

TOWN OF  
CHELMSFORD



Dates of Interest:

- Oct. 10th Columbus Day (Trash Delay, Town Offices Closed)
- Oct. 13th Flu Clinic
- Oct 14th - 16th Book Sale
- Oct. 15th Fire Prev Open House
- Oct. 17th Fall Town Mtg.
- Oct. 18th Flu Clinic
- Oct 29th CCA Halloween Festival
- Oct. 31st Trick-or-Treating
- Nov. 1st 2nd Qtr. Taxes Due
- Nov. 5th Recycling Events
- Nov. 8th State Election

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# Town Manager's Newsletter

October 3, 2022

## Fall Annual Town Meeting

The Fall Annual Town Meeting will convene on Monday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. There are 26 articles under consideration. The Town Meeting Representatives considerations will include funding for roadway construction, increasing funding for the senior citizen property tax work-off program,

and amendments to the zoning bylaw pertaining to warehouses and distribution centers. A copy of the Town Meeting Warrant is available at the Town's website {or inset link}. Any resident of the town who is not a town meeting representative may participate in the proceedings.



## Winter Electric & Heating Rates

National Grid has announced its winter electricity rates for the period of November 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023. The monthly bill of a typical National Grid residential customer using 600 kWh will increase from \$179 to \$293 for the winter season. This amounts to a 64% rate increase. Residential electric customers on the Town of Chelmsford's "Chelmsford Choice" electricity aggregation supply program will not experience any rate increase. The Town's electricity aggregation supply rate remains in effect until the expiration of the current contract in Novem-

ber 2023. The rate for the standard product is 10.042 cents/kWh. Residents have the option to choose a greener electricity supply. More information is available by visiting the program website at



[ChelmsfordChoice.com](http://ChelmsfordChoice.com) or by calling customer support with Chelmsford's program consultants at **844-483-5004**.

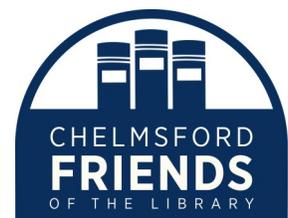
National Grid has also announced significant proposed rate increases for its rates for its natural gas heating customers. The company has established a Winter Customer Savings Initiative to assist its customers reduce their energy use and save money, better manage their bills, and secure available energy assistance. Please visit the National Grid website for more information.

## The Friends of the Library Fall Booksale

Save the date! The Friends Fall Book Sale will be Friday, Oct 14, 9:00-7:30, Saturday, Oct 15, 9:00-5:00, and Sunday, Oct 16, 9:00-1:00 at the Town Offices Gym. If you join the Friends, you can also get first pick at the Members-Only sale on Thursday, October 13 from 5:00-7:30 pm! We'll have plenty of fiction, children's books, biography,

history, cookbooks, sciences, social sciences, and DVDs. \$2 for adult books, \$1 for kids books. \$5 for a whole box of books on Sunday! All proceeds help support library programs and services. We can't wait to see you there! Regular donations are being accepted daily to the drop-off box on the side of the library. If

you have a large donation to make, contact the Friends at [chelmsfordfriends@gmail.com](mailto:chelmsfordfriends@gmail.com)



## Halloween Trick-or-Treating & Safety



**Trick-or-treating will be on Halloween night, October 31st from 6 - 8 PM, rain or shine.**

- ◆ Halloween Safety Tips:
- ◆ Always accompany young children when trick-or-treating.
- ◆ Go with your children to the door of every home you visit. Never let your children enter a stranger's home without your permission.
- ◆ Only approach homes with lit porch lights or ones that clearly are invit-

ing trick-or-treaters.

- ◆ Teach your children how to be safe when crossing streets.
- ◆ More than twice as many children are injured in pedestrian accidents on Halloween than other days throughout the year.
- ◆ Avoid using Halloween decorations with real flame.
- ◆ Use battery operated lights to illuminate lanterns.
- ◆ Choose brightly colored costumes or add reflective tape to increase visibility.
- ◆ Choose flame-resistant costumes.
- ◆ Use glow sticks or flashlights as ways to increase visibility.
- ◆ Avoid pointy swords and sticks. Instead use cardboard and tape to make bendable props and accessories.
- ◆ Urge your children to wait until they get home to eat their candy. Inspect their candy when they get home.

## Firefighters Join the Chelmsford Fire Department



**Tyler Evans and Justin Aubert (left to right)**

Chelmsford Firefighters Tyler Evans and Justin Aubert graduated from the 10-week Massachusetts Fire Academy on Friday, September 16th. The firefighters were among 26 who graduated with Class#304, representing Acton, Attleboro, Billerica, Blackstone, Chelmsford, Dracut, Gardner, Lexington, Plainville, Tewksbury, Westford, Wilmington, and Woburn. To graduate, recruits

must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operations, and fire attack. Both Tyler and Justin successfully met the national standards of the National Fire Protection Association standard 1001 and are certified to the level of Firefighter I and II, and Hazardous materials first responder operational level. The Massachusetts Fire Train-

ing Council oversees the certification process, which is accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.

## Columbus Day Trash Delay



There will be no solid waste or recycling collection on Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> due to the Columbus Day holiday. The rest of the week will be on a one-day delay. No bulk items are collected on holiday weeks.

## Upcoming Planning Board Topics

The Planning Board will next meet on October 12, 2022 at 7 pm in Room 204 of Town Offices and will include the following agenda items:

- 15-18 Central Square and 19-22 Central Square for Applicability to redevelop the existing structures on the site into a mixed use property with commercial retail and restaurants on the first floor and residential on the second floor
- 199-201 Riverneck Road for a 247,000 sq. ft. industrial facility
- 23 Fletcher Street for a parking lot expansion at the Lowell Five Bank
- 84 Turnpike Road for an outdoor contractor's yard for Martel Crane and Tree Service.

The Planning Board will also meet on October 26, 2002 at 7pm in Room 204 of Town Offices and will include the following agenda items: 270 Billerica Road for an 85,000 sq. ft. industrial warehouse.

## Warren-Pohl Conservation Reservation Opens

The Chelmsford Conservation Commission is pleased to announce the opening of the **Warren- Pohl Conservation Reservation** for public access. The property is located at 95 Boston Road, less than a half-mile from Chelmsford center.

The town acquired the property in 2020 through use of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds in the Open Space Preservation category. The Warren and Pohl families owned the property since 1699. They wanted the town to have the opportunity to permanently protect this open space for all to enjoy. The CPA fund-

ing enabled the acquisition, after a unanimous vote at a special Town Meeting in 2020.

The site now has driveway access and parking for public use. The Department of Public Works has done a fabulous job getting the site ready for visitors. There are well-maintained trails through fifty-four acres of beautiful woodlands, fields and meadows. This amazing property is a nature lover's paradise.

We will continue to maintain and improve the site, including trail improvements and signage, an invasive plant management program, and incorporation of

site historical and educational information displays.

The Conservation Land Use regulations apply to Warren-Pohl Conservation Reservation.

The site is open from sunrise to sunset.

For further information, please contact the Chelmsford Conservation Commission or the Town Conservation agent, David Koonce, at



[DKoonce@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:DKoonce@chelmsfordma.gov)

## Library Board of Trustees seeks Associate Members

Do you love the Library and everything it stands for? Would you like to be part of a team that helps to plan and frame the future of our Chelmsford Public Library?

Well, you're in luck!

What would you do on the Associate Board? You give feedback to the Library Board of Trustees on library operations, work as part of the strategic planning team, help with big functions and maybe even

facilitate fundraising. You would get an insider's view of how the library works, be a part of our mission to reflect the values of our community, and make great friends along the way. It's a terrific way to give back to the people of Chelmsford and to try a Trustee position on for size, without committing to a three-year term. Associate Board members work alongside the Trustees, but do not participate in Board votes. You

also don't have to put out yard signs or go through the election process!

If you're interested, we would love to hear from you! Please contact the Trustee Chair, Adam Schertzer, at [ad-amschertzer@gmail.com](mailto:ad-amschertzer@gmail.com).

Board meetings take place on the second Wednesday of every month and are open to the public.



## Introducing ChelmsfordRIDE!

Starting this fall, ChelmsfordRIDE will provide transportation services from the hours of 2pm-6pm, Monday through Friday, for Chelmsford adult residents 18 years and older including senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and individuals in need. By offering convenient mobile assistance, we will ensure that members of our community can lead independent lives.

volunteer drivers (vehicles provided)! If interested, contact ChelmsfordRIDE Transportation Coordinator Cindy Pernet at 978-654-9245 or [cpernett@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:cpernett@chelmsfordma.gov)



ChelmsfordRIDE is seeking

## Fire Dept. Fire Prevention Open House

Saturday, October 15, 2022  
11 am - 2 pm  
Fire Headquarters, 50 Billerica Rd.

- ◇ SAFE House Trailer
- ◇ Pluggy the Talking Hydrant
- ◇ Education Material for all Ages
- ◇ Pizza
- ◇ Car Seat Installations & Car Seat Checks

Come show off your Halloween costumes as you trick-or-treat around the Fire House. Costume contest between 12pm-1 pm.



### Influenza



Influenza, also known as the flu, is an infectious illness caused by a virus. The first documented pandemic in 1580 was most likely caused by the influenza virus. Since then, there have been at least four influenza pandemics. The most famous influenza pandemic was in 1918-1919 in which approximately 21 million people died. Every year flu puts hundreds of thousands of people in the hospital. Anyone can get flu

(even healthy people), and serious problems related to flu can happen at any age, but some people are at high risk of developing serious flu-related complications if they get sick. This includes people 65 years and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), pregnant women, and children younger than 5 years.

The first and most important step in preventing flu is to get a flu vaccine each year. Flu vaccine has been shown to reduce flu related illnesses and the risk of serious flu complications that can result in hospitalization or even death. Handwashing can prevent respiratory infections such as a cold or the flu.



Scan here to register for your flu shot!

#### Health Department Hosting Two Flu Vaccination Clinics in October

- Chelmsford Senior Center
  - ◊ Oct. 13, 2022, from 3:30 – 7:00 PM
  - ◊ 75 Groton Rd. North Chelmsford, MA 01863
- Town Hall Gymnasium
  - ◊ Oct. 18, 2022, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM
  - ◊ 50 Billerica Rd. Chelmsford, MA 01824 (park in rear of building)

**Both clinics are for adults 19 yrs. and older only and High Dose vaccine will be available** for those 65 yrs. and older. Pre-registration is preferred. Registration link can be found on [www.ChelmsfordMA.gov](http://www.ChelmsfordMA.gov) or by scanning the QR code to the left. Please call the Health Department if you have any questions or need assistance at 978-250-5241.

### Michelle Sacco Nominated for Educator Award



Chelmsford Firefighter Michelle Sacco

Congratulations to Chelmsford Firefighter Michelle Sacco for being nominated for the 2022 Fire & Life Safety Educator of the Year Award. Michelle has led the Department's Fire SAFE program for over ten years, and has devoted herself to building, growing, and nurturing a dynamic Fire Safe program in Chelmsford. She applies her expertise in the design, implementation, and evaluation of fire and life safety

education in engaging people of all ages through her delivery of the Fire SAFE and Senior Fire SAFE programs. Her passion for expanding her fire and life safety education is evident in the wildly popular "haunted fire house" during Fire Prevention week. Her enthusiasm has inspired other firefighters to collaborate in the administering of fire safe messages within the schools. She has expanded into

educating seniors through the Senior SAFE program, developing lasting relationships with the Chelmsford Senior Community. The Chelmsford Fire Department enjoys several strong partnerships with the schools, business community, residents, senior center, and other town departments as a direct result of Michelle's creative approach to fire safe education.

### Exciting New Programs at the CCA

Ready to have fun? The CCA Opened for their fall season on Saturday, October 1, 2022, kicking off with an open house and gallery launch from 12pm-4pm. Join them for drinks, stories, and music at their weekly Cabaret Café, every Thursday at 7pm (21+ only). Want fun for the fam? Bring the whole family to the CCA's Halloween Festival, Saturday, October 29 from 12pm-4pm. See you at the CCA!



### Varney Playground

The Chelmsford DPW has begun site demolition the week of September 26, 2022. Drainage and site work will occur this October and November, construction bids have been opened and the process of award is underway. Weather permitting, the playground structure itself will be installed in late fall 2022 or early spring 2023. Final landscaping will be completed in spring 2023.



## New Ban Prohibiting Textiles from the Waste Stream



Effective November 1st, 2022, Textiles, alongside Mattresses will be banned from Massachusetts waste streams.

This is part of the Massachusetts DEP's long-term Master plan to reduce the amount of waste by 30% in 2030 and by 90% come 2050.

Chelmsford is ahead of the change and by partnering with Simple Recycling (<https://simplerecycling.com>) we have given these textiles a place to be recycled.

Items that can be recycled through

Simple Recycling's program are the following:

- Men's Clothing
- Women's Clothing
- Children's Clothing

- Coats and Jackets
- Jewelry
- Shoes
- Purses
- Hats
- Toys
- Blankets
- Drapes/Curtains
- Pillows
- Sleeping Bags
- Tools
- Silverware
- Dishes
- Pots/Pans
- Backpacks



Keep in mind items that are contaminated with mold, bodily fluids, insects, oil, or hazardous substances are considered contaminated and cannot be recycled.

Some statistics that have led the DEP to this decision:

- ◇ Residents and businesses dispose of approximately 230,000 tons of textiles annually.
- ◇ About 95 percent of this material could be reused or recycled instead of thrown away.
- ◇ Nearly six percent of the waste delivered to combustion facilities for disposal is made up of clothing, curtains, towels, and other fabrics.

## Current Roadway Construction



As part of the Town's paving program, the following streets have been completed. Rack Road, Cliff Road, First Street, George Street, East Putnam Avenue, Third Street, Lafayette Terrace, Charlesgate Road, Fenwick Drive and Monument Hill Road. Under current construction are Fletcher Street, Clinton Road, Graniteville Road, Winter Street, Woodlawn Avenue, and Bowl Road. Raising of structures and final paving will be completed next.

## Spot Milling & Paving

Winter Recovery Assistance Program (WRAP) provides cities and towns with funding to improve their transportation networks in response to harsh winter weather. Eligible projects include resurfacing or preservation of roadways. As part of MassDOT WRAP the following roads will be milled and paved in sections to repair large areas of damage. Brick Kiln Road, Westchester Road, Orchard Lane, Davis Road, Riverneck Road, Middlesex Street, Mill Road and Hunt Road.

## Fall Reuse & Recycling Opportunities

Get ready to de-clutter your home before the holidays! There are two separate events coming up in Chelmsford to help you dispose of your clutter responsibly. These events have been coordinated so you can attend both on the same day in the same area.

### Zero Waste Day

The Chelmsford Recycling Committee is conducting Chelmsford's first ever Zero Waste Day on Saturday, November 5, 2022, 9am - 1pm, at McCarthy Middle School, 250 North Road. Zero Waste Day is an opportunity for us to keep usable goods out of the trash. This is a "one-stop drop" free event that allows you to donate items to multiple nonprofits at the same time and same place.

We have partnered with the following local organizations to collect your donated items: Simple Recycling (clothing, textiles and household goods), Habitat ReStore (furniture), Shred-it (paper shredding, Chelmsford residents only), Bay State Books (books, CDs, DVDs), [Sports Madness Limited](#) (skates; baseball and softball gloves; newer skis, snowboards, and boots), The Bike Connector (used bicycles and parts), Town of Chelmsford Bulb Shed (batteries and fluorescent bulbs), and the Chelmsford Food Pantry (non-perishable food). For more details on accept-

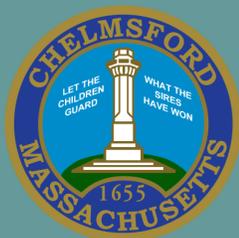


ed items at Zero Waste Day, see [www.chelmsfordrecycles.com/upcoming-events](http://www.chelmsfordrecycles.com/upcoming-events).

You will drive along a circular route through the school parking lot, stopping at the stations for each organization as needed. The Shred-it station is limited to Chelmsford residents only, with ID or proof of residency required. All other stations will be open to non-residents. Please be patient, as this is our first time coordinating this type of event. For questions regarding Zero Waste Day, contact Chris Haley, Sustainability Manager, at [chaley@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:chaley@chelmsfordma.gov) or 978-250-5203.

### Electronics & Metal Recycling Fundraiser

The McCarthy Middle School and Center Elementary School PTOs are holding their biannual E-Waste & Junk Recycle Day fundraiser on Saturday, November 5, 2022, 8am - noon at the Chelmsford Administration building, 230 North Road. This is a "donate-to-drop" fundraising event to dispose of metal, appliances, electronics and more. For more details on accepted items, see [www.chelmsfordrecycles.com/upcoming-events](http://www.chelmsfordrecycles.com/upcoming-events). Donations are tax-deductible and benefit Center Elementary School and McCarthy Middle School. For questions regarding the E-Waste & Junk Recycle Day, contact [GiveJunk2Us@gmail.com](mailto:GiveJunk2Us@gmail.com).



## TOWN OF CHELMSFORD

50 Billerica Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

Phone: 978-250-5200

Email the Town Manager:  
[tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov)

[www.chelmsfordma.gov](http://www.chelmsfordma.gov)



The purpose of this newsletter is to provide timely information to the Chelmsford community regarding its town government. Publications will be issued as needed, but on no less than a monthly basis. Please be patient with us as we develop this newsletter. Your suggestions and comments are welcome at [tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov).

Paul Cohen, Town Manager

### Vote November 8, 2022 in the State Election

**Election Day Polling Hours:** 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. Find your polling place [here](#).

**Voter Registration Deadline for the November 8<sup>th</sup> State Election:** October 29, 2022

If you are not already registered to vote in Chelmsford, the deadline to register to vote in the November 8<sup>th</sup> State Election is October 29, 2022 at 5:00 PM in person at the Town Clerk's Office, or [online](#) until midnight. You can check your current voter registration status [here](#).

**Vote by Mail Application Deadline:** November 1, 2022, 5:00pm

**Vote by Mail** Applications have been mailed by the State Elections Division to all registered voters who have not yet applied for the November 8<sup>th</sup> State Election. If you wish to vote by mail, please sign and return the form to the Town Clerk's Office. Any mail-in ballot must be requested in writing at least 5 business days before Election Day, but your request should be made as early as possible to allow enough time to receive and return your ballot on time. You may have already requested a ballot using our application that was included in the local census mailing. Click [HERE](#) to track your ballot. (<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/trackmyballot>)

#### Mail-in Ballot Deadline:

Mail-in Ballots can be returned by mail, in person to the Town Clerk's Office, or in the brown drop-box out front of the Town Offices at 50 Billerica Rd. **Mail-in ballots cannot be dropped off at a polling place on Election Day.** For the November 8, 2022 State Election, ballots returned in person or by drop box must be delivered by 8 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots returned by mail from inside the United States must reach your local election office by 5 p.m. on November 12, 2022 in order to be counted. Mailed ballots received after 8 p.m. on Election Day can only be counted if they are post-marked by Election Day. Please plan to return your ballot as early as possible. Don't forget to sign the affidavit on your secrecy envelope!

#### In-person Early Voting:

October 22 - November 4, Town Offices Gym (*Park in the back lot for easiest access.*)

Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am-2:00pm.

M, W, Th 8:30am-4:00pm, Tue 8:30am-7:00pm, Fri 8:30am-1:00pm.

**On Ballot:** Representative in Congress, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Governor's Council, State Senator, State Representative, District Attorney, Sheriff, and 4 statewide ballot questions.

