WESTFORD NEWSLETTER



December 2026

The **American Ermine Moth** is a tiny white both with distinct dalmation-like polka dots on its wings. While common along the east coast United States, it is particularly populous in Vermont.

Westford Town Office
1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494
Phone: (802)878-4587 **Fax:** (802)879-6503
https://westfordvt.us/

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

BUDGET WORKSHOPS

The Selectboard will be holding two budget workshops in December:

- December 10
- December 12

Please keep an eye out for the agendas for these meetings if you wish to attend.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

Wow! We had a fabulous turnout for our Thanksgiving meal! We welcomed many familiar faces as well as some new ones. Let's keep the ball rolling with our upcoming holiday luncheon!!

Current and past Westford residence 55+ encouraged to join us on Monday 12/14 for our holiday luncheon at the Brick Meeting House. Pork roast is on the menu along with many tasty side dishes, prepared by our dedicated volunteers. Doors open at 11:30 with luncheon to follow around 12 noon.
Reminder, if school is canceled due to weather, so is the luncheon. We would like to keep everyone healthy for the holidays, so we respectfully ask you to pass on lunch if you're feeling ill.
Feel free to call with any questions.

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

Newsletter Deadline

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

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public:

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

Closed:

- November 26 & 27: Thanksgiving
- December 23-25: Christmas
- January 1 : New Years



WINTER ROADS

What you need to know about winter road conditions.

- **Plowing:** begins when the snow has accumulated 2-3 inches. Each plow route takes the road crew about 4 hours to complete.
- **Sand:** applied to all gravel roads. Some particles may be large enough to cause windshield damage. Use caution and avoid following other vehicles closely.
- **Mailboxes:** Westford does NOT repair or replace mailboxes damaged by the plow.
- **Plowing Across Town Roads:** plowing snow from driveways across town roads is prohibited.

Read the full Winter Road Policy here: https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Winter-Road-Policy.pdf

Reminders:

- Each winter storm is different, roads may be icy and sand may be loose. Drive slow and know what your vehicle is capable of.
- Watch for walkers and wildlife. It will be more difficult to see pedestrians and recreational users of roads this time of year due to snowbanks. Walkers, bikers and other users can do their part by wearing bright, reflective clothing.
- Some VAST trails cross Westford Roads. Know where the trails are and watch for crossing snowmobiles. You can find a list of VAST trails here: https://vtvast.org/trails.html
- Several hunting seasons occur during early winter. Watch for vehicles parked on the side of roads for hunting access. Pedestrians & pets should wear orange/yellow reflective clothing during hunting seasons to help ensure they are seen. You can find a list of VT hunting seasons here: https://vtfishandwildlife.com/hunt/hunting-and-trapping-seasons



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.

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.

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

WESTFORD TRAILS GOING THROUGH PRIVATE LAND CLOSED FROM NOVEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 13

On September 24th, the Selectboard of Westford voted to temporarily close:
Covey, Schultz, Seymour, & Goodrich Trails to the general public from November 1st through December 13th.

This temporary closure DOES NOT affect any person(s) with explicit rights of access or egress, nor does this closure affect any of those that are associated with the previously mentioned. The closure is to the general public.

Trails at Maple Shade and Misty Meadows will remain open fully.

The Town of Westford always encourages residents and visitors to exercise caution and care when utilizing the trails. We ask that all participants continue to respect the landowners that abut the trails, wear brightly colored clothing, and limit your impact by staying on the trail, pack out what you packed in, and travel respectfully.

Thank you.

A Season of Giving

The Town is collecting monetary donations to purchase Hannaford gift cards for Westford residents in need. The gift cards provide recipients with the ability to purchase food and household items as needed and according to their personal preferences.

Monetary donations will be accepted through Friday, December 11th. If you prefer, you can purchase the gift cards *(ones that prohibit tobacco and alcohol purchases)* yourself. Please mail or deliver your donation to the Town Office. The gift cards will be mailed on December 16th to Westford residents only.

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

FAIRFAX/FLETCHER/WESTFORD BAND



HOLIDAY

-free will donation-

7 - 8 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL
FRIDAY: DECEMBER 11, 2026

Continuing an annual tradition, the Westford Common Hall host a special holiday concert when the Fairfax Fletcher Westford band will play. The program, under the baton of Aaron Doane, will bring a fun, hour-long concert featuring a variety of instruments including traditional Christmas classics and the newly composed, something for everyone!

Favorite raffle of the year with two pies and a holiday yule log!
Call 802-734-8177 for more information.

TOWN OF
Westford





Help Shape the Future of the 1705 Property!

What should the future of the Town-owned property at 1705 Route 128 (the former Pigeon Property) look like?

The Town of Westford wants to hear from you!

Sunday, December 13
1:00 – 3:00 PM

1:00 – 1:30 PM
Guided site walk-through at 1705 Route 128

1:30 – 3:00 PM
Public meeting at Westford School

- Learn about the property's history, opportunities, and limitations.
- Share your ideas.
- Help identify community priorities for its future.

All are welcome — including kids!

Attend either or both portions of the event. RSVPs are encouraged but not required.

In the event of inclement weather, the site walk-through will be canceled, and the public meeting will begin at Westford School at 1:00 PM instead.

RSVP: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/TP9dTzGN1K
Learn More: https://westfordvt.us/1705-project-3/
Questions?
anstoner@ccrpcvt.org 434-987-0078

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

westfordpubliclibrary.org
(802) 878-5639
westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com
1717 Route 128, Westford, VT

The Library will be closed on Thursday December 24th and Friday December 25th Thursday December 31st and Friday January 1st.

Puzzle Swap: Drop off ends December 5th. Take home new puzzles December 8th - 12th

Giving Trees

Support the library this season of giving by purchasing books and supplies for our collection! Here is how you can participate:

- In-Person: Select a star from our Giving Trees at the library to find a book to purchase. Bring the star to Phoenix Books to receive 20% off your purchase. Phoenix Books will collect and hold the book for us.
- Online: If you cannot make it into the library, please visit our Facebook page to find a link to our wish list for craft supplies, DVDs, and other needed items.

Thank you for your support!



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

Storytime: Thursdays: Meet at the library for Storytime with Miss Robin. We will have time to play and check out books after storytime is over. Sitting still is not a requirement for storytime attendance. No Storytime December 24th and 31st

The Westford Mah Jongg Group meets most Thursdays from 1 to 3 pm.
Adults welcome, including beginners. The group meets if there are enough players. Check with the Library on Wednesdays for the following day.

Makers Group meets Thursday December 3rd 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 and crafters.

Shakespeare Group:



Friday December 18th at 2 pm.
Come to the library to read sections of Richard III aloud with others. The Westford Shakespeare group meets to better understand Shakespeare plays. One month the group reads aloud from the play and the next month they discuss it. Copies available at the library.

Library Hours and Closures



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
Closed December 24th and 25th
Closed December 31st and January 1st

Book Requests:
Do you want to read 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

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

westfordpubliclibrary.org
(802) 878-5639
westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com
1717 Route 128, Westford, VT

December Book Group: Give the Gift of Books



Date: Wednesday December 16th
Time: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
This is the book group's annual Give the gift of books December meeting. For the gift of books we will meet at 6:30 pm instead of 7.

Come share your favorite reads, find new books and authors, and just talk for an hour and a half about books!
Come prepared to talk about up to three book suggestions for the group. After listening to others you will walk away with a reading list to get you through winter. You could even read a book for this meeting that you have wanted to and have been putting off. Anyone is welcome to attend, even if you just listen for good ideas. Feel free to bring treats to share with the group, but there is no obligation!

December Westford Public Library Programs and Events

Drop off for Puzzle swap continues through Saturday December 5th
Puzzle Swap Selection Tuesday December 8th through Saturday December 12th
Tuesday December 1: Coffee and Cards 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Thursday December 3: Storytime 11 AM

Thursday December 3: The Westford Mah Jongg Group meets if there are enough players. Check with the library the day before to verify they are meeting. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Thursday December 3: Maker's Group 6:30 PM to 8 PM

Tuesday December 8: Coffee and Cards 10:30AM to 12:00 PM

Wednesday December 9: Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Thursday December 10: Storytime 11 AM

Thursday December 10: The Westford Mah Jongg Group meets if there are enough players. Check with the library the day before to verify they are meeting. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Tuesday December 15: Coffee and Cards 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Wednesday December 16: 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM Book Group. Give the Gift of Books Meeting

Thursday December 17: Storytime 11 AM

Thursday December 17: The Westford Mah Jongg Group meets if there are enough players. Check with the library the day before to verify they are meeting. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Friday December 18: Shakespeare Group.

Tuesday December 22: Coffee and Cards 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Tuesday December 29: Coffee and Cards 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM



Thursday December 24 and Friday December 25: Library Closed

Thursday December 31 and Friday January 1: Library Closed

Westford Public Library

A community Hub for everyone to: Explore, Engage, Enjoy

To the patrons of the Westford Public Library:

If you step inside the Westford Public Library you will see a community hub where families attend storytime, people come together to play cards and make new friends, discuss a book, read and discuss Shakespeare together, play Mah Jongg, find a new book that allows them to visit another world, time, or characters, or just print a document. The library brings this community together and strengthens the ties that make it an amazing place to live.

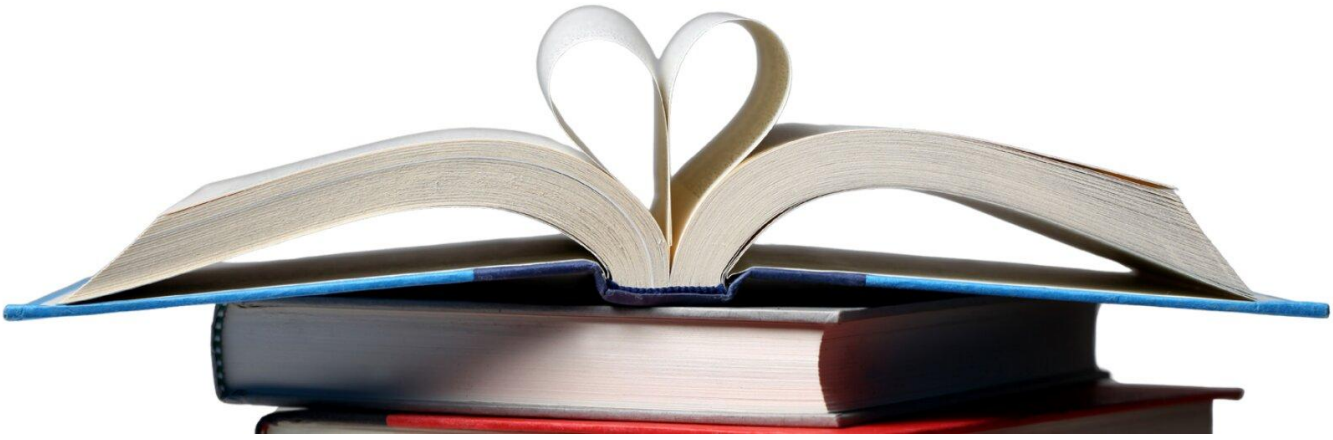
As you reflect on the role The Westford Public Library has in your life please consider making an end of year donation to support the work the library does. Your donation will help us to buy craft supplies for storytime, pay performers and presenters to lead programs, reduce wait times to borrow books on Libby, it allows us to supply the extras that help the library to continue to be a vital part of the Westford community.

We realize this might not be the year to give, and we understand. Although I will add, any donation, no matter how small, helps the library. If you cannot donate this year you can still support the library by being an active user which can mean borrowing materials and/or attending programs. In addition please vote yes on the library budget on Town Meeting Day in March.

If you wish to make a donation, please make checks payable to “Westford Public Library”. You can mail them (PO Box 86, Westford, VT 05494), bring them in to the library, or drop them off in the bookdrop. In addition you can make an online donation via municipay.

With gratitude,

The Library Board of Trustees
Robin Berger, Library Director
Niquette Bergeron, Library Technical Assistant



Westford Historical Society

NEWS FROM THE WESTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The members of the Westford Historical Society wish to thank all of you who made the showing of Jay Craven's Lost Nation film an outstanding success. First and foremost, Jay was a font of information about the early settlement of what was to become our state. Who knew it was so contentious?? Settlers were trying to eek out a living in the area south of Brattleboro long before we became a Republic. Both the state of New York and New Hampshire were claiming the same land and trying to tax folks who felt they had a legitimate claim to their homesteads. The film, Lost Nation, succeeded in portraying this part of our history, and did it very well. Thank you, Jay, for your introduction and for being so knowledgeable answering questions after the film. You are an amazing historian. And a big thank you to all who attended and made it an enjoyable and educational event.

We also want to thank the Board of the Common Hall for the use of their wonderful space. There were approximately 135 people from the area and we filled the hall!! And we were happy to share the proceeds with the Common Hall as they foot the bill for heat and electricity.

We owe a big Thank You to Historical Society members Glenn Rogers and Guy Roberge for helping park cars and to the owner of the now closed Westford Provisions for letting us park both behind the store and in front. (Parking will be an ongoing issue if we continue to have large crowds like we did on November 1st.) We are very proud of our small but might WHS members who pulled this event together. We hope to have more to offer in the coming year.

Even though we are not having the Saturday opening of our building at 10 Common until warmer weather, know you are welcome if you happen to be in town and see the OPEN sign outside and lights on. And also, keep in mind that private "viewings" and donations are always welcome as are new members. Caroline Brown is the contact and can be reached at 802-878-8890. We continue to meet on the third Monday of the month at 2:00 in our building.

Behind the scenes we are preparing for our opening and raffle during the Winter Fest. It promises to be quite an event as folks are being very generous with the items they are donating. We hope folks will wander down and take some chances on our prizes.

And, as a final note, remember the Historical Society is a 501c3 organization and contributions are tax deductible and can be mailed to the WHS at P.O. Box 21, Westford, VT 05494.

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

CEMETERY COMMISSION



David Castle, Jr, - Brookside Cemetery

David Castle, Jr.'s days in the Revolutionary War were under two notable regiment commanders, Ira Allen and Col. Gideon Warren.

In June of 1779 he served from February 3rd to February 28th in Capt. Smith's Company of Militia in Col. Gideon Warren's 15th Regimen. In October of 1780 he traveled 22 miles in 7 days of service. This was with Capt. John Stark's Company of Militia in Col. Ira Allen's Regiment. This service was in defense of the Northern Frontiers. These militias played pivotal roles in the independence of Vermont's revolutionary cause in scouting and guarding the Northern Frontier.

David Castle born in Woodbury CT in July 1758 and was the son of David & Phebe (Sanford) Castle. He along with 3 of his brothers are reported to have served in the Revolutionary War. David married Sarah Vickery and they were the parents of 10 children. [Source – "*A History of the Castle Family: From 1635 to 1900"*]. He and his wife are buried in Brookside Cemetery (Maple Tree Lane).

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

CAROL ANN JONES & BAND



TRADITIONAL HOLIDAY FOLK

-free will donation-

4 - 5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL

SUNDAY: DECEMBER 20, 2026

Vermont artist Carol Ann Jones and band members Will Patton and Gary Spaulding will perform a variety of traditional holiday folk and country music. Carol offers a mix of vocals and acoustic guitar along with her talented band members playing both original and classic "American Style" tunes. Well-known as a popular vocalist in and around Northern Vermont, Carol and her band are in wind demand for their skillful instrumentation and lively performances.

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

To Our Community Who Stepped Right Up to Haunt the Common at the 2026 Westford Halloween Walk:

As we clean out the popcorn, stow away the games, and put the dragons to their beds, we want to send a clown car full of gratitude to all of you for making our (lucky) 7th Annual Halloween Trick or Treat Walk the Best in Show! Your enthusiasm, creativity, and tent-acular terrific costumes would even make a mime shout "WOWIE!!!!!!"

Despite the wind trying to blow away the games and balloons all over the Common, we had over 138 little ghouls and goblins clowning about the Common! The way our 17 table gHosts embraced the carnival spirit will happily haunt our hearts. Our gHosts this year consisted of 13 local families, the EWSD School Board & Superintendent, the Westford Senior Group, the Westford Library, and the Westford Girl Scout Troop! Spookily amazing.

Our **first place winner** for the table decorating contest was the Cunningham family and their dragon lair, Lily and her slime came in second place, and the Westford Girl Scouts scored third. Congrats to all!!!

A **Big Top thank you** to our prize and pumpkin donors: 🏆 J&L Hardware, 🏆 Phoenix Books, 🎃 Susie Stebbins and 🎃 Ted Lavallee. Also, thank you to Hannaford Essex Junction for the donation of a jumbo box full of candy! This valuable partnership with our local businesses and growers really makes this grassroots event practical magic; you are the lime in the coconut!

The magic of Halloween lies in the joy it brings to children and adults alike. We want to **express gratitude to Westford Recreation** for partnering with us again this year to conjure this town event right in the tell-tale heart of Westford. Also, thanks to the in-tent-s magnanimity of all our cash and candy donors and **Westford Public Library** for hosting the candy collection bin. Leftover candy was donated to local events such as the Westford Music Series, Senior Luncheon, Westford School PTO events, and the Turkey Trot.

In addition to joy and laughter, we collected **over 13 full bags of food** and items for the Westford Food Shelf! Thank you for the community's generosity and supporting our neighbors.

We hope everyone had a fair-tastic time, filled with treats and a few well-deserved tricks. Your spirit of community and participation made this local Halloween event a time to remember, and we look forward to spinning up even more magical moments in the future. We are grateful to live in such a fun and generous community; this tradition only became one because of you! Until next Halloween, may your popcorn buckets be full of candy, and your neon lights shine on into the holiday season!

With spooky gratitude and endless Halloween puns,
Kathleen Porter, Becca DaVanon, George Elliott & Kelly Morrill
Your Westford Halloween Scream Team, Creepin' it real since 2020











Holiday Craft Fair

THE WESTFORD SCHOOL

146 Brookside Rd. Westford

December 5, 9am-3pm

Get into the spirit of the season with a treasure trove of handmade crafts, baked goods, and festive finds! Browse, shop, and enjoy a cozy lunch featuring homemade soups—all while supporting local artists and the Westford School PTO.



westfordvtpto.org

WESTFORD REC DEPARTMENT

✉️ LETTERS FOR SANTA & A LITTLE EXTRA MAGIC

Santa's magical mailbox will be back at its usual spot outside the Westford Town Library by November 30!

Santa loves receiving letters, and the magic of this mailbox doesn't stop with him. Children are welcome to write to Santa or to someone special from their family's holiday traditions or beliefs. The mailbox knows just where each letter needs to go so each child recieves a reply!

Drop off letters anytime through December 18th, when the mailbox will be whisked back to the North Pole. Be sure to include a return address so a reply can find its way to you. All holidays, traditions, and beliefs are welcome!

MAILBOX ARRIVES BY NOV 30 • LAST DAY TO DROP OFF: DEC 18

A BIG THANK-YOU!

To the teachers and students at CTE, who have built and painted a brand-new ice rink for us:

- **Dave Dall and his Pre-Tech 1 class who built and painted the rink.**
- **Lori Miller and her Pre-Tech 3 class who painted the rink.**

Check our Facebook Page for info on when setup will occur, and you can come thank them too!

Thank you to Jake Cady for arranging the supplies!

ADULT PICK-UP VOLLEYBALL

Adult pick-up volleyball will be starting soon!
Check our Facebook page and website for dates and details.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Everyone occasionally needs a helping hand and that is why the Westford Children and Families Assistance Fund exists!
This fund is available for families that need a little extra help!
Please apply here, and we will respond to you using complete discretion.

THANK YOU FROM IRENE WRENNER, STATE SENATOR-ELECT



I'm grateful to everyone who voted in November – and to the town clerks, poll workers, election monitors, and others who oversaw an election with such high turnout!

As I return to the Senate, I'll keep working every day toward accountability, transparency, and affordability.

I will continue to call out wasteful spending and share the "rest of the story" that you may not hear otherwise.

I typically hold passionate, but moderate, stances on most issues as I represent a district that is politically "purple". Is there a commonsense solution? Count on me to support it or develop one.
Over the past five years, I've had the pleasure of getting to know people from each town in this four-town district. Whether or not we've met, please feel free to reach out to me.

I look forward to working on your behalf to improve state government for all of us.

Sincerely,
Irene Wrenner
(802) 338 – 2247
Irene.Wrenner@vtleg.gov



FROM BRENDA STEADY

I have met so many wonderful people in Westford, and I have truly enjoyed the events I attended. Everywhere I went, people were welcoming and supportive. I still plan to stop by for live music, attend the Farmers Market, and share in community meals. Westford will always hold a special place in my heart.

It has been an honor to serve not only East Milton and Westford, but all Vermonters. Although I was not re-elected to continue serving as your State Representative, my commitment to advocating for our communities remains unchanged.

For me, public service has never been about having a title. It has always been about whether I helped make life a little better for others. One of the most difficult issues we faced was the increase in property taxes. While the Legislature ultimately passed a budget that contributed to a seven percent increase, I was one of 40 legislators who voted against it. I believed it was important to take that stand on behalf of taxpayers. In the end, I reluctantly supported the final budget so that we could continue funding essential services for Vermonters.

During my time at the State House, I earned a reputation across party lines for being careful with taxpayer dollars. I considered that a compliment. I went to Montpelier to advocate for fiscal responsibility and lower taxes, and I hope that, in some small way, those efforts were heard. I also worked with legislators and senators to address concerns surrounding Act 181 and its impact on our rural communities and agricultural economy. While we were not successful in repealing the law, S.325 represented a step in the right direction. I supported provisions that:

- Repealed Act 181's road-jurisdiction and Tier 3 jurisdiction requirements.
- Extended temporary housing exemptions for certain priority projects in designated centers from 2027 to 2028 while maintaining protections related to floodplains, river corridors, and utility services.
- Extended regional and municipal plans set to expire in 2026 and 2027 through December 31, 2027.
- Delayed environmental justice implementation deadlines and related mapping tool releases.

• Clarified Tier 1A and Tier 1B review processes, including the carry-forward of Act 250 permit conditions into local permits.
• Revised exemptions for accessory on-farm businesses to include certain storage, processing, and agricultural events.

Perhaps the most significant achievement was the passage of the Burtt Amendment, which allows farmers to construct buildings for educational purposes or to sell products that help supplement farm income without having to navigate the costly and cumbersome Act 250 process. Instead, they need only comply with local zoning requirements.
As I reflect on the past two years, I hope I made a positive difference for Vermonters. Serving as your voice in Montpelier has been a privilege and an experience I will always cherish.

Although my term has ended, my website will remain active over the next two years. If there are issues, updates, or information that I believe would be helpful to fellow Vermonters, I will continue to share them.

You can visit my website at www.steadyforvthouse.org.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

With gratitude,
Representative Brenda Steady

SIGN UP FOR ESSEX RESCUE'S ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION!

Our subscription plan helps to offset some of the operating costs associated with providing this critical service and is also a great way to control your own healthcare costs.

You can subscribe for a small annual fee and if anyone in your household is transported by Essex Rescue, you won't pay a dime. We'll bill your insurance, but any costs you're responsible for, such as a deductible, are covered with your subscription. Even if you don't have insurance, you can still become a subscriber.

Sign up here: https://essexrescue.org/pages/subscription-landing-page

---

WESTFORD WINTER FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE!

The 6th Annual Westford WinterFest is coming to town on February 6th! Mark your calendars and join us for family fun:

Bonfire
Chili Cook-off
Foam Brewers
Farmers Market
Horse Wagon Rides
Kids Activities
Live Music
Raffle
Sledding
S'mores

And more - stay tuned for all the details!

This event is made possible by donations and volunteers. Can you lend a hand? We want YOU to join the WinterFEST Crew! Contact us at westfordfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com



TRASH, RECYCLING & FOOD SCRAPS IN WESTFORD

REMINDER: Trash is required to be out by 6am on your pick-up day per the town's contract with Myers.

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: Winter

- Leaves and grass clippings are valuable compost materials because they are carbon rich. Add them in small batches to avoid matting (too many leaves clump together and slow down the compost process)
- Cover your pile or use an enclosed composter to keep things moist but not sodden. This will also deter pests like bears, raccoons, and mice.
- Other items that can go in your compost this time of year include wood ash and the skeletons of annual flowers & plants. Break down large-bodied plants like tomatoes and broccoli before adding them to your pile.
- Store compost material like leaves & grass in a burlap sack near your pile for adding with food scraps.

How to make compost fast: https://thisismygarden.com/2018/07/summer-compost-pile/

STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR HAULER

Myers has now set up a Facebook page for Westford specific trash & recycling communications! You can find it here: https://www.facebook.com/Town-of-Westford-Waste-104918838111423).

TRASH REMINDER

Hi Westfordians, there has been a lot of communication with the town recently regarding trash and recycling pick-up. To clarify the town's contract with Myers, trash is picked up every week on Tuesday or Wednesday depending on your location in town. Each household gets 64 gallons of trash per week, and your trash must be out on its pickup area by 6am. The Town's contract with Myers states that they can pick up your trash anytime between 6am and the end of their day. Roads do not have a specific pick up time and your pick-up time within the contracted time range can change depending on the driver. This has been part of our contract with Myers since we first began working with them. If you do not want to put out your trash early we suggest putting it out overnight and securing your can cover with a bungee or something else if you are concerned about wildlife.

We know there are some other additional issues with pick-up lately. The Selectboard will be addressing this in an upcoming meeting. And please remember that when you call the town office, while we greatly appreciate being informed on the issues that occur with Myers, we ourselves are not Myers and cannot fix your issue directly. While we always pass on complaints and issues that get communicated, if you are having a repeated issue we strongly recommend reaching out to Myers directly so they can work on the problem asap. Their phone number is below at the end of this section.

NO MORE OVERAGE PICKUP: There has been one change you might not be aware of. Myers is not longer picking up overages of the 64 gallons. Previously, Myers would pick up the overage and bill that resident. However, they have found over the years that almost nobody pays this bill. Therefore, they will not be picking up overages. If you are used to putting out a large amount of trash please adjust accordingly or contact Myers directly.

HOLIDAY PICKUP HOURS: Expect pick-up as normal on ALL HOLIDAYS EXCEPT FOR CHRISTMAS.

***

There is a trash and recycling page on the town website that might be able to answer some of your questions:
https://westfordvt.us/about/trash-recycling/

You can also contact Myers directly, which they prefer: 802-655-4312

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 with your name and email address. To view current and past newsletters visit:
https://westfordvt.us/documents/newsletters/

See You Next Year!

