

# Town Manager's Newsletter

## August 2025



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# Town Manager's Newsletter

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Dear Westford Residents,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful July and taking full advantage of the beautiful open spaces, scenic trails, and community amenities that make Westford such a special place to live. Whether you're visiting one of our town beaches, enjoying Recreation Department camps, attending Library programs, or participating in events at the Cameron Senior Center, there's something for everyone this season.

This month, we're pleased to feature the Recreation Department as our Spotlight of the Month. Be sure to read more inside about their exceptional programming and impact on our community.

We also recognize the continued work of our Department of Public Works and Public Safety teams, whose efforts help keep our roads, facilities, and public spaces in excellent condition throughout the summer. Their hard work ensures that our community remains safe, clean, and accessible for all.

If you receive Town water, please remember to follow our [Water Use Restrictions](#) to help us manage this critical resource during the warmer months.

This month, we bid a fond farewell to Tax Collector/Treasurer Christine Collins, who will retire in early August after more than 14 years of dedicated service to the Town. Christine has been a cornerstone of our financial leadership and will be greatly missed. We look forward to introducing our incoming Tax Collector/Treasurer, Hannah Moller, in the September newsletter edition.

Lastly, I encourage residents to consider [volunteering](#) on one of our local boards or committees. We currently have several openings, including the newly established Open Space and Recreation Committee, the 300th Anniversary Celebration Committee, and the Resident Voting Study Committee, which will play a key role in evaluating ways to enhance civic engagement and participation in our local elections.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.  
Wishing you a safe and enjoyable remainder of the summer.

*Kristen D. Las*

Kristen Las,  
Town Manager



Kristen Las, Town Manager  
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978-692-5501



## Department of the Month Spotlight Westford Recreation

### Westford Partnership for Children (WPC) After School Program - Session 1 Starts August 27

Westford Partnership for Children (WPC) is the Recreation department's After School Enrichment Program for grades K-5. Since 2004, the program has provided Westford's school children with a safe and stimulating environment during after school hours. The WPC curriculum considers the busy day children have had while at school, so LOTS of fun is mixed in with programming that reinforces the skills and concepts learned – plus homework support is included!

Along with an easy transition from classroom to program, WPC offers affordable fees; flexible scheduling; and a choice of activities, from crafts and science experiments, to time outside and in the gym. The Recreation department's experienced staff partners with Westford Public Schools to provide an environment where all children are supported as they continue to learn and grow.

WPC runs at the Abbot, Crisafulli, Day, Miller, Nabnasset and Robinson Schools, Monday - Friday, from school dismissal to 6 p.m.



### Seasonal Programs

Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer, seasons to offer great programs for youth and adults, like Nitehawks Track & Field, Youth Chess, or Pickleball. Check out ["Not to Miss"](#) for what's around the corner.



### Special Programs

Educational, inspiring, FUN, from the Boston Aquarium to maple sugaring in the fall! Recreation offers full day and full week coverage during parent conferences, professional development days, and school vacations.



### Summer Weekly Programs: Kids Club & Destination Exploration

Recreation's Summer Weekly programs tap into Town of Westford resources like Edwards Beach and Burges Pond at East Boston Camps. Programs are managed by the Site Directors who lead WPC After School, so join in, and enjoy this safe and amazingly fun summer offering. Runs through **August 15**.



For more information and to register online, visit [Westfordma.myrec.com](http://Westfordma.myrec.com)  
Westford Recreation, 65 Main Street, 3rd floor | 978-692-5532



# Town Manager's Newsletter

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## From the Select Board

### Upcoming Select Board Meetings:

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Tuesday, August 26, 2025



### July 8, 2025 - Select Board Meeting Highlights:

The Select Board approved changes to two Class II Auto Dealer licenses for Westford Auto Sales and endorsed the installation of a monument at Greystone Estates. Updates to the appointment process for boards and committees were adopted, and two inactive committees—the Scholarship & Grant and Dog Park Task Force—were officially dissolved. A new member was appointed to the Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee. The Board approved the charge for the Resident Voting Study Committee and also approved the scope of the Westford Form of Government Study. Several contracts and purchase orders were authorized, including HVAC upgrades and audiovisual tech improvements. Town Manager Kristen Las also shared community updates and recognized recent fire department promotions.

### July 22, 2025 - Select Board Meeting Highlights:

The Board approved several events, licenses, and contracts. Volunteer opportunities are available on multiple committees. A resident voting survey was announced. Upcoming events include an India Flag Raising, Live for Liv Ride/Run, and Cow Poop Palooza. The board approved a liquor license transfer and a \$50,000 construction testing contract for the J.V. Fletcher Library. Several zoning bylaw amendments were advanced. Strategic planning and Code of Conduct discussions were held. The 2025 Special Town Meeting Warrant was opened. Numerous purchase orders and contracts, including vehicles and facility upgrades, were approved. Appointments were made to the Clean Energy Committee.

Would you like more detailed information on the Select Board's meetings? Click the following links to access: [Select Board Meeting Agendas & Select Board Meeting Videos](#).

## Westford Affordable Housing Trust

Community Preservation Funds Support Five Affordable Units in Historic 1865 Drew Farmhouse



### Affordable Housing Funded by Voters are Finished and Rented

At the October 2023 Town Meeting, voters approved a two-thirds majority to allocate previously reserved Community Preservation funds for Affordable Housing and Historical Preservation. The affordable housing project at 70 Boston Road received unanimous support from both the Affordable Housing Trust and the Historical Commission. Additional funds were raised by The Drew Farmhouse, Inc. board—volunteer project managers—through resident contributions and a donation from Red Hat.

Local contractor Steve Gauthier began construction in January 2024, implementing architect Jim Zegowitz's design to convert the former Coldwell Banker office into five affordable apartments. As of this August, all five apartments at 70 Boston Road are now occupied.

Separately, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell is building two 3-bedroom homes in the barn at no cost to the town. These homes will be sold to qualified Habitat families. Both the farmhouse and barn will retain their historic appearance, as required by the CPA appropriation. With Habitat volunteers on-site twice weekly, families may move in by Christmas.



# Town Manager's Newsletter

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## Westford Police Department

For more information on upcoming programs, events, and registration details, visit: [www.westfordma.gov/304](http://www.westfordma.gov/304)



### Officer Ray Terrazas Sworn-in as Newest Member of the Police Department

On July 21, Officer Ray Terrazas was sworn in by Town Clerk Laurie Shaw as the department's newest member. Ofc. Terrazas graduated from the Boylston Police Academy on Friday, June 20 with Ofc. Mendonca. Ofc. Terrazas will now begin his Field Training Program before being assigned to a shift.



### Broadening Patrol Activities

Throughout the summer months the Westford Police Department will be utilizing various methods of patrol styles to reach more difficult areas. The department will be launching the police boat on the town's waterways, utilizing the department's ATVs to access trails and harder to reach terrain, and deploying the Bike Patrol unit to address community issues where a cruiser can't reach.



### Honor Guard Presents Colors at New England Revolution Match

Det. Bernadin, Det. Antonelli, Ofc. Pavao, Ofc. Jansen, and Ofc. Bunyon represented the Department's Honor Guard at a recent New England Revolution match against the Colorado Rapids Soccer Club.

## Westford Health Department

Stay up to date—learn more about upcoming events and helpful resources here: [www.westfordma.gov/215](http://www.westfordma.gov/215)



### Get a Flu Vaccine | September 16 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. |

Housing Community Room, 65 Tadmuck Road

Flu vaccines available. Walk-ins are welcome, but RSVPs are appreciated via email to [gjohnson@westfordma.gov](mailto:gjohnson@westfordma.gov). Please bring your insurance card(s).

### Flu Clinic for ages 65 + \*Only\* | September 18 | 12 - 4 p.m. |

Millennium School, 23 Depot St. (behind Abbot Elementary)

### Save the Dates: Fall Community Flu Clinics | October 16 & 23

Registration will be available in mid-August for the Fall Flu Clinics on the [Health Department's website](#). Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred.

Questions? Contact Gail Johnson at the email above or call 978-692-5509.





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## J.V. Fletcher Library

Summer Fun at the Library! - Events held at the Nab School (99 Plain Road). Visit [www.westfordlibrary.org](http://www.westfordlibrary.org) for more information.



### [Princess Storytime with the Snow Queen](#) | August 5 | 2 p.m.

Join us for a special story time and take a picture with the Snow Queen. Registration required.

### [YA Buildwave](#) | August 6 | 4 p.m. | Roudenbush Center, 65 Main St.

Boost your child's STEM interest with Buildwave - a building event that feels like a game show! Limited to participants in grades 5-8. Registration required.

### [The "Yo-Yo Guy"](#) | August 7 | 3 p.m.

Kid favorite, World Champion and four-time Guinness World record holder, John Higby presents his high-energy yo-yo show.

### [VIRTUAL: "How Soon Is Now?"](#) | August 28 | 6:30 p.m.

Spend an hour with speaker Dustin Pari as he examines the concept of time, challenges our understandings of the passing days, and questions the way we measure our lives. Registration required.

Storytimes – Mother Goose, Bouncing Babies, and Time with Tots run each week with Miss Jill and Miss Hannah! [Check out our website for days and times.](#)



## Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee

To learn more about the Westford Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee (CEASC) and its initiatives, visit: [www.westfordma.gov/299](http://www.westfordma.gov/299)



### Federal Incentives for Energy Systems are Changing!

**Now is a good time to review if an energy upgrade is right for you.**

The federal spending legislation enacted in July (the One Big Beautiful Bill Act) will phase out many federal incentives that lower the cost of acquiring energy systems. Whether or not you have been looking at upgrading your home or business, now is a good time to see if an energy improvement is right for you.

**Electric Vehicles (EVs)** – You now need to buy or lease by September 30 to claim a federal income tax credit of up to \$7,500 for new vehicles or \$4,000 for used ones.

**EV Charger at Home** – The credit of 30% of costs (up to \$1,000) will remain through June 30, 2026. The credit to upgrade electrical panels (up to \$600) expires December 31, 2025.

**Solar** – You now need to install a purchased system by the end of this year for a credit of 30% of the cost. If you will lease you have until the end of 2027.

**Energy Efficiency Upgrades** – The credit for 30% of the cost, up to \$2,000 for heat pumps or water heaters, and \$1,200 for upgrades to windows, doors, or insulation, will end December 31, 2025.

Keep in mind there are also state incentives. Resources to help you navigate these options are listed on our [committee website](#). Let us know if you have any questions!



# Town Manager's Newsletter

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## Westford Recycling Commission

Check Out Upcoming Events for the Recycling Commission!

For more information and resources visit: [www.westfordma.gov/408](http://www.westfordma.gov/408) or

Follow on Facebook! [facebook.com/WestfordRecyclingCommission](https://facebook.com/WestfordRecyclingCommission)



### Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Recycling Commission Events

**Composting Demonstration - August 16 | 9 - 11 a.m. | 39 Main St.**

Residents can come with your questions and leave with an Earth Machine for \$25.

**Electronics and More Collection - September 13 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | DPW, 28 North St.**

More than 500 residents take part in this bi-annual event each year.

**Zero Waste Day Collection - September 13 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Abbot School parking lot.**

This event is a great way to recycle items not collected curbside. 200 residents took part in the last one.

### The Recycling 101 Events Have Been Well Received!

The Recycling Commission has held two so far, one at the Cameron Senior Center and another for residents of Hildreth Hills in the Clubhouse. We would love to hold more and hope this offer is generates many other opportunities. We promise it will be enjoyable and informative. To set up a date send an email to Ken Teal at [kteal@westfordma.gov](mailto:kteal@westfordma.gov).



**Purchase your Earth Machine backyard composter for just \$25!**

## Economic Development Committee

EDC Launches [DiscoverWestford.org](http://DiscoverWestford.org) to Promote Business and Economic Development



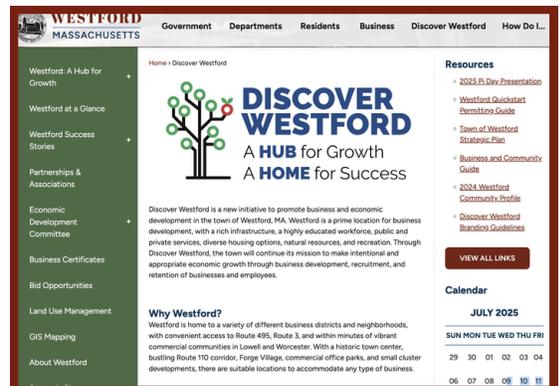
# DISCOVER WESTFORD

A **HUB** for Growth  
A **HOME** for Success

The Economic Development Committee is proud to announce the official launch of DiscoverWestford.org, conceived and created to stimulate business development, enhance economic vitality, and position Westford as a prime location for business growth. DiscoverWestford.org will serve as a centralized hub of information and resources for local businesses as well as companies looking to locate in town. The site highlights Westford's unique advantages and aims to make it easier than ever to explore opportunities in town.

"We created DiscoverWestford.org to tell the story of why Westford is such a great place to do business," said Cheryl Serpe, Chair of the Economic Development Committee. "We're creating an infrastructure of support for businesses that want to grow here and opening our doors to those who may not yet know all that Westford has to offer."

In addition to promoting Westford as a business destination, the website features valuable business resources, including permitting guidance, demographic information, links to partner associations, case studies, bid opportunities, and updates on local initiatives and events. With the launch of this initiative, Westford is setting the stage for long-term economic resilience and a vibrant, connected business community.





# Town of Westford

## Town Manager's Newsletter

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### Town Hall Operating Hours

Monday/Wednesday/Thursday:  
8 a.m.- 4 p.m.  
Tuesday: 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Town Offices - Closed  
Monday, September 1  
for Labor Day**

*Work Where You Live – Apply for a Town Position Today!*

### Employment Opportunities:

- Director of Technology
- Permitting/Program Assistant
- Senior Librarian / Head of Circulation
- Senior Librarian / Head of Youth Services
- Council on Aging Part-time Van Driver (multiple open positions)
- Part-time Food Safety Inspector
- Public Safety Telecommunicator (multiple open positions)

Learn about Westford Job Opportunities: [www.westfordma.gov/jobs](http://www.westfordma.gov/jobs)

# Submit Your Photos of Westford!

Share your best photos of our town—landscapes, events, and special moments—for a chance to be featured on Westford’s website and social media!

[Submit Your Photos](#)

<b>TOWN OF WESTFORD</b>	<u>978-692-5500</u>
<a href="http://www.westfordma.gov">www.westfordma.gov</a>	55 Main Street, Westford, MA 01886

 [Subscribe for Town Email Notifications](#)

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 **Smart911**

Follow the Town on social media



### Get Involved in Your Community! Boards & Committees Seeking Volunteers:

- 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee
- Affordable Housing Trust
- Agricultural Commission
- Board of Assessors
- Board of Cemetery Commissioners
- Bylaw Review Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Cultural Council
- Commission on Disability Diversity Equity and Inclusion
- Historical Commission
- Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative
- Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee
- Parkerville Schoolhouse
- Pedestrian Safety Committee
- Resident Voting Study Committee
- Tax Possession Disposition Committee
- Zoning Board of Appeals

Learn more about the important work of our boards and committees:  
[www.westfordma.gov](http://www.westfordma.gov)

Consider lending your time and talents by filling out a [Volunteer Activity Form](#)