



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

September 2026



The **Cecropia Silk Moth** is North America's largest native moth. Their larvae are most commonly found on maple leaves and are fully mature in the autumn. They are nocturnal but are attracted to lights.

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

MID-TERM GENERAL ELECTION

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd at the Westford School (156 Brookside Road) from 7am-7pm.

Absentee Ballots: The State of Vermont will be sending absentee ballots to ALL ACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS by mail at the end of September. You can check your voter registration status here: <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. As long as you are active, there is no need to request a ballot, it will be done automatically for you. Please double check that your mailing address is current to where you want your ballot sent ASAP.

Fire Truck Bond Re-Vote: The Selectboard wants to make the residents of Westford aware that the vote for the Fire Truck Bond did not meet full statutory requirements and requires a re-vote. The re-vote will occur during the general election in November. It will appear and be voted on via Australian Ballot. Please see the last page in this newsletter for more information on the Fire Truck Bond Re-Vote.

Further information about the General Election can be found here: <https://westfordvt.us/general-election/>. If you have any additional questions please reach out to the town clerk: townclerk@westfordvt.us or 802-878-4587.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

Surprises are fun, right? How about joining us on Monday September 14th for a potluck surprise prepared and served by our dedicated group of volunteers! Doors of the Brick Meeting House open at 11:30am for socializing with the meal to follow around 12 noon. Any past/current Westford residents 55+ are encouraged to join us. You can get caught up with neighbors & friends, try your hand at the 50-50 raffle and maybe win a table centerpiece. Best of all, you can indulge in a delicious meal! Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Co-Presidents Mary Fay (878-1215) Cori Hill (238-1018)

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public:

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

Closed:

- September 7: Labor Day

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the October Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, September 28th.

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.



CURRENT CONSTRUCTION

- **BROWNS RIVER COVERED BRIDGE REPAIRS**

Vermont Heavy Timber has begun repair work on the Browns River Covered Bridge. There may be times where traffic could 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.



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.

MUNICIPAL JOB OPENINGS

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

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.

JOB OPENING

NOW HIRING: FULL-TIME ROAD CREW MEMBER



JOIN OUR TEAM & SERVE THE COMMUNITY

REQUIREMENTS:

- CDL Class B (preferred, minimum Class A requirement possible)
- Experience in heavy equipment operation
- Knowledge of road maintenance & snow
- High School Diploma/GED

BENEFITS:

- 4-day work week
- Clothing allowance
- Paid Time Off (Vacation/Sick)
- Supportive Team Environment

APPLY TODAY!

TOWN OF WESTFORD HIGHWAY DEPT
1713 VT RTE 128, WESTFORD, VT 05494

townadmin@westfordvt.us • www.westfordvt.us/careers-rfps/





INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL - The Conservation Commission has hired an invasive species specialist to treat the invasive knotweed at two town-owned sites: 1705 Rte 128 (the large patch north of the garage) and a smaller patch off the Riverside Trail near the new bridge in the Misty Meadows Town Forest (behind the school). Two targeted treatments are planned this year using glyphosate- and triclopyr-based herbicides. This is the first stage of a multi-year effort to control the knotweed. The first treatment occurred Thursday, August 20. The WCC will share the date of the secondary treatment once it is scheduled. Signs are posted before treatment and remain until the herbicide has dried. Please avoid the marked treatment areas while the signs are up. The trails will remain open unless otherwise posted.

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 winter sticks and other small obstacles as you enjoy the trails. All debris must be kept within the trail right of way on trails that run through private land, so debris should be just off to the side of the traveled path.

EXCLUSIVE - Be one of the very few to own an authentic Westford hoodie. Proceeds benefit the Conservation Commission. Locally printed on a high-quality Gildan garment by New Duds in Colchester. **NEW COLORS!** Available in **red, navy, sport grey, ash**; L or XL. \$50 each. Contact westfordcc@googlegroups.com for ordering.

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, September 2, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Town Office.

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 Historical Society

NEWS FROM THE WESTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Since our very busy and successful 250th activities last month we have been able to kick back a bit. We continue to have our building at 10 Common Road open from 11 until 1:00 on the second and fourth Saturday of the month and hope you will stop in and browse. Our early American crafts which we highlighted for the celebration will remain on display for now.

We are looking forward to the Jay Craven film, "Lost Nation," which we are sponsoring along with the Vermont Humanities Council and which will be shown at the Common Hall on November 1st. Jay Craven will be there to talk about his film and answer questions. More details will follow next month and you will soon see posters around the area advertising this special event which is getting rave reviews. Be sure to mark your calendars.

Our small but dedicated group continues to meet at 2:00 on the third Monday of the month at our building at 10 Common Road and welcomes new members. Feel free to contact Caroline Brown at 802-878-8890 with questions or to arrange a donation or tour.

CEMETERY COMMISSION



Francis Northway
1756-1847
Brookside Cemetery

Francis Northway was born on July 20, 1756, in Farmington, Connecticut. He was the son of Lt. Samuel Northway and Anna Garrett.

During the Revolutionary War, Francis served in Captain Ambrose Hill's Company, part of Lt. Col. Miles Powell's Berkshire County regiment. He enlisted on July 18, 1779, and served for one month and ten days at New Haven, Connecticut.

Francis first married Susannah Owen (1759–1798) in Northington, Connecticut. She died in 1798.

He later married Elizabeth Woodford in Northington, Connecticut, on January 20, 1799. Elizabeth died in August 1841.

Francis Northway died on August 7, 1847 and is buried in Brookside Cemetery along with both of his wives.

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Francis Northway's brother, **George Northway**, was born in 1754 in Farmington, Connecticut. He also served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. George reportedly died on November 2, 1834, in Westford. His wife, Rhoda Northway, has a gravestone in Brookside Cemetery. George may also be buried there, possibly in an unmarked grave beside her.

# WESTFORD FARMERS MARKET

## It's the final month of the Westford Farmers Market!

Join us on the Westford Town Common every Sunday in September from 3–6 PM. Shop from new and returning vendors offering fresh vegetables, eggs, meats, pickles, jams, honey, maple syrup, sourdough, sweets, handcrafted goods, jewelry, and more.

Enjoy live music each week while shopping, gathering with neighbors, and celebrating our community on the Common. Then join us for a special season-finale celebration on Sunday, September 27! We'll have wonderful vendors with all the goods. And festivities will include:

- Apple pressing (apple donations are welcome)
- Blues for Breakfast performing the music of the Grateful Dead in the gazebo
- Beer from Foam Brewers
- Hot prepared food
- And more activities...stay tuned

**Bring your family and friends, and help us close out another wonderful market season!**

Sundays 3–6 on the Westford Common  
June – September



@westfordfarmersmarketvt



westfordfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com

## 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/2025/12/Common-Use-Application-FILLABLE.pdf>

If you have any questions, please call the Town



# September 2026 *Newsletter*

## The Westford Music Series is BACK!



### Missisquoi River Band, Sunday, Sept. 20, 4-5pm

Northern Vermont's beloved Missisquoi River Band, is returning to the Westford Music Series Sunday September 20th from 4-5pm at The Westford Common Hall

Sheldon's Patrick Murphy (guitar), Jim (guitar) and Cindy Weed (bass) of Enosburg form the songwriting and vocal backbone of the band.

The five-piece band will feature the strong pickings of string wizard, Will Patton, on mandolin and well-known fiddle/violinist, David Gusakov.

## HONKY TONK NIGHT OCT. 2

### LIVE MUSIC!

### 2 STEP LESSONS!

LOCAL FAVORITES COANE, ROWELL  
& SCHABNER W/ NICK ALOI ON DRUMS.



Cash bar & small bites  
by Westford Provisions

Join Westford  
Common Hall for a  
**Honky Tonk Dance  
Party Fundraiser!**

6:30-9PM

### Buy Tickets!

Online:



In Person:

Westford Provisions,  
26 Common Rd

# WCH Calendar of Events

**Bone Builders exercise class** on Wednesdays and Fridays. New hours starting Sept. 2. 10-11:15am.

**Westford's Buddhist meditation and study group** meets at WCH every Sunday morning from 10:30-12:00 pm.

**Pop-up Yoga classes** throughout the summer - most Sundays 8:30-9:30 am. Announced on Mondays via FPF and social media!

**Summer Art Exhibit -Sept 6 & 13**  
Nine Westford Artists display their creativity. 3-6pm



## **NEW: Shaolin Kempo Karate Classes**

- **Kids (6+):** Tuesdays, 6-7pm
- **Teen & Adults:** Tuesdays, 7-8pm

For more information about classes & fees,  
Contact Jerod Richardson: [j3rod.richardson@gmail.com](mailto:j3rod.richardson@gmail.com)

## ***Save the Date: Lost Nation Film Screening***

We're collaborating with the Westford Historical Society to bring Jay Craven's **Lost Nation to the Common Hall on November 1, 4-7pm**. This Revolutionary War-era drama set in the early Republic of Vermont weaves together two Vermont stories: Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys resisting New York's land claims, and African American poet Lucy Terry Prince fighting for her family in Vermont's courts.

Director Jay Craven will introduce the film and provide a Q&A afterwards. The event is **FREE**, thanks to a grant secured by the Westford Historical Society to cover the costs related to screening the film.

## ***Volunteer & Connect***

### **Love community events that bring people together?**

Whether you volunteer at events, help plan programming, or join the Board, you'll connect with your neighbors and see your ideas come to life.

### **There's a place for everyone:**

- Volunteer at one of our events
- Help plan and organize community programming
- Join the Board of Directors

Reach out to learn more: [deborah@westfordcommonhall.org](mailto:deborah@westfordcommonhall.org)





# Westford Music Series 2026/2027 Season

Sundays: 4-5 pm, Westford Common Hall  
21 Brookside Road, Westford VT

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**September 20, 2026:** Missisquoi River Band

**October 18, 2026:** Marsh Lights

**November 15, 2026:** Twangtown Paramours

**December 11, 2026: HOLIDAY CONCERT at 7:00 pm** Fairfax Westford Band

**December 20, 2026:** Carol Ann Jones

**January 10, 2027:** The Vermont Mandolin Trio

**February 7, 2027:** Dave Roberts; Chicky Stolz

**March 7, 2027:** Spenser Lewis

**April 4, 2027:** The Buck Hollars

**May 16, 2027:** FREVO

See <https://westfordcommonhall.org/westford-music-series> for more info!

## WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

# OUR COMMUNITY. OUR PROGRAMS. Our Future.

WE NEED  
**YOUR** HELP  
TO KEEP  
THEM GOING!



Our recreation programs bring people together, build connections, and create lasting memories. **But they can't continue without YOU!**



**WE HAVE IMMEDIATE NEEDS. PLEASE CONSIDER STEPPING UP!**

### VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS



We need 2 community members to join our Recreation Committee!

Help guide the future of recreation in Westford.

### PAID COORDINATOR POSITIONS



TURKEY TROT



FOURTH OF JULY



ICE RINK

*Lead the planning.  
Make an impact.  
See your ideas come to life!*

### FALL SOCCER COACHES



We need friendly volunteers to help support our players, encourage teamwork, and have fun!

*All who are willing.  
to help are welcome!*

### IDEAS & PROGRAMS WELCOME!



Do you have an idea for a program you'd love to see in Westford?

**We want to hear it!**  
**Let's bring great ideas to life—together.**

### WHY IT MATTERS RIGHT NOW

If we don't fill these positions, our programs may not run.

**The future of recreation in Westford is in our hands.**

*Let's keep it strong—together.*



### JOIN THE CONVERSATION!



Attend a Recreation Committee meeting to learn more, share ideas, and be a part of the solution.

*Everyone is welcome!  
Your voice matters.*



INTERESTED? HAVE QUESTIONS? WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**recreation@westfordvt.us**

*Thank you for supporting a strong, active, and connected Westford!*



WESTFORD, VERMONT

# TURKEY TROT



**NOVEMBER 21, 2026**

10:00 AM START | START LOCATION: WESTFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FEATURING: 3K & 10K RUNS | KIDS FUN RUN

SPONSORED BY WESTFORD RECREATION

**RUN FOR THE RINK**



# APPRECIATION DINNER

**When?** Saturday, September 26 @ 5 o'clock

**Where?** Red Brick Meeting House

**For who?**

All individuals who serve or who have served Westford on a board, committee or department, as well as all town employees. This includes, but is not limited to the fire department, the road crew, the trail committee, the DRB, the planning commission and the select board. If you work for the town in a paid position or work for the town as a volunteer in any capacity, this includes you.

**Why?**

To recognize and show appreciation for the long and sometimes difficult work all of the above individuals do for our town. A small way to say thank you.

Please come if you serve or have served our town.

**Food and drinks at 5 o'clock, it is going to be good.**

## WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

# MISSISQUOI RIVER BAND



## BLUEGRASS & COUNTRY

*-free will donation-*

**4 - 5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL**

**SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 20, 2026**

Northern Vermont's beloved Missisquoi River Band will be returning to the Westford Music Series playing both original and new bluegrass and country style music. Sheldon's Patrick Murphy (guitar), Jim (guitar), and Cindy Weed (bass) of Enosburg form the songwriting and vocal backbone. The five piece band also features the strong pickings of string wizard Will Patton on mandolin and fiddle/violinist David Gusakov.

**A pie raffle is included for extra fun! Call 802-734-8177 for more information.**

# Westford Library September Newsletter



## September Book Club

Date: September 30th

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Book: The Good Sister By: Sally Hepworth

Copies are available at the library. Finishing the book is not required to attend book club.

There's only been one time that Rose couldn't stop me from doing the wrong thing and that was a mistake that will haunt me for the rest of my life. Fern Castle works in her local library. She has dinner with her twin sister Rose three nights a week. And she avoids crowds, bright lights and loud noises as much as possible. Fern has a carefully structured life and disrupting her routine can be...dangerous. When Rose discovers that she cannot get pregnant, Fern sees her chance to pay her sister back for everything Rose has done for her. Fern can have a baby for Rose. She just needs to find a father. Simple.

## September Programs

Coffee and Cards: Every Tuesday from 10:30 am to 12 pm. Come play cards at the library and socialize with your neighbors and the library staff. All levels welcome.

Storytime Thursday September 3rd and 24th. Meet at the library for Storytime with Miss Robin. We will have time to play and check out books after Sis over. No Storytime the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17th

Mah Jongg meets most Thursdays from 1 to 3 pm. Adults welcome, check with the library for more specific scheduling information.

Makers Group returns Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 to 8 pm. Bring any type of project to work on, share, laugh, collaborate, and craft with this open and welcoming group of makers.

## September Programs

Library Trustees Meeting:  
Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 pm

Shakespeare Group:  
Friday September 18<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

Come to the library ready to discuss A Midsummer's Nights Dream. You don't need to be a Shakespeare expert to join this group as they discuss and learn from each other. Copies available at the library.

## Library Hours

Tuesday 10 am to 7 pm  
Wednesday 1 pm to 7 pm  
Thursday 10 am to 7 pm  
Friday 1 pm to 7 pm  
Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

## Book Requests

Do you have a book published in the last year you think we should add to the collection? Come in and tell the director or send an email to: westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

## Contact

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com  
(802)-878-5639



# 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.

## 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>.



## Fire Truck Bond Re~Vote

The Selectboard wants to make the residents of Westford aware that the vote for the Fire Truck Bond did not meet full statutory requirements and requires a re-vote.

The re-vote will occur during the general election in November. It will appear and be voted on via Australian Ballot. The reason for the re-vote is due to a failure to be properly warned.

In preparation for this vote the Town is working with the Town's Attorney to properly warn the bond vote. The residents of Westford will be seeing postings in paper publications, on many online forums, and during upcoming Selectboard meetings. The Selectboard will also host a public forum meeting to provide specific information as it pertains to the bond.

During the weeks leading up to the vote, residents can reach out to the Town Administrator for more information via [townadmin@westfordvt.us](mailto:townadmin@westfordvt.us)

Thank you for your patience in this process.

### 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/>