

Town Manager's Newsletter

November 2025



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Dear Westford Residents,

As we welcome the month of November, there is so much to be thankful for. This season reminds us of the importance of gratitude as we celebrate both Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. I am deeply appreciative of our dedicated Town staff for their continued commitment to serving Westford, and to the residents who make this community such a wonderful place to live, work, and grow.

Many Westford residents are feeling the impact of recent SNAP benefit reductions. The Town, in partnership with local organizations, is offering support to those affected and encouraging the community to help by donating food or funds. Together, we can ensure no one in Westford goes without the resources they need. Learn more and read the full press release at [SNAP Benefits Support](#).

Thank you to everyone who attended our Special Town Meeting on October 27, 2025. We were pleased to see 718 registered voters take part in this important event. The results of the votes are available at [2025 Special Town Meeting Results](#). I also want to extend my sincere appreciation to all the staff who worked tirelessly to ensure that the meeting ran smoothly.

On October 28th, the Tri-Board, consisting of the Select Board, Finance Committee, and School Committee, met to discuss the current FY26 budget and preview the upcoming FY27 budget development process. Dr. Chew and I highlighted the emerging needs we are seeing in FY26 and how we may see pressure points in the FY27 budget associated with those priorities. You can watch the meeting on [WCAT](#) and view the presentation at [Tri-Board Presentation](#). For more information on our past budgets and to follow the meetings that will be upcoming, please visit [Westford Budgets](#).

Please join me in welcoming Nathan Guilmette, our new IT Director for the Town and Schools. Nathan began his role on October 14th, bringing nearly a decade of experience in municipal information technology leadership, with a strong background in strategic planning, cybersecurity, and infrastructure modernization. We look forward to his leadership as we advance our technology initiatives and continue providing secure, reliable services to our community.

I encourage you to attend the second "Tea with the Town Manager" on November 6th at 8:30 a.m., at Roudenbush (2nd floor). This informal gathering is a great opportunity to connect, ask questions, and share your thoughts about Westford's future.

Please note that the Select Board meeting schedule has been adjusted to accommodate Veterans Day. Meetings will now take place on November 18th and November 25th.

Staying informed about what's happening in Westford has never been easier. By subscribing to Town News, you'll receive timely updates right in your inbox, including meeting notices, public safety alerts, community events, and seasonal reminders. To make it even easier, we've created a short [60-second video](#) that walks you through how to subscribe. I encourage everyone to take a moment to watch and sign up so you never miss an update.

Additionally, we'd like to remind residents that Westford's [water restrictions](#) remain in effect. Thank you for continuing to do your part in conserving water — together, we're helping to protect our community's vital resources for generations to come.

As November brings a spirit of gratitude, it's a wonderful time to give back to the community we're thankful for. Joining a town board or committee is a great way to get involved—whether you're passionate about open space, local history, or shaping Westford's future. Current openings include the Open Space and Recreation Committee and the 300th Anniversary Celebration Committee. Even a few hours of your time can make a lasting impact!

If you have suggestions for future newsletter articles or features, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Town Manager's Office. Your input is always welcome.

Wishing you all a warm, safe, and happy November.

Kristen D. Las
Kristen Las,
Town Manager

Kristen Las, Town Manager
klas@westfordma.gov
www.westfordma.gov/325
978-692-5501





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Department of the Month Spotlight Clerk's Office

In Massachusetts, the Town Clerk is the chief election officer, registrar of vital records, and keeper of official town records. The office oversees elections, records births, deaths, and marriages, issues licenses, and ensures compliance with public record laws.

Learn more: www.westfordma.gov/255

**Meet Westford's
Town Clerk,
Laurie Shaw!**



Office Manager Charlene Destrempe, Town Clerk Laurie Shaw, and Assistant Town Clerk Jess Demins.

Get Records, Licenses & Permits at the Clerk's Office! Your local hub for records and licenses — quick, easy, and right in town!

- 🐾 Dog Licenses
- 🏢 Business Certificates (DBA)
- ⚖️ Marriage Licenses
- 📄 Birth, Death, and Marriage Certificates
- 🎟️ Raffle & Bazaar Permits
- 🏹 Bow Hunting Permits



Vital records can be ordered and paid for here: [Westford UniPay](#)

Become an Election Worker

The Town Clerk's Office is looking for enthusiastic individuals who can work at the upcoming elections. If you are interested in this civic opportunity, please complete an [Election Officer Profile \(PDF\)](#) and submit it to the Town Clerk's Office.





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Westford Select Board

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



October 14, 2025 - Select Board Meeting Highlights:

The Select Board welcomed new Technology Director Nathan Guilmette and announced upcoming community events, including the Monster Mash on October 25 and the Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration on October 18. Town office holiday hours were reviewed. The Board approved a National Grid pole relocation, a change of manager for the American Legion, and updates to the Public Works and Mailbox policies. All Special Town Meeting warrant articles received unanimous recommendations. The Board also approved new committee appointments, several town contracts and grants, including funding for a police drone and public works equipment upgrades.

October 28, 2025 - Tri-Board Meeting Highlights:

Town Manager Kristen Las thanked the Roudenbush Community Center and town staff for the successful first Monster Mash event and discussed efforts to assist residents impacted by the federal shutdown and loss of SNAP benefits. The Board approved a special license for the Farmhouse Casino Gala, rescheduled to November 22, and appointed Emily Glass to the Cultural Council. The meeting included a joint session with the School and Finance Committees to review FY25 outcomes and prepare for the FY27 budget process. Discussion on the FY27 budget policy will continue on November 18. The Board approved amendments to personnel policies, ratified the WPWA contract for FY26–FY28, and accepted multiple grants totaling nearly \$875,000 to support infrastructure and planning projects, including Route 110 design improvements and the Nashoba Greenway. Purchase orders and contracts for new equipment and public works improvements were approved, and all meeting minutes passed unanimously.

From the Moderator

Angela Harkness
Town Moderator
aharkness@westfordma.gov



On October 27 starting at 7:00 pm, 718 Westford voters checked in to our Special Town Meeting and proceeded to spend the next 3 1/2 hours discussing, debating, amending and voting on 13 Articles put forward by the Select Board and one Citizen's Petition. Notable were requests to fund new turf at Nutting Fields, new fire trucks and sidewalk snow removal equipment, four Zoning change articles, and several articles dealing with liquor licenses here in Westford. You can see all results here: [2025 Special Town Meeting Results](#)

Thank you to all the voters who attended in order to participate in this very direct form of government. It's a privilege to be a part of this process here in Westford – the voters don't always agree but we meet, we discuss, we question and then we accomplish the business of the town without resorting to insults or memes. In this day and age that's something to be proud of. And if you weren't able to attend, I hope to see you next time.

Please feel free to contact me through the town website if you have any suggestions for improvements to this process.



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Westford Police Department

For more information on upcoming programs, events, and registration details, visit: www.westfordma.gov/304



In October, the Westford Police Department used their pink cruiser to raise awareness for breast cancer. On Oct. 7, Ofc. Siltan brought the cruiser to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield for the annual Massachusetts Pink Patch Project photo shoot.



Det. Musto, the Nashoba Valley Tech School Resource Officer, attended the NVTHS Boys & Girls Soccer "Pink Out" game on Oct. 14. On Oct. 15, Ofc. Siltan joined the annual "Burgers Against Breast Cancer" event with the Hingham Police Department and Wahlburgers at the Hingham Shipyard. We're proud that the pink cruiser and pink patch help raise awareness and support cancer survivors and their families.

Westford has seen an increase in illegal dumping and littering on conservation land and school property. This activity harms the environment, creates health hazards, costs taxpayers thousands in cleanup, and is a criminal offense. As a carry-in, carry-out community, please report any illegal dumping to the Westford Police Department at 978-399-2345.

Westford Fire Department

For more information on upcoming programs, events, and registration details, visit: www.westfordma.gov/195



October was Fire Prevention Month, and Westford Firefighters visited preschool and third-grade classrooms to teach essential fire safety skills. Students learned how to stay calm during a fire, get out quickly, and never return inside. Firefighters explained how and when to call 911, the importance of knowing their address, and shared safety tips for stoves, campfires, and other heat sources. Students were also encouraged to create home escape plans and identify family meeting places. We thank Westford's teachers for their continued partnership—teaching fire safety early helps prevent injuries and save lives.

WFD partnered with Boston MedFlight for a joint training exercise to strengthen teamwork and critical care skills during emergencies. The scenario involved treating a simulated critically ill patient in a Westford ambulance and transporting them to a Boston MedFlight helicopter for transport to Lahey Clinic. The training emphasized communication, coordination, and technical precision between paramedics and critical care teams. Recorded for future use, this collaboration highlights both agencies' commitment to delivering the highest level of emergency medical care to the community.





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Westford Council on Aging



Read the [Cameron Senior Center Newsletter](#) online for more information or visit: www.westfordma.gov/593

Cameron Happenings! Registration for these events opens November 3 at 8 a.m.

Veterans Appreciation Lunch | Wednesday, November 12 | 12 p.m. | Paul's Diner, 6 Carlisle Road
In honor of Westford veterans and their spouses, the Cameron and Veterans Services are proud to host a complimentary lunch. This event is made possible through the generosity of The Westford Fund (provided by Patti Mason), Westford House, Westford Remembers, and Friends of the Cameron.

Former Lead Vocalist for *The Platters* Performs at the Cameron | Friday, November 14 | 1 p.m.
Tony Funches has performed around the world, delighting audiences with his powerful vocals and timeless renditions of The Platters' greatest hits. Clap, sing, & dance along, and enjoy his charming "special serenades" filled with wit and music. This free program is sponsored by the Friends of Cameron. Space is limited "Don't let the "Smoke Get in Your Eyes"—save your spot early!

Groton Hill Music Center Community Concert | Wednesday, November 19 | 12 p.m.
Join the Groton Hill Jazz Faculty on our Concert Hall stage for an unforgettable performance featuring Jerry Sabatini (trumpet), Mike Caudill (saxophone), Chip Brown (guitar), Doug Harrison (bass), and Dave Fox (drums).

J.V. Fletcher Library

Join us for upcoming [Storytimes](#) and [Adult Book Clubs](#)!



Fall Fun at the Library: Check out upcoming programs for all ages!

VIRTUAL: The History of the Flying Santa of the Lighthouses, 1929-2025, with Jeremy D'Entremont - [Register](#)
Monday, Nov. 3 | 7 p.m.

Read with Ponies - [Register](#)
Wednesday, Nov. 5 | 3:30-5 p.m. | Good Pickin' Farm
Each child who signs up will get 15 minutes to read with a pony. For kids ages 6-9.

Storytime with the Book Princess - [Register](#)
Wednesday, Nov. 12 | 4 p.m. | Roudenbush, Room 105
There will be photo opportunities as well as a scavenger hunt.

YA Murder Mystery Party - [Register](#)
Wednesday, Nov. 12 | 4-5:30 p.m. | Roudenbush, 3rd Floor, Westford Rec.
For 5-8 graders. It is time for our detectives to solve the crime!

Stuffy Sleepover - [Register](#)
Thursday, Nov. 13 | 2-4:30 p.m. | 515 Groton Road
Bring your stuffies over to the Children's room and let them roam the library overnight!

YA Crafternoon - [Register](#)
Monday, Nov. 24 | 4-5 p.m. | Roudenbush, 3rd Floor, Westford Rec.
For grades 5-12. Make some cute mini hats that can be turned into ornaments!

November 14-15 | First Parish Church United

The Friends of the Library will hold several special events, including the [Holiday Book Sale, raffle](#) with [exciting prizes](#), and hear from featured speaker and author, Ted Reinstein at the [Annual Meeting](#).





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Westford Recreation

For more information on upcoming programs, events, and registration details, visit: www.westfordma.gov/268

Recreation's WPC After School Enrichment Program, Grades K-5 | M-F, school dismissal to 6 p.m. | [Register anytime!](#)

Safe, engaging, and fun! Enjoy flexible hours and a variety of activities to choose from. Located at Abbot, Crisafulli, Day, Miller, Nabnasset, and Robinson Schools. Stay tuned for Session Two NEW enrichment activities.

Recreation's Special Programs, Grades K-8 | Tuesday, November 4 | [Register Soon!](#)

Step into the 17th century and be amazed! Join us for a trip to Plimoth Patuxet – named one of the BEST Open Air-Museums in the USA. The program runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. with early arrival and extended day options. All communities are welcome!

"Not to Miss" Programs – Coming Soon | [Register Online!](#)

CPR & First Aid | On the Mark Archery | Yoga Instructor Kelly Dias: Vinyasa and Lunchtime Yoga.

Coming this Winter: Impact Speed & Agility with DJ Brock | Brazilian United Soccer | Nitehawks with Coach Ivanov | Chess with Int'l Master Prathiba— Stay Tuned!



Community Wellness

For more information on upcoming programs, events, and registration details, visit: www.westfordma.gov/1487

Buried in Treasures (BIT) Informational Session | November 8 | 4 p.m. | 20 Pleasant St.

Attend and learn about the series that will begin in January 2026. The series teaches you how to build insight, skills, and strategies to help declutter, get organized and reduce acquiring. The program addresses all clutter levels, from just a few messy areas to excessive collecting to hoarding tendencies/disorder. **Register by email:** nlaviolette@westfordma.gov.

Supportive Parent Solutions | Third Tuesday/month | 6:30-8 p.m. | Roudenbush, 3rd Floor

Are you experiencing the challenges of parenting a child who may be struggling with their mental health? Join us for the Parent Support Group. Questions can be directed to Community Wellness Coordinator, Nicole Laviolette at nlaviolette@westfordma.gov.

Health and Human Services Resources

The new Health and Human Services resources section of the Town website provides residents with access to information such as transportation, housing and food assistance. Visit: [Westford Health and Human Services](#)

Westford Mobile Clinician

No cost clinician to support residents on waitlists for mental health appointments. **Learn more:** [Mobile Clinician FAQs](#)

Request an Intake Screening

Nicole Laviolette at 978-399-2503 or Alison Christopher at 978-399-2325

WESTFORD MOBILE CLINICIAN

WESTFORD HAS A NO-COST CLINICIAN TO SUPPORT RESIDENTS ON WAIT LISTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH APPOINTMENTS.

Call for your intake screening.
Nicole Laviolette: 978-399-2503
Alison Christopher: 978-399-2325

If the intake determines that the Westford Mobile Clinician is the right fit for you, up to ten sessions will be offered. The number and frequency will be determined by the clinician. In-person and virtual visits are available.

Services are provided free of charge, made possible by Greater Lowell Health Alliance grant. Your health insurance will not be charged.

For more info: SCAN ME






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Westford Recycling Commission



Recycle Your Used Items at Westford's September Zero Waste Day!
www.westfordma.gov/408 & facebook.com/WestfordRecyclingCommission

Massachusetts is Chomping Down on Food Waste

Join the movement — become a composter!

Great news! According to the MassDEP, the State has been recognized as a "national leader" for the progress we've made in keeping food waste out of the trash!

Did you know that approximately 930,000 tons of food waste is trashed in MA every year? This includes both wasted food (stuff we don't eat) and food scraps (what's left after we eat) – which is about 22% of what we throw away each year. For over 10 years, due to state waste bans, 2,000 restaurants, hotels, hospitals, universities, and supermarkets in MA have had to find new ways to manage wasted food and food scraps.

Don't worry! Bans don't apply to residents. But maybe it's time to get involved! If you already diligently recycle your glass/metal/plastic/paper, and donate your used clothing, furniture and household items, composting is the next step you can take to help.

Westford residents have two options:

- Purchase an Earth Machine backyard composter for just \$25 through the Recycling Commission and a state grant. Contact Nicole Feliciano at the DPW at 978-692-5520 or nfeliciano@westfordma.gov.
- Sign up for curbside pickup with Bootstrap Compost (617-642-1979) or Black Earth Compost (978-290-4610).



Thank you for considering composting!



Westford Commission on Disability

Highlights from October — Celebrating Inclusion and Community Connections

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), a time to recognize the many contributions of people with disabilities and to reaffirm our shared commitment to inclusion, access, and opportunity for all.

On October 17, the Commission's SociAbility Society hosted a sensory-friendly Halloween social for high school students and young adults with intellectual, physical, and neurodiverse needs. These bi-monthly gatherings create meaningful social opportunities—offering pizza, music, crafts, and a welcoming space to connect and belong. Recent activities have included movie nights, LEGO workshops, and art sessions, all made possible through generous community support.

Later in the month, on October 27, the Commission was honored to once again support accessibility for residents attending Westford's Special Town Meeting. The team provided outreach about accommodation requests and staffed an information table at check-in, offering assistance with hearing devices, Braille clickers, proxy voting, mask-required seating, and other supports to ensure full participation.

The SociAbility Society welcomes volunteers and student partners from Westford and surrounding towns. To learn more, please email WestfordMACoD@gmail.com.



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Westford Historical Society & Museum

Visit museum.westford.org to learn more about upcoming events, tours and museum news.



Westford REV 250 — “When you look at us, think of them”

A Living Historian's experience during the first year of America's REV 250 celebration.

Sunday, November 9 | 1:30 p.m. | Westford Museum, 2 Boston Rd, Westford

Join Tom Tringale, a 30-year member of the 1770s Living History community, as he shares his experiences participating in Living History programs related to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025. Tom will specifically discuss his involvement in the Battle of Lexington and Concord (Battle Road), the capture of Fort Ticonderoga by Benedict Arnold and Ethan Allen, and the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Through this program, the audience will have the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session and learn all about the details involved in organizing a Living History event celebrating America's Semi-quincentennial. Suggested Program Donation: \$10.



Economic Development Committee

To learn more about Discover Westford's initiatives and find helpful resources, visit www.DiscoverWestford.org

Small Business Toolkit Available at Discover Westford!



Find the basics for starting or growing your business in Westford—

A [Small Business Toolkit](#) has now been added to the Discover Westford site. The site is designed to attract new businesses to Westford as well as support existing businesses in their efforts to grow and expand. The Small Business Toolkit offers basic tips for businesses on how to get started, a permitting checklist, and a list of small business partners to help support their growth. The toolkit is available at DiscoverWestford.org as a featured resource.

The Economic Development Committee is planning an upcoming webinar in December on State and Federal programs as part of the Business Toolkit information series. Check the calendar at DiscoverWestford.org for updates.





Town of Westford

Town Manager's Newsletter

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Town Offices Closed

Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 11th – Closed

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 26th – Closing early at 12 p.m.

Thursday, November 27th & Friday November 28th – Closed

Town Hall Operating Hours

Mon/Wed/Thurs: 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Tuesday: 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Small Business Saturday – November 29th

Celebrate Westford's Small Businesses!

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

Employment Opportunities:

- Firefighter/Paramedic
- Council on Aging Part-time Van Driver (multiple open positions)
- Council on Aging Part-time Maintenance Worker
- Public Safety Telecommunicator (multiple open positions)

Learn about Westford Job Opportunities: www.westfordma.gov/jobs



TOWN OF WESTFORD	<u>978-692-5500</u>
www.westfordma.gov	55 Main Street, Westford, MA 01886



[Subscribe for Town Email Notifications](#)

Sign up for Smart911



Follow the Town on social media



Get Involved in Your Community!

Boards & Committees Seeking Volunteers:

- 300th 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 Committee
- Historical Commission
- Housing Authority
- Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative
- Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee
- Parkerville Schoolhouse
- Pedestrian Improvement Plan for MCMOD Advisory Committee
- 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

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