

# Town Manager's Newsletter

April 2025

## Dates of Interest:

- Apr. 1 Town Election
- Apr. 2 Bulb Shed Reopens
- Apr. 7 STI Presentation
- Apr. 8 Housing Production Virtual Forum
- Apr. 11-12 Book Sale
- Apr. 17 One Book Author
- Apr. 19 March to Concord
- Apr. 19-27 Town Wide Cleanup
- Apr. 21 Patriots' Day (Trash Delay, Town Offices Closed)
- Apr. 26 Haz. Waste Day
- Apr. 28 Town Meeting Begins
- Apr. 30 MVP Survey Due

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## Spring Annual Town Meeting

Thirty-four Articles are on the Warrant for the April 28 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Voters will be asked to approve a \$168.4M operating budget that includes funding for the Nashoba Valley Technical High School, the Chelmsford Public Schools, and general town government operations. A \$5.97M capital improvement plan includes funding for the replacement of a portion of the McCarthy Middle School roof, installing secure entryways at school

buildings, and roadway/sidewalk improvements. There are also proposals to increase property tax exemptions for veterans and senior citizens, a request for funding to remove the utility poles and suppress the utility lines in the town center, and to adopt a new outdoor lighting bylaw. Although only Town Meeting Representatives are allowed to vote at Town Meeting, all registered voters may participate in the Town Meeting deliberations. The Town Meet-



ing sessions will be televised live by Chelmsford Telemedia. The [Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant](#), the Finance Committee Warrant Book, and presentation documents will be available on the [Town Meeting webpage](#) once they are posted.

## Patriots' Day March to Concord: Saturday, April 19

The Chelmsford Minuteman Company invites the public to join them for the 14th and final Patriots' Day March from Chelmsford to Concord. This year holds special significance as we commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, pivotal events that ignited the American Revolution.

**Historical Reenactment:** Chelmsford Minutemen will don period attire, complete with muskets and accoutrements, mirroring the gear of our 1775 forebears.

**Scout Participation:** Scouts joining the march will earn the exclusive "Chelmsford Trail to Concord" patch.

This march offers a unique opportunity to step back in time and experience the journey undertaken by our ancestors on that fateful day. As part of the

250th anniversary celebrations, numerous events are planned throughout the day in both Lexington and Concord, including reenactments, parades, and ceremonies.

### Event Details:

- ★ **Date:** Saturday, April 19, 2025
- ★ **Step-Off Time:** 4:00 AM
- ★ **Starting Location:** Chelmsford Common at the sundial
- ★ **Arrival Time:** 9:00 AM
- ★ **Ending Location:** Minuteman National Park, Old North Bridge in Concord

Please note that all walkers are responsible for their own transportation back to Chelmsford. Access to this year's event will be more limited than usual. For more information on the day's events and additional activities, as well as transportation op-



tions, please visit the official [Patriots' Day Weekend 2025 page](#).

We look forward to commemorating this historic milestone with you.

- Captain John Greenwood - [6thmiddlesex@gmail.com](mailto:6thmiddlesex@gmail.com)
- Rev. Sergeant Jim Curley - [jcurley12@comcast.net](mailto:jcurley12@comcast.net)
- PFC Ken Lefebvre - [kenmlefebvre@gmail.com](mailto:kenmlefebvre@gmail.com)



**MVP**  
Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness

## Community Resilience Project Selection – Vote Now!

The Town of Chelmsford Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Planning (MVP 2.0) Core Team invites community members to help select a project to receive state funding that will address critical issues in our community. Based on community input, a short list of possible projects was identified to make Chelmsford more resilient:

1. Feeding Chelmsford through Community Gardening

2. Advancing Flood Mitigation Solutions

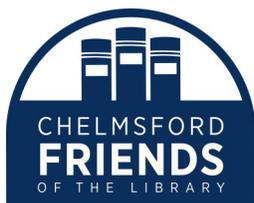
3. Rebuilding Our Tree Canopy  
Take our [Community Resilience Project Selection Survey](#) now to help select a project to implement this year with MVP Grant Funds.

Please submit your vote by April 30. It only takes a few minutes, but your input can make a lasting impact! We're working together to build a

stronger, greener future.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance. Together, we can ensure that our MVP 2.0 project truly represents the collective vision of our community.

Please help spread the word about this survey to your networks, friends, and family.



## Friends of the Library Book Sale

[The Friends of the Library Book Sale](#) will be held Friday, April 11 from 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM, and Saturday, April 12 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Town Hall Gym, 50 Billerica Rd. There will be a members-only pre-sale on Thursday,

April 10, from 5:00 to 7:30 PM!

There will be plenty of fiction, non-fiction, children's books, CDs and DVDs! Adult fiction \$2, Kids' books \$1, Non-fiction is individually priced. Proceeds support library programs and

services! Please note there will be no \$5 Box Sale in the Spring.

Teachers, day care providers, and literacy groups can register to shop for free during the last hour of this sale.



## Understanding Hoarding Disorder: Community Presentation

The Chelmsford Health Department is pleased to announce an informative presentation on **Hoarding Disorder 101** scheduled for **May 20 at 5:30 PM** at the **Chelmsford Library**. This event aims to educate the community about hoarding disorder, its impact, and strategies for support and intervention.

Hoarding disorder is a mental health condition characterized

by persistent difficulty in discarding or parting with possessions, regardless of their actual value. This behavior can lead to cluttered living spaces, compromised quality of life, and significant distress for individuals and their families. Understanding the complexities of hoarding disorder is crucial for providing effective support and intervention.

This presentation is an excel-

lent opportunity for community members, caregivers, and professionals to deepen their understanding of hoarding disorder and learn how to provide effective support.

**Scan the QR code to register, or visit [www.chelmsfordma.gov](http://www.chelmsfordma.gov).**



## Planning Board, ZBA, & Conservation Commission

The Planning Board will next meet on April 9 in Room 204 of Town Offices at 7:00 PM. The Planning Board will continue discussions with property owners in the Kate's Corner/Byam School area on zoning/land use within the existing commercial and industrial zones.

The Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on April 3 at 7:00 PM at Town Offices to continue the public hearing for Cobblestone Place, a 5-unit 40B comprehensive permit, located off Marose Avenue and an administrative appeal for Ledge Road challenging the Building Commissioner's zoning enforcement.

The Conservation Commission will next meet on April 8 and 22.

The posted agendas for these meetings will be available on the [agenda center](#) of the Town's website.

## One Book Chelmsford Author Visit with Pulitzer Prize Winner, Ilyon Woo

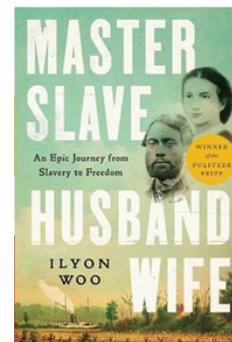
On Thursday, April 17 at 6:00 PM we will welcome Ilyon Woo for a conversation, Q&A, and a book signing. The conversation will be co-moderated by UMASS Lowell Professors Keith Mitchell and Michael Pierson. *Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom* was named one of the New York Times's "10 Best Books of 2023" and one of People Magazine's "Top Ten

Books of 2023." The book has also been recognized as a best book of the year by *The New Yorker*, *Time*, *NPR*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Boston*, *Chicago Public Library*, and *Oprah Daily*.

One Book Chelmsford is our community-wide reading program designed to bring residents together through a shared reading experience. Each year, we select a title that

inspires discussion and connection, and we encourage everyone to dive into the pages of our chosen book. Since its inception in 2007, this program has fostered a love of reading and engaged our community in thoughtful conversations.

We hope you can join us - Please [register](#) to reserve your seat!



## Health Department Attends Regional Preparedness in Action Workshop

The Health Department participated in the March 10 regional Preparedness in Action Workshop, a significant event aimed at enhancing Public Health Emergency Preparedness. This workshop brought together Health Departments, Police, Fire, and Emergency Management staff to discuss two key projects spearheaded by the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Coalition this year.

Through a series of presentations, exercises, and discussions, participants at the workshop:

- Identified Training Needs: By evaluating current capabilities and gaps, attendees

were able to pinpoint specific areas where additional training is needed to bolster emergency preparedness and response.

- Reviewed and Adapted the All-Hazards Framework: Participants worked collaboratively to review, adapt, and refine the all-hazards emergency response framework, ensuring it meets the needs of health departments and can be effectively implemented in future emergencies.
- Fostered Collaboration: The workshop provided a valuable opportunity for public health and emergency management professionals to

collaborate, share insights, and build stronger working relationships. This collaboration is essential for a coordinated and effective response to public health emergencies.

The Health Department's involvement in the workshop underscores its commitment to enhancing emergency preparedness and ensuring the safety and well-being of the community. By participating in these important discussions and activities, the department is better equipped to respond to future public health emergencies and protect the residents of Chelmsford.

*“The workshop provided a valuable opportunity for public health and emergency management professionals to collaborate.”*

## Chelmsford Housing Production Plan Virtual Forum

The Town of Chelmsford is working to update our Housing Production Plan (HPP), to guide our decisions on how to support affordable housing, what kinds of housing development or redevelopment we want to see, and how we can work toward making sure all kinds of families and people can afford a home that meets their needs.

At the HPP Virtual Forum on **April 8 from 4:30 PM to**

**6:00 PM**, you can learn about Chelmsford's housing needs and help create goals and potential locations for the plan. The planning team will use those goals to develop and choose sustainable and equitable strategies for meeting our housing needs. Your input is critical! Please register at [nmcog.org/chelm-hpp](http://nmcog.org/chelm-hpp) or with the QR code to the right to receive a Zoom link.

Contact Mike at [\[la@nmcog.org\]\(mailto:la@nmcog.org\) with any questions.](mailto:mascio-</a></p>
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*The Chelmsford Housing Production Plan is being prepared by Northern Middlesex Council of Governments supported by funds provided through the Community Preservation Act.*



## Household Hazardous Waste Day



**Saturday, April 26  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
DPW, 9 Alpha Road**

- Limit of one trunk load per household
- Proof of residency is required

Household hazardous waste includes common household items that contain toxic chemicals. Products such as nonlatex paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, pesticides, and similar products can contain hazardous ingredients and need to be disposed

of properly.

The list below contains many, but not all, hazardous products you may find in your home that will be accepted at Household Hazardous Waste Day.

- ✓ Antifreeze
- ✓ Propane tanks
- ✓ Brake fluid
- ✓ Car polishes and waxes
- ✓ Degreasers
- ✓ Drain openers
- ✓ Driveway sealers
- ✓ Epoxies, adhesive strippers, and preservatives

- ✓ Fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, and pesticides
- ✓ Hobby/photography chemicals
- ✓ Metal or furniture polish
- ✓ Motor oil, gasoline, and transmission fluid
- ✓ Oil paint, paint thinner, solvents, stains, and varnishes
- ✓ Oven cleaners
- ✓ Pool chemicals
- ✗ NO LATEX PAINT WILL BE ACCEPTED

**Call 978-250-5203 with questions.**



## Save the Date: Curbside Yard Waste Pick-Up May 17

The first curbside yard waste pick-up of the season will be on **Saturday, May 17**.

See the Organic Waste sec-

tion on page six of the [Annual Recycling & Solid Waste Guide](#) for yard waste pick-up rules.

Additional pick-ups will be

scheduled for summer and fall, and will be posted in the Annual Solid Waste & Recycling Guide, Town website, and Chelmsford Recycle App.



## Chelmsford Police Department Youth Academy

The Chelmsford Police Department will host its 4th Annual Youth Academy this summer, offering two separate sessions for different grade levels. The Youth Academy for incoming 5th and 6th graders will be held

July 20-26, while the session for incoming 7th and 8th graders will take place August 4-8.

Registration will open in mid-April. Follow ChelmsfordPD and ChelmsfordPAL on social media for registration an-

nouncements. If you have any questions about this free event, please reach out to Officer Sullivan at [dsullivan@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:dsullivan@chelmsfordma.gov) or Officer Rokas at [arokas@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:arokas@chelmsfordma.gov).



## Westford St. & Gorham St. Bridge Replacement Project

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) will replace two bridges in Chelmsford: Westford Street over I-495 and Gorham Street over I-495. Construction will begin this month, with more significant work, including

bridge closures and detours, scheduled to start in June after the school year ends. The project is expected to be completed by August 2028.

For more information on the project and to sign up for advi-

sories and notices, please visit [MassDOT's Project Webpage](#).

For questions or to report issues related to construction, please contact [ChelmsfordLowellBridges@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:ChelmsfordLowellBridges@dot.state.ma.us).



## 2025 Dog Licensing – Late Fees Now Apply

If you haven't licensed your dog for 2025 yet, late fees are already in effect. A \$5 fee will be added for every month your dog remains unlicensed, with citations beginning June 15th. Renewals can be done online, by mail, or in person at the Town Clerk's Office. For more details, visit [chelmsfordma.gov/dogs](http://chelmsfordma.gov/dogs).

## Annual Town Election Results

Results from the April 1, 2025 Annual Town Election can be found on the [election results archive webpage](#).



## Raising STI Awareness Among Senior Citizens

Recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reveals a concerning trend: sexually transmitted infection (STI) rates have risen sharply among adults aged 55 and older. Over the past decade, cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis have more than doubled in this age group.

This increase highlights the need for greater awareness and education about sexual health among seniors. Awareness and education about STIs are crucial for senior citizens. Many older adults may not have received comprehensive sex education in their youth, leading to gaps in knowledge about STI

transmission, symptoms, and prevention.

Additionally, healthcare providers often overlook discussing sexual health with older patients, further contributing to the lack of awareness.

By increasing awareness, we can help seniors make informed decisions about their sexual health and reduce the risk of STI transmission.

To address this important issue, the **Chelmsford Health Department** will host a presentation on sexually transmitted infections in senior citizens on **April 7 at 1:00 PM** at the **Chelmsford Senior Center**. This event aims to

educate attendees about the rising STI rates among seniors, the importance of awareness, and practical steps for prevention. The presentation will be informative and engaging, providing valuable insights into maintaining sexual health in later life.

### Bingo Game with Prizes!

Following the presentation, attendees can participate in a fun and interactive bingo game with exciting prizes. This activity will not only provide entertainment but also encourage social interaction and community building among participants. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, connect, and have fun!

*“The workshop provided a valuable opportunity for public health and emergency management professionals to collaborate.”*

## Patriots' Day Trash Delay

There will be no solid waste or recycling collection on Monday, April 21 due to the Patriots' Day holiday. Collection for the rest of the week will be delayed by one day. Please note that no bulk items are collected during holiday weeks.

For information on trash and recycling events as well as tips on how to reduce, reuse, recycle, compost, and dispose of refuse here in Chelmsford, check out the [2024-2025 Annual Recycling & Solid Waste Guide](#).

## Fix It Clinic

On April 6 from 1:30 to 4:00 PM, come with your broken items and learn to fix your stuff from local volunteers! Please [register](#) to let us know you are coming and what item(s) you need to fix. This is a free event!

Examples of what can be fixed include clothing/textiles, device and computer hardware, jewelry, bicycles, and household appliances.

Contact Jianna Christopher at [jchristopher@chelmsfordlibrary.org](mailto:jchristopher@chelmsfordlibrary.org) or 978-256-5521 x1107 with questions.



## Comment Period for W.J. Graves Air Quality Permit

W.J. Graves Construction Co. has submitted an application to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) for an Air Quality Permit for their operations at 80 Ledge Road, Westford, MA.



For information on how to submit comments, please view [MassDEP's Public Notice](#).

**The deadline to submit comments is April 3.**

## Bulb Shed Reopens for the Season on April 2

The Bulb Shed is located behind Town Offices at 50 Billerica Road. The shed is open the first Wednesday of the month from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM from April through November. Items accepted at the Bulb Shed include:

- ✓ Rechargeable batteries, including lithium (Li-ion), NiCd, & NiMH
- ✓ Printer cartridges
- ✓ Mercury items: Fluorescent, CFL and neon bulbs; Button batteries; Mercury thermometers and thermostats; Blood pressure cuffs; Electrical switches





## 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)

### Upcoming Transition to E-Newsletter!

Exciting news! Starting soon, we will be transitioning to an e-newsletter format. You'll be able to easily subscribe and have the newsletter delivered straight to your inbox. Stay tuned for more details!

View previous editions [here](#).

## CCA in April

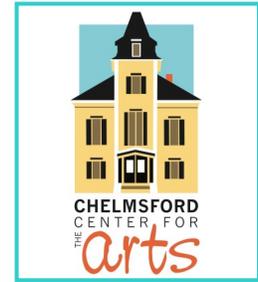
Get ready for some exciting events and opportunities coming to the Chelmsford Center for the Arts this April!

Join us in the CCA Cabaret Cafe on April 5 at 7:30 April for StickMan Blue, a candlelit evening of dynamic duo music. Featuring the rare Chapman Stick and vocals by the immensely talented Kaye Kelly, StickMan Blue will perform a mix of original pieces and eclectic arrangements of iconic artists like Bruce Springsteen, Taylor Swift, John Mayer, Talking Heads, Halsey, and more. With their unique sound and intimate atmosphere, this is an experience you won't want to miss!

Looking for an opportunity to shine onstage? Auditions for the Playground Theatre Co.'s third annual Ten-Minute Play Festival are just around the corner! Join us at the CCA on

April 13 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM or April 15 from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM for your chance to perform in one of the original short plays featured in this year's festival. Directed by local talent, the performances will take place on the first weekend in June. This is a great opportunity to be a part of something brand new, as well as to showcase your talent! Performers can sign up ahead of time via the form on the [CCA website](#).

Then, on April 26 at 7:30 PM, prepare for a high-energy performance in our auditorium by Boston's genre-bending quartet, The Sugar Kings! Combining Afro-Cuban roots, R&B, rock, and reggae, this concert promises a musical journey like no other. Before the show, at 5:30 PM, dive into an interactive workshop led by the band, exploring clave rhythms and their role in Latin music and



dance. Learn essential rhythms, discover each instrument's function, and get a taste of salsa, son, merengue, and Cumbia dance! Tickets are \$25 for the concert and \$35 for both the workshop and performance. Students and Chelmsford Friends of Music members get in free!

Don't miss out on these unforgettable artistic experiences! For more information on these (and more) events, or to purchase tickets, visit us at [www.chelmsfordarts.org](http://www.chelmsfordarts.org)

## Annual Town Wide Cleanup

Earth Day is April 22 this year, but why not celebrate all week? Join Chelmsford's town wide cleanup by helping to pick up litter on Chelmsford's roads, neighborhoods, parks, and recreation areas during the week of April 19 to April 27.

Pick up yellow bags at DPW, 9 Alpha Road, between April 14 and April 25. Place yellow bags

at your home curbside for pickup with regular trash until Friday, May 2.

Find more details [here](#). Please contact Sustainability Manager Chris Haley at [chaley@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:chaley@chelmsfordma.gov) or 978-250-5203 with any questions.

Together we can keep Chelmsford a clean and litter-free place to live, work, and play!



**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. Your suggestions and comments are welcome at [tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov](mailto:tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov).**

**Paul Cohen, Town Manager**