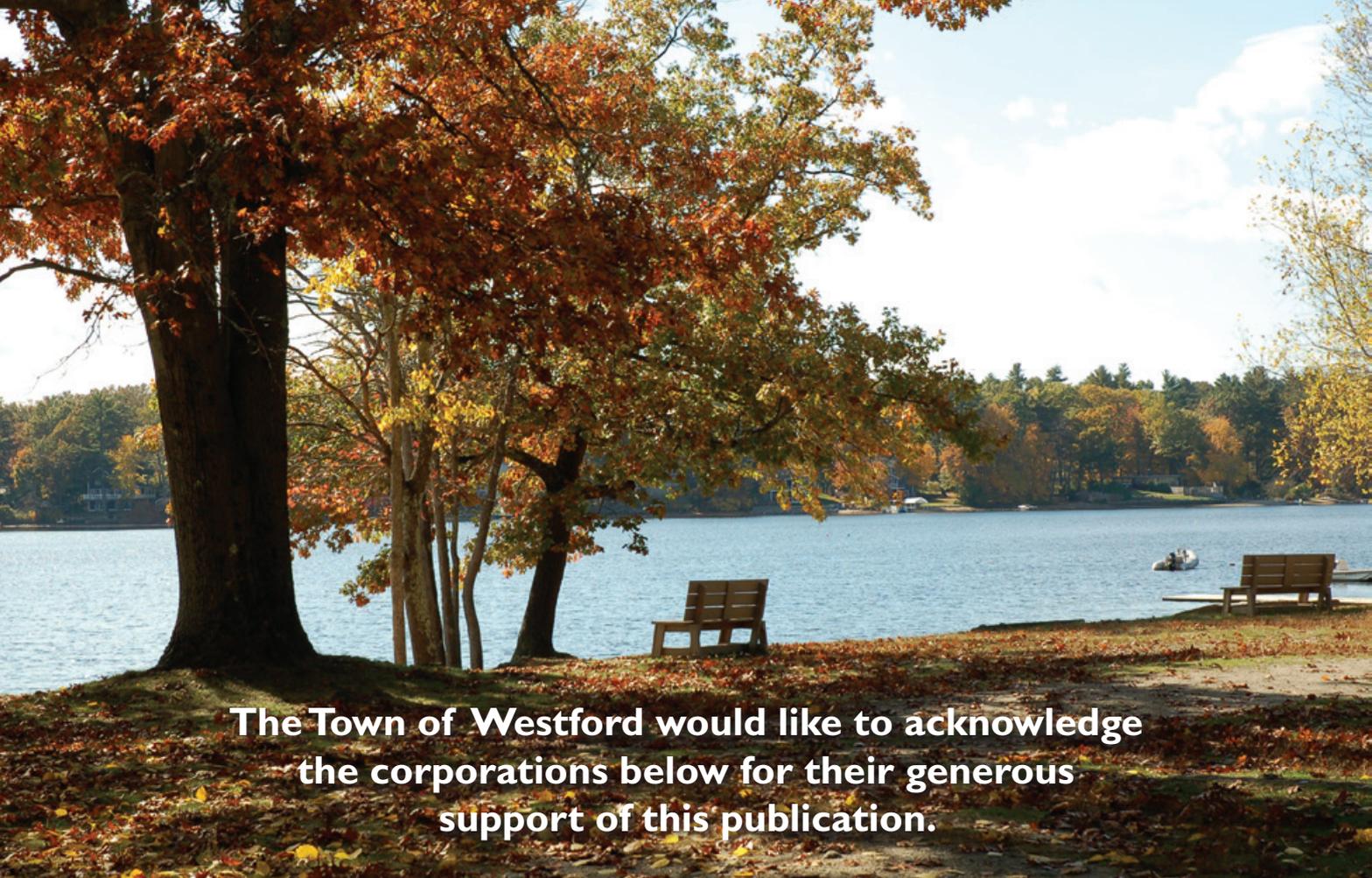




WESTFORD

Massachusetts





The Town of Westford would like to acknowledge the corporations below for their generous support of this publication.



Welcome to Westford, Massachusetts



Andrea Peraner-Sweet

Westford, which was recently named by *Money Magazine* as the #11 “Best Place to Live in America,” may appear to be a quiet, suburban bedroom community, but there is nothing sleepy about our town. Westford is located in the I-495 Technology Corridor, and is the chosen location of many high tech and other companies, including Red Hat, Juniper Networks, Sonus, Netscout Systems, Puma, Alcatel-Lucent, UTC Aerospace Systems, Cynosure, Mack Technologies, Emerson Hospital, Lowell General Hospital/Circle Health, and St. Jude Medical. Several other local businesses—Kimball Farm, Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Nabnasset Lake Country Club, and Butterbrook Golf Club—provide exceptional recreational opportunities.



Jodi Ross

Westford officials and staff are committed to encouraging economic growth, while protecting our small-town New England character. Our proximity to Boston (35 miles) and our convenient location near Route 495, Route 3, and the MBTA Commuter Rail System at the Littleton train station offer opportunities to attract talented employees from the Cambridge/Boston area. Westford was recently designated as an Economic Target Area by the state, which enables new and existing businesses to apply for tax incentives when relocating or expanding in our town. We have highly-trained, professional staff poised and eager to assist local, national and international businesses with their projects.

Both residents and businesses soon learn that Westford provides an exceptional quality of life. We are home to 22,000 residents, many of whom volunteer on boards or committees to assist with the smooth operation of our town. Our public schools recently received the distinction of ranking eighth best school district in Greater Boston. Our state accredited Police Department provides superior service; we offer 24 hour paramedic service in addition to fire protection from our exceptional Fire/Ambulance Department. Our roads are well-maintained, and our town recently invested in an expanded state-of-the-art Senior Center. Our Recreation Department offers a variety of programs, including after school child care, crew, Tai Chi, tennis, pre-K soccer and T-ball, CPR training, and more, and allows local businesses to make use of our recreational facilities when available. Our J.V. Fletcher Library offers a wide variety of books, music, DVDs and databases – in hard and downloadable formats 24/7. The library also provides free meeting and study space and computers, plus a wealth of juvenile, teen and adult programs. Westford takes great pride in providing many other recreational opportunities - we have protected over 2,200 acres of conservation land, and our volunteers maintain an extensive trails network. The regional Bruce Freeman Rail Trail passes through our town, offering great opportunities for bicycle enthusiasts.

If you would like more information about relocating or expanding your business in Westford, please contact our Director of Land Use Management at 978-692-5524 or visit our Economic Development Committee website at: www.westfordma.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrea Peraner-Sweet, Chairman, Westford Board of Selectmen

Jodi Ross, Westford Town Manager

Location

Westford is located in northeastern Massachusetts in Middlesex County, approximately 35 miles northwest of Boston, just south of the New Hampshire border.

Facts

- Total Area: 31.33 sq. miles
- Population (2010 Census): 21,951
- Labor Force (August 2013): 12,171
- Unemployment (August 2013): 5.2%
- Residential Tax Rate (FY2014): \$16.60
- Commercial Tax Rate (FY2014): \$16.83*
- Median family income: \$139,397
- Job growth % (2010-2012): 4.06%
- Median home price (FY2014): \$424,150

*Commercial tax rate is due to the adoption of a Small Commercial Exemption. This exemption is applied to commercial properties under \$1 million dollars. The exemption reduces the value of commercial properties under \$1 million dollars by 10% which is taxed at the higher rate of \$16.83. Properties over \$1 million dollars are taxed at \$16.83/thousand.

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BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Advantages of locating your business in Westford

Westford's exceptional quality of life and proximity to Boston have attracted numerous businesses both large and small to create a diverse mix that also fits in with the character of the community. Westford offers many distinct advantages to maintain, relocate or start-up a business.

A central location, directly off Routes 495 and 3, Westford offers convenience for both commuting employees and businesses that require transportation of products and/or raw materials. A business-friendly atmosphere includes knowledgeable and helpful town staff, a dedicated Town Economic Development Committee, an instructional Small Business Permitting Guide, and a quarterly Business Connection Newsletter.

In early 2013, Westford was honored with the Massachusetts Municipal Association's best website award in the population category of 15,000 – 49,999.

The town's focus on the website is an example of its commitment to information sharing and open government. In a similar way, the town has developed a system whereby the same materials provided to board members for discussions at key public meetings (meeting packets) are made available to the public in advance via the website. By providing online access to information being deliberated, Westford is improving local government transparency as well as convenience. Westford recognized the importance of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) some years ago and has invested in the technology. The town benefits from having a

well-developed foundation of data covering our public infrastructure, utility networks, and land and environmental resources, as well as specialty data sets including precincts, zoning, economic development, and emergency planning and response information. In keeping with our commitment of information sharing, much of this data is available to the public on the website. Using these resources town staff and officials are able to conduct analyses and produce materials for presentations which improve public understanding and decision making

Westford Business Assistance ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

In 2012 the Economic Development Committee was formed to advise the Board of Selectman and other town boards on various issues concerning policies, regulations, by-laws and zoning that foster commercial growth, strengthen the local economy and are consistent with maintaining the character of our community. Encouraging business investment in commercial zoning districts, streamlining our permitting process, developing a business association to improve communication between local businesses and the town, as well as generating local employment opportunities, and advocating for state and federal grants, are among the priorities of the EDC.



The Economic Development Committee is working with the business and professional community to create the Westford Business Association. The concept is to utilize the skills and contributions of local business association members to address various concerns in the community, and to assist town officials in their effort to provide a positive atmosphere for encouraging economic growth.

More information on the Westford Economic Development Committee, its members, goals, priorities, and current activities may be found on the Town's website at www.westfordma.gov.

TAX INCENTIVES

Westford has been designated by the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council as a 495 Regional Technology Economic Target Area. The town is an active participant in the State's Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP). The EDIP is a three-way partnership between the state, a municipality within the Economic Target Area (ETA), and a new or existing growing company. First the company and the municipality agree to a tax exemption schedule on future incremental real property taxes (a local tax reduction) and sign a Tax Incentive Financing (TIF) agreement. The company then may seek state approval for a 5% investment tax credit (a state income tax reduction). In turn, the company commits to a job growth and private investment schedule. The duration of this incentive could range from 5 to 20 years.

Westford recently granted Red Hat, Inc. a TIF agreement. The company has just completed construction of a 100,000 square foot addition to their facility in Westford, which will provide



more than 300 new jobs with space now for 600 total employees. The ability to offer TIFs, is a valued incentive from a "business friendly" town.

Westford Technology Park

Located to the east of Minot's Corner on Route 110 is Westford Technology Park. Housing many of Westford's high-tech firms, the park consists of numerous modern buildings in a campus setting.



PERMITTING

Westford's commitment to economic development has resulted in a more transparent, efficient and predictable permitting process. The Director of Land Use Management serves as the point of contact for the town's land development boards and pre-application and technical review meetings. The director helps applicants navigate a project through the development



TRANSPORTATION

Westford is located in an area with exceptionally good highway and rail facilities linking major cities and towns to the airport, port district, and intermodal facilities of Boston. Logan International Airport is 35 miles away and the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport is just 30 miles away. L.G. Hanscom Field in Bedford is a reliever airport with commercial service for corporate executives and others.

Principal highways are Interstate Routes 3, 93, and 495. Frequent commuter rail service to Boston is available in the neighboring towns of Littleton and Lowell. Westford is a member of the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA) with fixed route service to Lowell and surrounding towns. Paratransit services are also available for the elderly and disabled through LRTA's Road Runner program. Additionally, several local companies have established business shuttles from Cambridge to Westford, allowing greater Boston residents access to Westford businesses.

review process by identifying appropriate zoning and other applicable land development permits, filing fees, and anticipated time frames for each permit. A complete guide to the town's permitting process may be found on the town's website at www.westfordma.gov. Currently available for development on the Route 110 corridor is 525,000 square feet of pre-permitted land in Westford Tech Park West.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

The town of Westford and the state of Massachusetts have partnered on major reconstruction to improve the capacity and safety of "Minot's Corner", located at the intersection of Route 110 and Boston Road. Expected to be complete in 2015, it involves widening of the signalized intersection, and adding two additional lanes to facilitate greater capacity and queue for the intersection.



Sidewalks and pedestrian facilities will be added and improved throughout the intersection. The intersection will also be interconnected to the recently signalized Route 495/Boston Road ramps.

MASSACHUSETTS BUSINESS RESOURCES

The Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) Network provides one-to-one free, comprehensive, and confidential services focusing on business growth and strategies, financing and loan assistance, as well as strategic, marketing and operational analysis. In addition, low cost educational training programs are offered across the state targeted to the needs of small business. www.msdbc.org

The Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD)

is committed to assisting companies who want to locate, expand, or maintain a presence in Massachusetts. The MOBD mission is to strengthen the economy and increase job growth by providing a highly responsive, central point of contact that facilitates access to resources, expertise, and incentive programs available in the Commonwealth.

www.mass.gov/mobd

Contact: Peter Milano, Senior Regional Director,

Northeast Office: 978-970-1193 / peter.milano-sea@state.ma.us

MassDevelopment

Offering a wide range of finance programs and real estate development services, MassDevelopment supports economic growth, development, and investment across all sectors of Massachusetts: public and private, commercial, industrial, residential; and nonprofit, including healthcare, educational, cultural, and human service providers. Their staff works in collaboration with private and public sector developers, businesses, and banks to identify investors and leverage public and private funds to support economic growth. www.massdevelopment.com

Contact: Ken Goode, Northeastern Regional

Office: 978-459-6100 / kgoode@massdevelopment.com

CORNERSTONE SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER

Located at the intersection of Route 495, Route 110, and Boston Road is the recently constructed Cornerstone Square shopping center. This development, which includes restaurants, retail establishments, and office space was designed as a modern village concept to support the diverse employment and consumer needs of the local community.



GREEN & GROWING



Since its inception in 2009, the Westford Energy Committee has been tasked with making conservation of the town's energy use a priority. A 34 KW solar array contributes significantly to the energy powering Stony Brook School. In addition, many energy efficiency upgrades have been made in Westford's other schools, library, town hall, and police station.

The town of Westford has approved a virtual net metering power purchase agreement with solar farms in western parts of the state. This effort will ensure that 60-75% of town electricity use will be offset by solar energy production.

The town adopted the stretch energy code, implemented a higher standard in car fuel efficiency, adopted as-of-right siting for renewable energy generation, and created a 20% energy reduction plan over the next 5 years. The Board of Selectmen prioritization of these green initiatives resulted in Westford being designated by Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) as a Green Community in December, 2013.

Westford Solar Park

The town of Westford is proud to be home of the largest privately owned solar plant in Massachusetts. The Westford Solar Park is a \$20 million complex of 14,000 solar panels on 22 acres that was the former site of the Fletcher Quarry. A fixed array, it will produce up to 4.5 megawatts, enough electricity to power more than 600 homes. This impressive field of solar panels is one of several large-scale renewable energy developments initiated by the Massachusetts Green Communities Act.

Red Hat LEED Certification

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source software solutions, with more than 80 offices worldwide. Completed in late 2013, Red Hat's new facility in Westford encompasses four stories with 100,000 square feet attached to the existing 75,000 square foot structure. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for this new space includes an open office plan as well as more natural light, shower and changing rooms, and energy and water efficient equipment. LEED certified buildings are designed to conserve energy and water, reduce waste, reduce harmful greenhouse gas

emissions, and be healthier and safer for occupants. This expansion highlights the company's commitment to building environmentally sound offices worldwide.

Mack Technologies celebrated their new environmentally friendly LED lighting installation at their manufacturing facility on Carlisle Road in Westford. In 2013, they converted over 700 fluorescent light fixtures to LED based fixtures, significantly reducing power consumption and the facility's impact on the environment.



Courier Corporation, at 189 years old, is the third largest book manufacturer in the United States. Being environmentally responsible by making books greener has given them a competitive advantage. Pictured is their Westford manufacturing location.

Westford Farmers Market

The Westford Farmers Market began as a traditional venue for the sale of locally grown and made produce and wares. Held on



the town common weekly from April to October the market provides a vibrant community living space filled with music, food, education and children's activities.

Habitat For Humanity Platinum LEEDs Certificate

Habitat for Humanity has received a LEED Platinum Certification for a home built in Westford that has achieved a 44.1% whole house source energy reduction relative to the Building America benchmark. This house is special because, according to Building Science Corporation (which designed the house) it will not need any side-generated energy to achieve that designation. "It's going to be the most affordable LEED Platinum house that's been built in the country so far." Habitat for Humanity works to strengthen families and communities such as Westford through affordable homeownership opportunities. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell, the affiliate responsible for this build, is based in Westford.





WESTFORD

Westford is an ideal place to live, work or locate a business in Massachusetts. With ample and attractive open space, convenient access to numerous workplaces, and an excellent local school system, Westford offers the best of suburban living.

Simple pleasures like the annual Apple Blossom and Strawberry Festivals hearken back to the town's agricultural roots. Although steeped in rich New England history, modern Westford is proud to be home to world-class high-tech firms. Winter enthusiasts welcome the local ski area while summer lovers take pleasure in a short trip to the North Shore and Southern New Hampshire ocean beaches, as well as frequenting many lakes and ponds in town. The culture and entertainment center of downtown Boston is easily reachable by direct access highway or rail service.

Ranked #11 by Money Magazine's "Best Places to Live: America's Small Towns" in 2013



"You'd never guess that this seemingly rural town, dotted with apple orchards and lakes, is also home to a bevy of high-tech jobs at companies like Red Hat and Juniper Networks. However, tech firms form the town's economic backbone. That doesn't mean natural beauty is in short supply: **Westford is home to more than 2,000 acres of conservation land, two public beaches, and the Nashoba Valley Ski Area.**"
Kerry Flynn – Money Magazine

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The early industries in Westford took advantage of the abundance of natural resources in the town. Even before Westford was incorporated in 1729, Jonas Prescott manufactured iron in Forge Village from the ore bog there, while the granite ledges spawned the many stone quarries in Graniteville. In 1895, Eliza Babbitt noted, "Many of the public buildings of Boston are built of the material furnished in these store-houses of nature." The soil in Westford Center and Parker Village is ideal for farming, with apples, peaches and berries being the prominent crops through the mid 1900s. "Four thousand crates of blackberries have been marketed in a prosperous year," Babbitt recorded. The Apple Blossom Festival was begun by Westford apple growers in 1935 to showcase their crops, with the governor of Massachusetts in town to crown the Apple Blossom queen.





Stony Brook



Village at Stone Ridge Quarry

Stony Brook, running the width of the town from Groton to Chelmsford, allowed industries to grow along its banks. The largest was the Abbot Worsted Company, established in 1857, which manufactured worsted yarn in mills in Forge Village, Graniteville, and Brookside, now called Nabnasset. In the 1940s, half of Westford's population was employed by the Abbot Worsted Company.

The 1960s brought change. Abbot closed its mills in 1956, and the opening of the Westford exit off the new Route 495 in 1962 made Westford accessible as a commuter town to the growing electronics industry along Route 128. Now Route 495 itself has become an industrial highway, with many corporations choosing to locate in Westford along Route 110.

Westford has a rich historical heritage. Throughout the colonial period and beyond, town militias played an important role in protecting their communities. The Westford Colonial Minutemen played a significant role in the Revolutionary War which

began on April 19th, 1775. The Minutemen, as a subset of the regular town militia, and with the leadership of Lt. Col. John Robinson, traveled to the North Bridge in Concord to help disperse the British Regulars and send them in full retreat back to Boston.



Westford Museum

The Westford Museum, which served as the original Westford Academy from 1792 – 1897, is now

maintained by the Westford Historical Commission. It preserves and exhibits artifacts and documents related to these events and many others of historical significance.

Westford Quarries

The use of granite in Westford and the surrounding region dates back to the first settlers to the area in the 1600s, who hewed material from boulders left by a glacier deposit, creating hearthstones, thresholds, steps and stone for miles of New England stone walls. Granite was also used to build the dams that

provided water power to mills from the many streams and rivers in the area. By the early 1800s, the first quarrying began at Westford's Graniteville, and the construction of the Stony Brook Railroad in 1848 offered transportation of Westford granite to Lowell and beyond.



In the late 1880s, 18-year-old Herbert Ellery Fletcher discovered an outcrop of the great vein of granite that runs beneath Chelmsford and Westford named the Chelmsford Range by geologists. Suitable for quarrying, this outcrop was the first established in Westford and became the foundation of Fletcher Granite, which eventually grew to become

“the largest producer of granite curbing and a major supplier of dimension stone and quarry blocks in the US” (www.fletchergranite.com). Today, Fletcher Granite can be found in buildings as local as the Westford Abbot School and as distant as the Glen Park and Baldwin Park train stations in San Francisco. Over the years, stone from Westford quarries helped construct many of our country's significant buildings, including some at Boston's Quincy Market and Harvard University as well as the National Gallery of Art and the Supreme Court Building (among others) in Washington, D.C.

Westford Knight

The Westford Knight is perceived as either a carving or a natural feature, or a combination of both, located on a glacial boulder near the center of Westford. It is notable for being the subject of controversial speculation that it is evidence of exploration of



North America in 1398 by Europeans prior to Christopher Columbus. Westford author, David S. Brody captures the legend of the Westford Knight in his

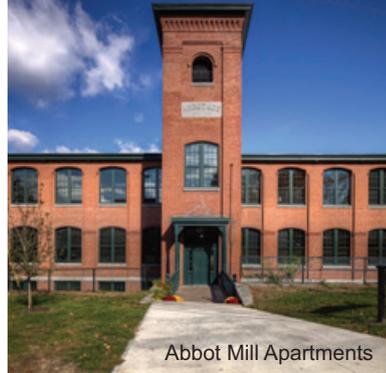
book *Cabal of The Westford Knight* which also inspired the 2013 film *The American Templars*. The film, featuring many Westford natives, includes numerous Westford locations as backdrop settings.



Main Street Residence



Cottages in the Woods



Abbot Mill Apartments



Village at Stone Ridge

LIVING IN WESTFORD

In 2013 *Money Magazine* named Westford 11th best place to live in the US for America's small towns, and it's no wonder, considering Westford's location, environment, and amenities—so close to Boston and located in the high-tech corridor, yet offering the best of small-town living. Westford has many important community assets, including exceptional schools and recreational opportunities as well as significant cultural and social benefits of places like the Roudenbush Community Center and Parish Center for the Arts.

Westford also offers a wide variety of housing options for residents of all ages, incomes and family structures. In addition to historic homes (some listed on the National Historic Register), the town offers residential sub-divisions with one acre lots. Dating back to the 1870's, Abbot Mill Apartments is a beautifully restored and renovated historic mill located in the Forge Village section of Westford on the banks of Stony Brook. It offers 130 one and two-bedroom loft-style apartments with all the modern amenities. Cottages in the Woods, ranging from 900 to 1,000 square feet, features 20 units of affordable housing with condominium ownership. This neighborhood of individual homes is located on Boston Road and has its own pocket park green. The Village at Stone Ridge offers 110 condominiums for residents 55+ on a 108 acre site with open space, scenic walking trails, a community center and a health club. Princeton Properties is constructing 200 new apartments off of Route 110 near the Chelmsford border. Even seasonal vacation homes are available in Westford at Summer Village at the Pond, a beautiful wooded 159 acre site on tranquil Long Sought for Pond.

Roudenbush Community Center

Located in the center of Westford, the Roudenbush Community Center offers Westford residents of all ages programs in education, entertainment, health and the arts. The circa 1897 building was originally Westford Academy, later used for younger grades and renamed for former principal William Roudenbush. After the Roudenbush School closed in the mid-seventies, a group of citizens began working to turn it into a community center, which was accomplished in 1975. Since then it has become a non-profit corporation committed to enriching the lives of community residents.



Roudenbush Community Center

J.V. Fletcher Library

The J. V. Fletcher Library is a global gateway dedicated to serving the Town of Westford and committed to celebrating the community's heritage, diversity and multiculturalism.

Library patrons of all ages and socio-economic circumstances experience the Fletcher Library as a responsive, innovative resource meeting their unique needs and offering a personal library experience.



Summer Village at the Pond



Single Family Home

Lives are enriched and enhanced through the lifelong exposure to, and exploration of, life-changing ideas, creativity, information and evolving technologies.



In a world of rushed and removed relationships, the library offers both a virtual village and a space of sanctuary and community. www.westfordlibrary.org

Parish Center for the Arts

Built in 1829 and located on the Westford town common, the Parish Center for the Arts is a private, non-profit arts center run by volunteers and offering a variety of arts performances including theatre, comedy, concerts, musical and dance performances.



In addition, the center offers classes, workshops, special events, art shows, Open Mic nights, and an Artist of the Month gallery exhibition. The center also sponsors the Westford Teen Arts Council, an organization for teens in middle and high school with an interest in music production and performance. www.westford.com/pca/

Cameron Senior Center

The recently renovated Cameron Senior Center offers adults aged 60 or older services, advocacy, and information through the Westford Council on Aging. Located in Forge Village, the center provides art and exercise classes, daily lunch, special events and trips, and much more.



The Cameron Senior Center has its own thrift shop, Cameron's Closet, and lending library, both open to the general public. www.westfordma.gov

STAYING IN WESTFORD

Located in the Westford business corridor along route 110 are accommodations to meet the needs of travelers, for either business or pleasure.

- Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center
- Hampton Inn & Suites
- Residence Inn by Marriott



Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center

HEALTHCARE

Emerson Hospital

Founded in 1911, Emerson Hospital is a full-service, regional medical center headquartered in Concord, Massachusetts. Emerson provides advanced medical services to more than 300,000 people in 25 towns at its 179-bed facility that employs more than 300 primary care doctors and specialists. To make its health care more accessible, Emerson has outpatient facilities in surrounding towns, including Westford.

www.emersonhospital.org



Emerson Hospital Health Center

Emerson Hospital Health Center

Located in Westford, Emerson Hospital Health Center offers comprehensive medical specialties and subspecialties, from internal medicine to pediatrics. A highly qualified team of medical practitioners consists of more than 30 physicians in 17 different practices.

Lowell General Hospital

Founded in 1891, Lowell General Hospital is an independent, not-for-profit community hospital serving the Greater Lowell area and surrounding communities. With two primary campuses located in Lowell, Massachusetts, Lowell General Hospital offers the latest state-of-the-art technology and a full range of medical and surgical services for patients, from newborns to seniors. www.lowellgeneral.org



Lowell General Hospital/Circle Health

Lowell General Hospital/Circle Health

A new facility slated to open at Cornerstone Square in Westford in 2014, Lowell General Hospital/Circle Health will feature a variety of services and affiliated physician practices. These will include urgent and primary care, diagnostic imaging services, obstetrics and gynecology, and more.

RECREATION, PARKS, AND NATURE

Westford is committed to preserve its natural resources with almost 2,200 acres of conservation land providing numerous walking trails. The town offers parks and sports fields/facilities, two swimming beaches, an active Recreation Department that maintains or manages almost 30 facilities throughout town and organizes afterschool and sports programs for children as well as programs for adults. www.westfordrec.com Unique local venues such as Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Kimball Farm, Volo Farm, and the Butterfly Place offer additional recreational opportunities for a wide range of interests.



Forge Pond Beach

Town Beaches

Westford is fortunate to have two public town beaches, both located on bodies of fresh water. Forge Pond Beach is found in the Forge Village area of Westford, and Edwards Beach is located on Nabnasset Lake in the Nabnasset section of Westford. Both offer a swimming area with sandy beach and a playground where residents and others may swim, fish, and picnic.

East Boston Camps

Acquired by the town of Westford to provide recreational and camping opportunities for Westford residents, East Boston Camps offers almost 300 acres of pristine conservation land in the heart of the town. The property includes ponds, brooks, miles of walking trails and thirty camp buildings. Historically,

the East Boston Camps provided a “Fresh Air Camp” for inner-city children. The camp was created in 1937 by Isabel and Sarah Hyams, sisters from a prominent Boston family with interest in social welfare. In 2005 the Hyams Foundation sold the property to the town of Westford. Today, the camp hosts almost 350 day



East Boston Camps

and overnight campers each summer for seven weeks at both day and overnight camp. In addition, the Friends of East Boston Camps sponsor several free seasonal

events each year for Westford families. An extensive walking trail system is open to the public. www.westfordfriendsebc.org

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail will offer a 25 mile trail for non-motorized use from Lowell to Framingham following the 25 mile route of the old New Haven Railroad Framingham & Lowell line. Currently Phase I is complete, with a 7 mile section from Chelmsford through Westford. www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org



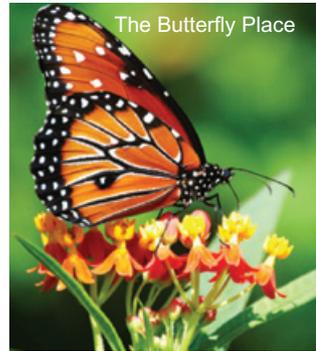
Kimball Farm

Kimball Farm began making ice cream in the family's dairy barn in Westford in 1939, and its award-winning ice cream has been famous ever since. Today,

the family-owned business has four locations in two states. The Westford location includes a country store plus activities such as a 9 hole pitch and putt golf course, mini-golf, driving range, bumper boats, an interactive animal exhibit, batting cages, an arcade, and a grill/seafood restaurant. Kimball Farm in Westford also hosts corporate or private events for small and large groups. www.kimballfarm.com

Volo Farm

Located on 24 acres in Westford, Volo Farm is a full-service boarding and training facility for horses and their owners. In addition to boarding facilities, Volo Farm features two indoor riding arenas plus an outdoor ring and jumping field. Specializing in Hunters, Jumpers, Hunt-Seat Equitation and Dressage, Volo Farm educates riders from beginners through advanced and offers training for horses of all ages and levels. www.volofarm.com



Nashoba Valley Ski Area

People have skied at Nashoba Valley in Westford since 1964, when four slopes were serviced by rope tows. Today, Nashoba Valley is a full-service ski resort with 100% snowmaking on 17 ski and snowboarding trails, offering lessons and rentals. The Snowtubing Park is New England's largest, with four lifts, over 600 tubes and up to 16 lanes. Nashoba Valley is also a year-round recreational facility, with seasonal events such as Witch's Woods

The Butterfly Place

is an indoor garden with hundreds of free-flying native and tropical butterfly species displayed in a natural environment. Knowledgeable staff on hand can answer questions, and exhibits and videos feature the different species and stages of a butterfly's life. In addition, The Butterfly Place is available for wedding ceremonies, birthday parties and family gatherings among the butterflies.

www.butterflyplace-ma.com



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

Westford has taken advantage of the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act (CPA), an innovative funding source which is used to address community concerns, including creation and support of affordable housing, the acquisition and preservation of open spaces, historic buildings and landscapes, as well as the creation and support of recreational opportunities. Local funds are matched by the state. Westford has collected and administered over \$21M for these projects and acquisitions, including state matching funds, since its inception in 2002.

The Westford Conservation Trust, a private, non-profit that works with the town government to help secure open space parcels and pass other open space initiatives, holds numerous parcels of land as well as easements on over 60 trails in town. In addition, it organizes educational walks and other events and maintains a map of all hiking trails throughout Westford, which may be found on its website www.westfordconservationtrust.org.

(Halloween Screampark), Haunted Hayride, and the Jack-O-Lantern Jamboree. In summer, Nashoba offers a children's day camp, adult summer volleyball league, a private swim club, and the Sunset Tiki Bar. www.skinashoba.com

Golf Courses

Westford is home to two golf courses; **Nabnasset Lake Country Club**, a private 9 hole course offering both men's and women's league play during the week and also has a full tournament schedule throughout the golf season. **Butter Brook Golf Club**, an 18 hole semi-private course was created on over 210 acres of serene rolling hills, tall pine, beautiful ponds and the babbling Butter Brook which flows directly down the middle of the property. Both courses offer league play and various tournaments throughout the season.

www.nabnassetlakeecc.com • www.butterbrookgc.com



Nabnasset Country Club

EDUCATION

Stony Brook School

The Westford Public School System has a very proud tradition of excellence and ranks among the best school systems in Massachusetts and New England. The motto of the school system is “Shaping the Future One Child at a Time.” The current and future success of students begins with a dedicated staff, creative and talented students, wonderful families and a supportive community. Westford students are learners who are excited and are motivated to explore, question, think and create, both individually and collaboratively. For each student, effort is recognized, unique skills and talents are fostered, and excellence is a common goal.

The accomplishments of the Westford Public School System are impressive. Students annually score among the top 5% to 10% of all students on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS).

Boston Magazine ranked the school system as the 8th best out of nearly 150 Greater Boston School Systems. Additionally, in the last several years, Westford Academy has been designated as a National Blue Ribbon School, a Silver Medal School by *U.S. News and World Report*, and ranked by *Newsweek* as the 157th best high school in the United States.

Rita Edwards Miller School



Educating approximately 5,350 students, the district includes 9 separate schools, including 3 at the Kindergarten to 2nd grade level, 3 for 3rd to 5th grades, two for 6th-8th grades and Westford

Academy, the high school. An Integrated Preschool Program for 3 to 5-year-olds is also available for full and half-day sessions. Founded in 1792, Westford Academy is one of the oldest public high schools in the country and the oldest co-educational secondary school in the state. Originally established as a private school, it became public in 1928. The bell on the original school building was cast by Paul Revere, whose son John attended the school starting in 1799. Today, almost 90% of Westford Academy's graduates go on to study at four-year colleges. In



Westford Academy

addition to excellent academic programs, the Westford school system provides students with the ability to participate in high level athletics, and visual and performing arts programs that are among the best in New England.



Nashoba Valley Technical High School

“The schools in the cities and towns that topped our proprietary ranking stood out across 20 different categories, including student-to-teacher ratio, average class size, expenditures per pupil, rate of college matriculation, and results on tests such as the SAT and the MCAS.” *Boston Magazine*, Best Schools Issue, September 2013.

Westford’s preparation of students is inextricably linked to the future success of our economy and the prosperity of our citizens. Westford recognizes its role in “shaping the future” of the workforce, country, and world through its ever-present dedication and commitment to educational excellence.

<http://westfordk12.us>

Nashoba Valley Technical High School

Nashoba Valley Technical High School, located in Westford, accepts students from Westford and seven other nearby towns. The school offers instruction in eighteen technical areas, and as a model technology school, has structured classrooms and career labs to meet technology needs of the 21st century learner. Technical areas are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment to meet every national standard and certification.

Academic classes include seven AP courses as well as a Music Program, a School to Career Program, Post Graduate Programs, and Dual Enrollment. This year an Engineering Academy is available to “selected” qualified students of the incoming class, combining the previous Electronic/Robotics, Engineering, and Bio-Medical manufacturing programs. Through the acquisition of grants, they have purchased updated equipment that will put Nashoba Valley Technical High School at the forefront in this region for education in the STEM discipline of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. An entire wing of the school has been devoted to the Academy, with a specialized curriculum and highly qualified staff in Math, Science and English courses.

In the spring of the 2013-2014 school year, Nashoba Valley Technical High School celebrates its 45th year of excellence with the grand opening of a new sports complex, including a multi-purpose turf field, new track, girls softball and boys baseball fields, and additional practice field. They will also open a brand new Art and Dance studio, further expanding the opportunities for Theatre Arts, and gifted and talented students.

www.nashobatech.net

NEARBY COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

University of Massachusetts Lowell

The University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML), with an enrollment of 9,800 undergraduate students, 4,100 graduate students, and 3,000 Continuing Education students, is a fully accredited, 4-year public university that offers 33 doctoral, 39 master’s and 120 bachelor’s degree programs in science, engineering, health, humanities, social sciences, fine arts, education and business. Internationally recognized for excellence in science and engineering, UML is a leader in nanotechnology, nanomanufacturing, biomanufacturing, bioinformatics and advanced materials. www.uml.edu

Middlesex Community College (MCC)

Founded in 1970, MCC has grown to become one of the largest community colleges in Massachusetts. With two distinct campuses in Bedford and Lowell, MCC offers more than 75 degree and certificate programs, and has a total enrollment of more than 13,000 students. www.middlesex.mass.edu



Merrimack College

Merrimack College

Merrimack College is a vibrant, independent institution with approximately 2,300 full time students who hail from more than 23 states and 25 countries.

The college offers undergraduate degrees in liberal arts, business, science and engineering, and education programs, as well as master’s programs in education. In its 2011 ranking list of colleges nationwide, US News & World Report listed the College as #8 among regional Bachelor’s Comprehensive institutions, in addition to Princeton Review naming Merrimack as Best College in the Northeast. Situated in North Andover and Andover, the College’s beautiful 220-acre campus houses approximately 75% of the student population and boasts countless community and business opportunities for the Merrimack Valley.

www.merrimack.edu

WESTFORD

A town  *in touch*

Exceptional Quality of Life • Centrally Located • Business Friendly • A Green Community



Edwards Beach



911 Memorial



Kimball Farm



Nashoba Valley Ski Area