY FUNDAYS!

**Join us on the Westford Town Common every Sunday from June 1st through September 28th, 3–6 PM.**

We're excited to welcome a fantastic mix of new and returning vendors this season, offering fresh veggies, eggs, meats, herbal remedies, ice cream, cupcakes, flowers, gelato, sourdough, soaps, clothing, honey, handcrafts, pickles, jams, jewelry, maple syrup, and more!

**Enjoy live music during the Market each week, followed by Concerts on the Common at certain dates throughout the summer.**

Come celebrate community, music, and local goodness with us every Sunday this summer!  
Contact us at [westfordfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com](mailto:westfordfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com) or follow us on Instagram and Facebook  
[@westfordfarmersmarketvt](https://www.instagram.com/westfordfarmersmarketvt)

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:townadmin@westfordvt.us) if you are interested in being appointed to one of these positions.**





## NEWS FROM THE WESTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY JULY 2025

The following is a list of the plans that are taking place this summer and fall.

- Our building on the Common will be open for visitors of all ages on the second and fourth Saturday of the month during June, July and August. These openings are from 10 until noon. Drop by to see our treasures and learn more about our town's history.
- We will be open for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Festivities. Times to be determined.
- On August 23 we are offering a historical tour of the Westford Common for any and all who want to know more about our town's history. Retired teacher, Diane Siegrist, brought students from her classes here some years ago and has revised and updated the information and will lead us around town to show what life was like in the 1800s, what businesses were here and what changes have taken place. Stay tuned for more details of this fascinating and informative tour which we expect will start at our building on the Common.
- Our next booking will be on October 18<sup>th</sup> when John Porter, a barn expert from New Hampshire will be giving a talk on historic barns at the Brick Meeting House. We expect to have many slides and pictures of Westford barns and others throughout the state. Again, more details will be presented in our August Newsletter. Look for posters in town and in the area.
- We are currently brainstorming about how to celebrate our State's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday. We continue to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at our building on the Common. For further information on these events or to have a private showing or make donations please contact Caroline Brown at 802-878-8890.



## WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**TRAIL MAINTENANCE DAY** – Thank you to all the volunteers who showed up on June 14 to help with maintenance of the trails. Every day can be trail maintenance day, so go ahead and move small branches, obstacles, and let us know if you run into something that needs attention.

**FLICK A TICK** – Ticks are expected to be bad this season, so take precautions by tucking pantlegs into socks, using tick repellent, and always performing tick-checks after outside activities.

**DOGS** – Please pick up after your dogs. And pick up what you pick up; there are often used doggy-do bags left on the side of the trails. Note that porcupines have been sighted in the vicinity of the school trails, so keep an eye out.

**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, July 16 at 6:00 pm at the Town Office or Gazebo, weather permitting.**

### 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

# MUNICIPAL JOB OPENINGS

For more information on job postings please visit our Careers page on the website: <https://westfordvt.us/careers/>

## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Holly Delisle, Westford's Town Administrator for the last year and a half, is moving with her family to Nova Scotia, Canada. She will transition out of her role as of July 25, 2025. The Selectboard wishes Holly the best in her new adventure and thanks her for her service during her time in Westford.

The Selectboard has contracted with Alex Torpey of Rethink Local to coordinate the recruitment process as well as provide limited consultative support during the transition if needed.

The Selectboard feels confident in the support they have going into this time of change and has begun accepting applications to fill the Town Administrator role. If you or someone you know is interested in the opportunity to serve Westford in this position, you are encouraged to review details about the position and apply at [WestfordVTTA.com](https://WestfordVTTA.com).

## 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](mailto:selectboard@westfordvt.us) or call the Town Office at 802-878-4587. Westford residency is preferred but not required.

## 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: Sean Cushing, 1713 VT Route 128, Westford, VT 05494.

For more information, contact Sean Cushing at [road\\_foreman@westfordvt.us](mailto:road_foreman@westfordvt.us) or 802-879-4306  
Position open until filled. Westford is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



# 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 PUBLIC LIBRARY

<https://westfordpubliclibrary.org>  
(802) 878-5639

[westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com)

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT

## Coffee and Cards - 10:30am-Noon Now meeting **EVERY** Tuesday!

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. \*During the Summer, every other week, kids are welcome to join us - see SRP brochure for exact dates (July1, 15, and 29).



What's up with the annual book sale?  
Different Date...Same Great Sale!  
Sunday, July 20, 2025  
Red Brick Meeting House from 12pm-4pm  
\$5/per bag of books!

We will be accepting donations: **One last date: July 5th: 9-11am**  
2 Box per person limit - We WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING: VHS, 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.**



**Support the Library on the Fourth of July!**  
Trustees Raffle on the Common 10am-1pm  
Proceeds benefit special library projects!  
Wave to us in the parade at 11am!  
**Library will be CLOSED on July 4.**

**Westford Night at the Vermont Lake Monsters Game!**  
Tuesday, July 1 - 6:35pm vs. the Worcester Bravehearts  
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 - 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.

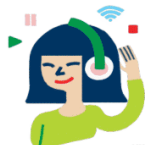


## Adult Art Nights are Happening this Month:

**Bad Art Night - July 16 from 7-9pm**

**"Old School" Craft Night - July 30 from 7-9pm**

Bring a friend and a fun attitude! See the Adult Summer Reading Brochure for more info.



## OPEN HOURS:

Tuesdays 10am-7pm  
Wednesdays 1-7pm  
Thursdays 10am-7pm  
Fridays 1-7pm  
Saturdays 10am-2pm  
**CLOSED on JULY 4**

**Adult Book Group**  
**Wed., July 23**  
**7:00-8:00 pm**  
**The House in the**  
**Cerulean Sea**  
**By: TJ Klune**



A magical island. A dangerous task. A burning secret.

Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. At forty, he lives in a tiny house with a devilous cat and his old records. As a Case Worker at the Department in Charge Of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages.

When Linus is unexpectedly summoned by Extremely Upper Management he's given a curious and highly classified assignment: travel to Marsyas Island Orphanage, where six dangerous children reside: a gnome, a sprite, a wyvern, an unidentifiable green blob, a were-Pomeranian, and the Antichrist. Linus must set aside his fears and determine whether or not they're likely to bring about the end of days.

But the children aren't the only secret the island keeps. Their caretaker is the charming and enigmatic Arthur Parnassus, who will do anything to keep his wards safe. As Arthur and Linus grow closer, long-held secrets are exposed, and Linus must make a choice: destroy a home or watch the world burn.

An enchanting story, masterfully told, *The House in the Cerulean Sea* is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place—and realizing that family is yours. (Amazon.com)

**Available in Print at the library. Audio-book available on Libby. Ebook might have long holds.**

**All ages welcome!** Thursdays at **11:00am Outside MESSY Storytime**  
Outside and Messy as part of our Summer Reading Program - bring a blanket and a picnic lunch. Meets 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, and 7/31.

We sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! This summer's crafts involve paint and/or water - dress accordingly. No sign up needed, all ages are welcome.





## July Library Events

- \*July 1 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon
  - \*July 1 - Westford Night at the Lake Monsters Game - game starts 6:35pm.
  - \*July 2 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch -Noon-1pm
  - \*July 2 - Star Art and Stargazing 7-9pm
  - \*July 3 - Last Day to Sign Up for the Float
  - \*July 3 - Float Building 4-6pm
  - \*July 4 - Library CLOSED, Parade at 11am, Trustees Raffle on the Common
  - July 5 - Last book collection for the book sale
  - July 8 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon
  - \*July 8 - Relaxing with Color with MC Baker - 2 sessions -4:30-6:30pm, signup required
  - \*July 9 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch -Noon-1pm
  - \*July 9 - Read to Bob 5:30-6:30,signup required
  - July 9 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
  - \*July 10 - Any Age Art - Book Chandeliers 4-6
  - July 10 - Monthly Writing Group 6:30-8pm
  - \*July 11 - Artist Storytime 4-5pm
  - \*July 15 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon
  - \*July 15 - Drop in Art - Sun Art - 4-6pm
  - \*July 16 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch- Noon-1
  - \*July 16 - Bad Art Night - 7-9pm
  - \*July 17 - STEM Art - Galaxy in a Bottle 4-6pm, sign up required
  - July 18 - Shakespeare Group 2-3pm
  - \*July 18 - Author Visit for Artist Storytime 4-5pm - Angela Kunkel will read her book about Barbara Cooney, copies for signing and purchase
  - July 20 - Library Book Sale 12-4pm at the Red Brick Meeting House, \$5/bag of books!
  - July 22 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon
  - \*July 22 - Drop in Art - Card Art 4-6pm
  - \*July 23 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch -Noon-1
  - \*July 23 - Adult Book Group - The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune 7-8pm
  - \*July 24 - Any Age Art -Hanging Yarn Art 4-6pm
  - \*July 25 - Artist Storytime 4-5pm
  - July 26 - French Storytime 10:30-Noon
  - \*July 29 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon
  - \*July 29 - Drop in Art - Squeegie Art 4-6pm
  - \*July 30 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch -Noon-1
  - \*July 30 - Old School Craft Night 7-9pm
  - \*July 31 - STEM Art - Jitterbug Coloring Robots with Westford Robotics 4-6pm
- Storytime Thursdays 11:00 outside - rain or shine (rain location in gazebo)**
- Programs with an (\*) are part of the SRP & info is in the brochure in this newsletter.**

## Shakespeare Group - A Midsummer Night's Dream - Second meeting July 18 - 2-3pm

This group will study a Shakespearean play for two months - **1st meeting:** Read some of the play out loud, discuss, and maybe watch a portion of a classic performance. **2nd meeting:** Discuss the entire play and pick the next play to discuss. All materials will be provided. To read or not to read? Come join this group that is interested in learning and enjoying the written word. No need to be a scholar - the Bard wrote for everyone!

## Writers' Group meets the Second Thursday of each month from 6:30-8pm.

Facilitated by J Bruscini  
Come if interested in any type of writing.



## No Saturday Story Time with Kristen in July - Next one is August 2!

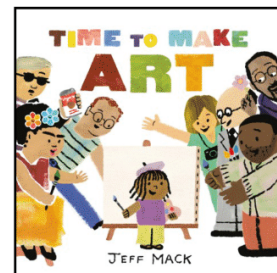


## French Saturday Storytime! July 25 from 10:30-11:30am!



This time the stories will be in French! Join native French speaker, Jannick Vielleuse, for stories, songs, fun guessing games, and a craft. Jannick is hoping to impart a love of French in her own young children - and yours as well. All are welcome to attend. There will be one other sessions - 8/23.

**New StoryHike!** Look for the signs in the kiosk at the school trails. Enjoy this exploration of all kinds of art and artists - you will learn something and appreciate art! Thank you to the WCC for their continued partnership.

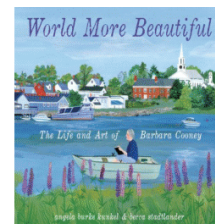


**Art in the Stars with Molly Drapa - 7-9pm** - From 7-8pm we will tell the stories behind some of the most famous stellar constellations and do a simple craft in the library, and then we will head outside at 8pm to view the Night Sky with several telescopes and see some of those famous constellations. Star gazing is weather dependent.

## SPECIAL ARTIST STORYTIME

### AUTHOR VISIT! July 18 from 4-5pm

Join Vermont author, Angela Kunkel in reading her new book "World More Beautiful: The Life and Art of Barbara Cooney" She will be selling and signing books, as well as leading us in a lupine painting activity. This beautiful book would make a great gift - stop by to get one for someone special! Great for Barbara Cooney fans of all ages.



## FREE/DISCOUNTED FUN!

Passes are available for a 3 day check out  
Passes may not be reserved.

Passes are on a first come first served basis.

**Vermont State Parks (FREE family day use)**

**Vermont Historic Sites (FREE family pass)**

**Shelburne Farms (FREE family pass)**

**Shelburne Museum (1/2 price family entrance)**

**ECHO Center (\$7/person)**

**Birds of Vermont Museum (BOGO)**

**American Precision Museum (FREE family)**

**Vermont History Museum (FREE family pass)**

**VINS (\$10 per person up to 4 people)**

**Lake Monsters Grandstand (6 FREE tickets)**





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

**June 13- Sign up online for SRP starts today, signup link on our website, FPF, and Facebook - We are opening early at Noon! Stop the library after school lets out to sign up and pick up SRP material (Logs, stickers, etc.) 12:00-7:00pm**, if you can't make it then, you can pick up anytime at the library.

**June 14 – Saturday Storytime 10:30-11:30am** - regular event – see June newsletter

**June 17 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon** - Let's meet up for some intergenerational play! Our regular card players will be on hand to play, teach, laugh and enjoys lots of cookies! Please arrive on time at 10:30 so we can get started. Adults are encouraged to stay and play too!

**June 17 – VINS on the Common 4:30-5:30pm** - Discover a world where owls turn pink, and tree trunks can blink in "Color Our World!". Meet three animal ambassadors, and learn how nature's palette can startle, impress, and even fool the eye! Witness the rainbow of techniques used to hunt, hide, and survive. Great for all ages – rain location: inside the library.

**June 18 – Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm**, every Wednesday this Summer! Bring your lunch from home and listen to an hour long read aloud of a Golden Dome book (we might have time for two). Want to help pick the book – talk to Ms. Bree. Our last meeting, Aug. 6, we will have a pizza party!

**\*June 18 & 19 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

**June 19 – MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** – see first page for more info

**June 20 – Artist Storytime (reoccurring Fridays) – 4-5pm** – Alma Thomas (painting). See page one for description.

**June 21 – French Storytime 10:30-11:30am** - regular event – see June newsletter

**June 24 – Drop in Art: Bracelets – anytime 4-6pm** – stop by the library to make a variety of bracelets – paracord, beaded, friendship – whatever you want to make.

**June 25 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above)

**June 26 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** – see first page for more info

**\*June 26 – Sky Painting with artist, MC Baker - 4:30-6:30** – entering 2nd grade and up – two sessions 4:30-5:30 and 5:30-6:30. Using oil pastels and industrial felt, learn techniques of perspective and movement in art.

**June 27 - Artist Storytime (reoccurring Fridays) – 4-5pm** – Ruth Asawa (wire sculpture). See page one for description.

**June 28 - Champ Visits the Common 10:30-11:30am**- Champ LOVES reading in the Summer! Come get your picture taken with Champ! We'll have some outdoor fun too.

**July 1 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon** – description above

**July 1 – Westford Night at the Lake Monsters Game** – see page one

**July 2 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above)

**July 2 – Art in the Stars with Molly Drapa – 7-9pm** – From 7-8pm we will tell the stories behind some of the most famous stellar constellations and do a simple craft in the library, and then we will head outside at 8pm to view the Night Sky with several telescopes and see some of those famous constellations. Star gazing is weather dependent.

**July 3 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** – see first page for more info

**July 3 – Last Day to sign up to ride the float in the Fourth of July parade, limited to kids entering first grade and older. Float building – 4-6pm – come "Color Your Float" – you do not have to work on the float to be a rider.**

**July 4 – LIBRARY CLOSED** – Come visit the trustees on the Common from 10am-1pm to participate in their fabulous basket raffle! **\*Parade 11am** (riders meet 10:30 at Town Garage)

**\*July 8 – Relaxing with Color with artist MC Baker – 4:30-6:30pm** - entering 4th grade and up, adults too - requires being still and mindful, two sessions - 4:30-5:15 and 5:30-6:15. Mindfulness with colors - get Zen and relax while learning about pattern, shape and color. Release your mind and listen to music and make art.

**July 9 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above)

**\*July 9 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

**July 10 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** –see first page for more info

**July 10 – Any Age Art – Book Chandeliers – 4-6pm** – Make a decorative piece using book folding techniques, string and embellishments. Perfect for older kids and adults who enjoy paper folding and making unique items.



**July 11 - Artist Storytime (reoccurring Fridays) – 4-5pm** – Evelyn Glennie (drum making). See page one for info.

**July 15 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon** – description above

**July 15 – Drop in Art: Sun Art – anytime 4-6pm on the Common** – Join us in making cyanotype prints and color changing beaded bracelets. If it is not sunny this day, we have an alternative craft.



**July 16 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above)

**July 17 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** – see first page for more info

**\*July 17 – STEM Art – Galaxy in a Bottle – 4-6pm (two sessions 4-5pm, 5-6pm)** Make a swirling universe in a bottle – just like Ms. Bree has on her desk! Uses glue, hot water, glitter and dye – adult required with younger kids.

**July 18 – SPECIAL ARTIST STORYTIME – AUTHOR VISIT! – 4-5pm** – Join Vermont author, Angela Kunkel in reading her new book “World More Beautiful: The Life and Art of Barbara Cooney” She will be selling and signing books, as well as leading us in a lupine painting activity.

**July 20 – Annual Book Sale at the Red Brick Meeting House - Noon-4pm** - \$5 per bag of books

**July 22 – Drop in Art: Making Card Boxes – anytime 4-6pm** – Make something fun and useful and recycle at the same time! Learn to make little boxes out of greeting cards. (Sun Art if the weather was bad the previous week)



**July 23 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above)

**July 24 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** – see first page for more info

**July 24 – Any Age Art: Hanging Yarn Art – 4-6pm** – Using natural materials, lots of yarn and embellishments, in a macramé tradition. Perfect for older kids and adults who enjoy making unique items.

**July 25 - Artist Storytime (reoccurring Fridays) – 4-5pm** – Wassily Kandinsky (paint/music). See page one for info.

**July 26 - French Storytime 10:30-11: 30am** - regular event – see July newsletter

**July 29 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon** – description above

**July 29 – Drop in Art: Squeegee Art on the Common – anytime 4-6pm** – a messy and glorious – using paint, shaving cream, and squeegees to make marbled paper and other prints.



**July 30 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above)

**July 31 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (reoccurring event Thursdays) – 11am-Noon** – see first page for more info

**July 31 – STEM Art – Jitterbug Coloring Robots with Westford Robotics – anytime 4-6pm** – Using a motor and battery, make a fun, jittery robot that colors on paper. Westford Robotics will be on hand too to talk about their program, show off robots, etc.

**August 1 - Artist Storytime (reoccurring Fridays) – 4-5pm** – Josef Albers (color). See page one for info.

**August 2 – Saturday Storytime 10:30-11:30am** - regular event – see August newsletter

**August 5 – Drop in Art: Liquid Watercolors on the Common – anytime 4-6pm** - come paint with intensely color water colors on special filtering paper.

**August 6 - Golden Dome Lunch Bunch Noon-1pm** (see description above) – Last One – Pizza Lunch

**August 7 - MESSY Outdoor Storytime (LAST ONE) – 11am-Noon** – no Storytime August 14 & 21.

**August 7 - Reading Logs are due by 5pm** - Turn in at the library or online via google form.

**August 8- End of Summer Ice Cream Party - 4-6pm on the Common** - Celebrate the end of Summer Reading with “All you Should Eat” Ice cream! Pick up your certificates and fair tickets. **Volunteer scoopers needed.**





# Adult Summer Reading 2025

June 13-August 8

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 by August 7

## 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 and Westford Provisions

## Art/Color Themed Adult Bookgroup -Wednesdays from 7-8pm

June 25- All the Beauty in the World

July 23 - The House in the Cerulean Sea

August 27 - The Stolen Queen

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

## Westford Night at the Vermont Lake Monsters Game!

Tuesday, July 1 - 6:35pm vs. the Worcester Bravehearts

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 - 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 the library on Saturday, June 28 from 10:30-11:30am on the Common!

## Special Events:

### All Ages Art (see Summer Reading Brochure for Details)

Relaxing with Color with artist MC Baker - July 8 from 4:30-6:00pm (sign up required)

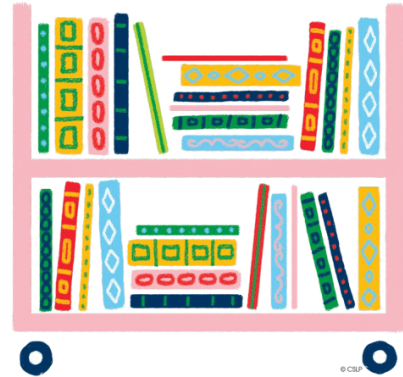
Book Chandeliers - July 10 from 4-6pm

Hanging Yarn Art - July 24 from 4-6pm

## Adult Art Nights:

**Bad Art Night - July 16 from 7-9pm** - Grab a friend, your favorite beverage and a good attitude and come make some bad art! Have fun making art in a no pressure environment. Need inspiration, we will have some ideas to get you started. Paint, pipe cleaners, feathers - we've got it all!

**"Old School" Craft Night - July 30 from 7-9pm** - Hark back to the crafts of your younger days - spirograph, pot holder loom, friendship bracelets, etc. Enjoy a fun and nostalgic night of crafting at the library!





# July 2025

## *News & Events*

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebrations

Once again the Westford Common Hall will be selling hot dogs, chips and drinks during Westford's July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. **Be sure to stop by our table!**

### July 19 - Westford Garden Tour

Tickets are on sale now!

**Bone Builders** exercise class is taking a pause in July and August. We will be in touch with the start up date in our September Newsletter.



If you or your group would like to host an event, drop us a line:  
[info@westfordcommonhall.org](mailto:info@westfordcommonhall.org)

## Help Shape a Community Treasure

Are you passionate about community and ready to make a difference? This is your chance to help shape the future of a vibrant gathering space at the heart of Westford. Westford Common Hall is seeking enthusiastic, community-driven individuals to join our Board of Directors! Help us continue building a vibrant, inclusive space for everyone in Westford.

As a board member, you'll support local events, drive new initiatives, and build a stronger, more connected community. Bring your voice to the table.

Email us to learn more! [wchboard@westfordcommonhall.org](mailto:wchboard@westfordcommonhall.org)





WESTFORD  
COMMON HALL

westfordcommonhall.org

# WESTFORD GARDEN TOUR

*Rain or Shine* 

Saturday, July 19

## EXPLORE **7** GARDENS AT YOUR OWN PACE

From 11 am - 4 pm, Gardeners will be on site to show you their garden layouts, designs and various species of plants that they grow. Days before the event you will receive a map of the gardens with host's names and addresses, which you can visit at your own pace during the open garden timeframe. Several gardeners will also have items for sale like photographs, flowers, vegetables, etc. Please support them and their businesses they are gracious enough to help support the Westford Common Hall!



Buy Tickets!

### *Tickets on Sale Now!*

Tickets are \$25 pp. Days before the event you will receive a map of the gardens, with host's names and addresses, which you can visit at your own pace during the open garden timeframe. This is a rain or shine event, so plan accordingly and wear your garden boots.

*Westford Common Hall is a 501c3 nonprofit. All funds raised through ticket sales and donations go toward annual programming.*



# Pink Pony Club Dance Party!

A successful Pride Month Event was celebrated Saturday night with a well attended Pink Pony Club Dance at the Common Hall. Everyone had a great time. Special Features included great music by DJ Aaron Minor, a tribute to Martha Heath for her role in supporting Civil Unions, a wall of love notes and the guest appearance of Emoji Nightmare.

Special thanks to everyone who attended, the planning committee and all who worked on this very special event.



Westford Common Hall | PO Box 53 | Westford, VT 05494  
[westfordcommonhall.org](http://westfordcommonhall.org)



A vibrant border composed of various colored triangles and polygons in shades of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and pink, framing the central white content area.

# #LOVEWINS!

## “Just be you! You are perfect and we love you!”

As part of our celebration of Pride month, the Westford Common Hall hosted “Love Notes” a community art project devoted to rural LGBTQ youth. We want all our young people, including every LGBTQ young person, to know that they are beautiful, loved, and perfect. And that they are wanted, needed, and valued in Westford and in all our rural Vermont communities. We hope that they seek adventure of the best kind, but we want them to know that they will always have a hometown to come back to. Here are some of the Love Notes.

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No matter who or where you are, Westford is part of you, and you are part of the town. Maybe Westford felt, or still feels, too small for you. Small towns can feel like that. It feels like there's nothing to do. It feels like no one understands. It feels like there's no one like you living here.”

“Wherever you are -  
welcome home.”

You amazing, wonderful Westford kid - Maybe you're 10 years old, or 15, or 20 or 30 or 40. Maybe you don't live in Westford anymore and haven't for years, or maybe you spend most of your time here.

Just a note of encouragement and love for our LGBTQ youth. I want you to know that you are perfect, just the way you are. Your uniqueness is your strength, so go shine your light brightly on the world. Always remember that we love and support you and are grateful for the special gift you are to us all.

We're glad that you're here,  
and we'll be here for you.  
You make Westford proud.

“ Dare to  
be  
different  
and let  
your  
rainbow  
shine!”

Westford Common Hall | PO Box 53 | Westford, VT 05494  
[westfordcommonhall.org](http://westfordcommonhall.org)

## Westford Recreation Fall Soccer for grades 5 & 6

\*\*\* Westford Recreation will offer 5th-6th grade soccer if there are at least 12 registrations by July 31, 2025. \*\*\*

For players from any school or town.



If 12 girls and 12 boys register, we will field both girls' and boys' teams, otherwise teams will be co-ed.

Season dates: September and October - Practices at Westford school likely twice per week and games on Saturdays, times TBD



- All players are required to have cleats and shin guards.
- We provide balls for practice and games.
- Participants will be provided a team shirt for the season. This **MUST** be worn at every game. The participant may keep the shirt after the season.

Fee likely to be in the \$50 to \$70 range

Register soon at <https://forms.gle/fqhUFpnjuaK4boan8> or at the Westford Recreation page <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>



# Westford Recreation Summer Soccer 2025

Westford Recreation's Summer Soccer programs are for getting out and having fun this summer. All programs are drop-in, if you are busy a particular date, no problem.



**Entering PK - K** Tuesday evenings 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.

**Parent & Me!** A parent should stay to help their youth play!

**Entering Grades 1 - 3** Tuesday evenings 5:30 to 6:30 - shin guards required and cleats suggested. Parents should remain nearby in case of weather or any other need.

**Entering Grades 4 - 6** Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Co-Ed coach directed scrimmage  
Starts June 26, 2025

**Entering Grades 7 - 10** Thursdays 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Co-Ed pick-up with coaches - *skilled 10th graders may be asked to play with the adults at the coaches discretion.* Starts June 26, 2025



**Age 16 & over** Co-Ed Drop-in Pick-up Wednesday 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Starts June 18, 2025



Shin guards required for all under age 18 but suggested for all. Cleats required for all under 18, strongly suggested for all.

Regular communication (possibly weekly) regarding field and weather conditions will be done using a texting platform like 'Mojo' or 'WhatsApp'.

All age groups are pick-up (drop-in) and must be pre-registered, but only need to register once.

All programs \$25 for the summer (Pick-up drop-in \$5 per day)

Register at <https://forms.gle/8tEBW1Zq82Gr8Dsu7> or go to the Westford Recreation website - <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>



10AM  
- 1PM

JOIN US FOR A

# FESTIVE FOURTH

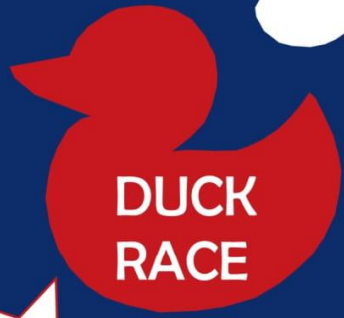
ON THE WESTFORD COMMON



LIVE  
BAND



PARADE



FOOD & VENDORS





## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

### **Representative Brenda Steady**

#### **Legislative End-of-Session Summary – 2025**

The 2025 legislative session concluded just before 9:00 pm on June 16th with the Governor's annual adjournment address. Many bills that impact/benefit Vermonters were passed this session.

**S.51** – This bill expands Vermont's income tax credits and exclusions. It raises the age eligibility for the child tax credit from five to six, increases income thresholds for excluding Social Security and Civil Service Retirement System income, and establishes a refundable tax credit for Vermont veterans.

After a double-digit education tax rate increase last year—following the Governor's veto override—this year's education tax rate will see a much smaller increase of 1.1%.

**H.479 (CHIP: Community and Housing Infrastructure Program)** – This bill streamlines development regulations to address Vermont's housing crisis. It simplifies the permitting process to support communities in building needed housing.

**S.45 – The Right to Farm Bill** – This legislation protects farmers from nuisance lawsuits related to common farming activities such as odors or truck traffic. As long as farms comply with generally accepted agricultural practices, they will be shielded from litigation. Anyone wishing to file a suit must now demonstrate that the farm is *not* in compliance.

**H.454** – This bill initiates a comprehensive review of Vermont's education governance and finance systems. It establishes a School District Redistricting Task Force, which will meet over the summer and present three proposed school district boundary options to the Legislature in January 2026. The bill also introduces a new foundation funding formula, which adjusts per-student base amounts based on need, school size, and geographic factors. I voted in favor to move the process forward, recognizing that much work remains.

One point of concern for me was H.91, the housing bill vetoed by the Governor. It included a \$7 million one-time expenditure for staff and rental space to implement the program. I questioned whether, once that money is spent, those costs will truly disappear—or whether taxpayers would continue to carry them.

Another provision that gave me pause was in the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) bill, which waives fees for foster children to obtain permits, licenses, and ID cards up to age 22. While I deeply respect the intent—to support young people who have faced extraordinary challenges—I believe it's important that all Vermont families are treated fairly. Many working- and middle-class families are already struggling to afford these same costs for their own children. As we extend compassion, we must also ensure our policies are equitable and sustainable.

Although the session is over, I welcome your questions and feedback at any time.

**Respectfully submitted, Representative Steady**

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## State Senator Chris Mattos

The 2025 legislative session has adjourned, finally! In the early evening on June 16 the Senate gaveled out for the year after a brief two-week break to allow one committee of conference to finish its work.

H.454 – the education transformation bill was agreed to by the conference committee, the Senate and finally the House. It is now heading to the Governor's desk where it is expected he will sign. H.454 will transition to a new foundation formula funding system where districts receive a 100% payment which reflects the cost of providing an excellent education. Districts may request up to 5% additional funding with voter approval. This first step will shift the funding mechanism to be more predictable for the districts and the taxpayer. The funding will also be tied to student population and have an inflator adjusted annually. Starting this summer a task force will be working to create new school district maps. A map must be adopted by the legislature before the transition can begin. New larger districts will be able to create more administrative efficiencies and more educational opportunities for students across Vermont. These are the remarks I made on the floor following the vote: "I vote yes on H.454 as a first step in the process, not the last. H.454 will begin the work to create a more equitable education system for all of Vermont's children. I look forward to continuing this work in January. Make no mistake, as the work continues, if it does not work for the school staff, taxpayers, and most importantly the children of the communities I serve, I will have to get off the bus. Thank you."

We also passed S.51 which will provide tax relief to Vermonters. It has been a long road, but military retirement will now be fully exempt from taxation for those earning below \$125,000. This has been legislation I, and many others, have been working on for years. This bill will increase the eligible age for the child tax credit from five years old to six, increase the limit on social security income exemption, and increasing the earned income tax credit. These provisions will help ease the tax burden for many members of our communities.

This past session was longer than most. Typically, we adjourn in mid-May. I appreciate all the work we were able to complete as it related to aiming to lower healthcare costs, starting the conversation of transforming our education system and providing needed tax relief for Vermonters. I look forward to continuing this work over the summer and next session. I hope everyone enjoys the summer and gets the opportunity to spend quality time with friends and family.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns at [cmattos@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cmattos@leg.state.vt.us).

## Chris Mattos

State Senator

Chittenden-North District

## 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

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive the Town Newsletter in your email inbox, send an email to [townclerk@westfordvt.us](mailto:townclerk@westfordvt.us) with your name and email address. To view current and past newsletters visit:

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