

TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND, VERMONT



ANNUAL TOWN REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

Retiring West Rutland Town Clerk

Christine Wener



By now most of you know I retired in September 2023. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the citizens of West Rutland for 18 years.

I would like to sincerely thank the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager for their continuing cooperation in enabling and improving our digitizing and updates of Town Land Records and fully supporting the ever-changing and expanding functions of the Town Clerk's office during my tenure.

I would like to recognize Debora Jasmin for her many years of dedication as assistant Town Clerk. To all the Justices of the Peace, thank you for the endless hours of meetings and elections. With everyone engaged and working together we were able to effectively address our numerous challenges. This was especially important during COVID - we did an amazing job!

I will be staying on part time as Assistant Clerk as needed to insure continuation of an already-smooth transition.

My husband and I will be looking forward to enjoying our grandchildren and relaxing at our camp.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Wener

Town Clerk

~~ On the Cover ~~

Regional Ambulance's second facility in West Rutland. This facility will start being used in the next year. It has the capacity to house 4 ambulances. When staffed, it will be closer for calls on the West side as well as have redundancy for dispatch and be able to be used during any type of disaster that affects the main building in Rutland.

In Memoriam....



Daniel J. Pratt

Daniel J. Pratt, 76, of West Rutland, VT passed away at his home on November 6th, 2023. He was born in Glens Falls NY, to Darwin and Mildred Pratt. He served his country as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Daniel studied to be a teacher at SUNY Buffalo and he created the drafting curriculum for Stafford Technical School while teaching there in the late 70's. He obtained his architectural license in 1979. He became the Chief of Design for the North American Division of the Italian lift manufacturer, Nuova Agudio and worked on the Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway in New Hampshire. Daniel joined Robert Carl Williams Associates in the early 1980's, and there he stayed. First, on to partner, and then eventually taking over the business in 1997. The mark of his talented hand can be seen in the evolution of Killington Mountain from the Skyship Base Lodge to the Killington Peak Lodge. Daniel's work includes everything from private residences, office buildings, industrial complexes, restaurants, libraries, ski lifts, and entire villages. He always had a pencil in his pocket and if there was no paper handy, a napkin would do just fine. Designing was his passion. Daniel spent his life in service, donating many hours to community organizations. He was not only a member of the First Baptist Church of Rutland, but also a deacon and member of the choir. He was a member of the Rutland South Rotary Club for over 30 years and was honored with the Paul Harris Fellow recognition. He served as a selectman in West Rutland for many years. Daniel was always ready to make a new friend; very warm and very welcoming. An avid traveller, he enjoyed his time in the Cayman Islands and at the family camp on Lake George. He enjoyed his dachshunds, and sharing time with his family and friends. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Jayne (Latham) Pratt; his son, Jarrod and wife Krystyna, their children: Zakary, Cayman and Olivia; his daughter, Jolene Pratt; his brother John, and wife Pat Pratt; his sister, Judy Pratt; and many nephews and nieces.

Dan Pratt made a significant impact on his hometown of West Rutland through his architectural expertise and contributions to various projects. Restoring the historic Town Hall, designing the WWII memorial, construction of the glass elevator at the library and renovating the recreation building are all valuable and lasting contributions to the community. While his passing is undoubtedly a tremendous loss, his legacy will continue to be remembered and cherished by the town he held dear. Dan's work and dedication have left an indelible mark on West Rutland.

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# INFORMATION

**TOWN CLERK OFFICE HOURS:** 9:00AM – 3:00PM, Monday-Thursday

**TREASURER’S OFFICE:** 8:00AM – 4:00PM, Monday-Thursday  
8:00 AM—Noon, Friday

**ZONING OFFICE:** 8:15AM – 4:00PM, Monday  
8:15 AM—Noon, Thursday

**OFFICE PERSONNEL:** Town Manager, Mary Ann Goulette (802-438-2263)  
Town Clerk, Debora Jasmin (802-438-2204)  
Zoning Administrator, Jeff Biasuzzi (802-438-2204)  
Listers: Lisa Wright, Patrick Trepanier, Adan Garcia, (802-438-2263)  
Treasurer’s Office (802-438-2263)  
Treasurer, Patricia Kulig  
Bookkeeper, Melissa Carlson  
Assistant Bookkeeper/Event Coordinator-Scheduler, Stan Jagodzinski

**FAX:** (802-438-5133)

**TOWN GARAGE:** (802-438-2854) 24-hour Pager Service

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** (802-438-5633)

**WATER DEPARTMENT:** (802-438-5633)

**LIBRARY:** (802-438-2964)

Offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays in 2024:

|                               |                                        |                              |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| New Year’s Day, January 1     | Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15 | Presidents’ Day, February 19 |
| Memorial Day, May 27          | Juneteenth, June 19                    | Independence Day, July 4 & 5 |
| Labor Day, September 2        | Indigenous People’s Day, October 14    | Veterans’ Day, November 11   |
| Thanksgiving Day, November 28 | Thanksgiving Friday, November 29       | Christmas Eve, December 24   |
| Christmas Day, December 25    |                                        |                              |

**DUE DATE FOR UTILITY PAYMENTS:** April 15 and October 15

**DUE DATE FOR TAX PAYMENTS:** August 15, November 15, May 15

**Payment Methods:** Cash, Check, Credit Card, On-line

- **Online Payments:** A transaction fee of 2.65% of the payment amount will be charged (minimum \$3 charge) for use of this service. E-Checks may also be used through this service with a transaction fee of \$1.50 per E-Check. Select the **Pay Online** Link on our Website (<https://www.westrutlandvt.org>)
- Payments can be mailed, paid in person, placed in the drop box in back parking lot, or set up for automatic bank withdrawal. Postmarked payments are not allowed.

**MEETING HOURS:**

SELECTBOARD

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00 pm in Town Hall Conference Room

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**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND, VERMONT**

**WARNING**

The legal voters of the Town of West Rutland, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Town Hall on Monday, March 4th, 2024 at 6:00 PM for an informational hearing and to act on Articles 1, 2 & 3. And to meet on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the West Rutland Town Hall, 35 Marble Street, to vote by Australian Ballot on Articles 4-25. Polls open 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

- Article #1 To act on the reports of the Town Officers.
- Article #2 To discuss the proposed Selectboard's Budget for the expenses of the Town and Highway Department.
- Article #3 To transact any other legal and proper business, not involving Town funds or any other articles on this warning.

**THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES TO BE VOTED ON BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**

- Article #4 To elect by Australian Ballot all necessary Town Officers:  
Town Moderator 1 Year, Selectperson 3 Years (1), Selectpersons 1 Year (2), Town Clerk 1 Year and Lister 3 Year.
- Article #5 Shall the Town approve the Selectboard's Budget for Fiscal Year covering July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$1,729,978 to be raised by taxes?
- Article #6 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$200,000 for continuing repaving and sidewalk improvements?
- Article #7 Shall the voters of the Town of West Rutland approve the establishment of a West Rutland Asset Fund for the planning, assessment, acquisition, or improvement of assets that directly benefit the residents of West Rutland?
- Article #8 Shall the voters of the Town of West Rutland approve transferring Fiscal Year 2024 surplus up to \$627,690.98 resulting from one-time unanticipated revenue to the West Rutland Asset Fund?
- Article #9 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$400 to support the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)?
- Article #10 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$4,800 to support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice? (\$300 to support Rutland Area Hospice and \$4,500 to support RAVNAH Home & Community Health Services)
- Article #11 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,304 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services so that these services can be maintained?



- Article #12 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to the Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR) for the purposes of economic development and promotion?
- Article #13 Shall the Town of West Rutland appropriate the sum of \$1,200 to Vermont Adult Learning /Rutland County Adult Basic Education for providing direct educational services to adults to include teaching materials?
- Article #14 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,250 to support the programs and services of BROCC – Community Action in Southern Vermont?
- Article #15 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$300 to support ARC – Advocacy, Resources and Community Opportunities for developmentally disabled citizens?
- Article #16 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the support of the programs of the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?
- Article #17 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$500 to support the NeighborWorks of Western Vermont?
- Article #18 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$750 for Housing Trust of Rutland County to assist the Town of West Rutland and its residents with their affordable housing needs?
- Article #19 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the services of the West Rutland Food Shelf?
- Article #20 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to support the services of the Marble Valley Regional Transit District?
- Article #21 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$250 to support the services of the Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District?
- Article #22 Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$250 to support the services of the American Red Cross?
- Article #23 Shall the Town of West Rutland vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3000 for the support of Wonderfeet Kids' Museum to provide services to the residents of the town?
- Article #24 Shall the Town of West Rutland appropriate the sum of \$500 to NewStory Center, formally the Rutland County Women's Network & Shelter, to support victims in Rutland County?
- Article #25 Shall the Town of West Rutland vote pursuant to VSA 32 §3840 and beginning this fiscal year to exempt in whole the property owned by Hiram Lodge #101, "The Masons", a nonprofit organization, from taxation

Selectboard: January 22, 2024

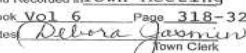
  
John Harvey, Chairperson

  
Chet Brown

  
John Center

  
Dick Daley

  
Nick Notte

WEST RUTLAND TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
23rd day of January A.D. 2024  
AT 10 O'Clock 30 Minutes AM  
And Recorded in Town Meeting  
Book Vol 6 Page 318-320  
Attest   
Town Clerk

## Articles 7 & 8

Voters at the Town Meeting in March will have the opportunity to approve two special articles aimed at establishing and funding a West Rutland Asset Fund. This fund is intended to support projects funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), with project recommendations and approvals overseen by the Selectboard.

The ARPA funds, distributed nationwide to address pandemic-related impacts, come with specific deadline requirements. Obligations must be made by December 31, 2024, and expenditures must be completed by December 31, 2026.

The Town of West Rutland plans to utilize these ARPA funds for various projects, such as matching grant funds for the Marble Street parking lot, the Marbleway Path, and/or the replacement sidewalk on Elm Street. These projects are currently undergoing engineering and design. Additionally, funds will be allocated for other townwide projects as needed. However, there is a potential risk of losing money for projects extending beyond the 2026 federal spending deadline.

To address this risk, the West Rutland Selectboard is following the Vermont League of Cities and Town's (VLCT) two-step recommendation to preserve ARPA Funds. Firstly, the Selectboard has transferred ARPA funds into the municipal general account, creating a surplus in the current FY'24 budget year. The second step involves creating a West Rutland Asset Fund from this surplus, which will be utilized over the next few years for ARPA projects approved by the Selectboard.

By transferring the funds, the Town can report to the federal government in April 2024 that ARPA funds have been spent, meeting federal deadline requirements. This eliminates the risk associated with the funds, and the Town is no longer bound by a deadline to spend the money, ensuring the completion of various projects.

The West Rutland Selectboard has already taken the first step by voting to transfer \$627,690.98 in ARPA funds to the municipal general account, mitigating the risk of losing this money. Now, they seek voter approval to establish and fund the West Rutland Asset Fund with the surplus, completing the second step. The Selectboard encourages voters to approve Town Meeting Warning Article 7, which asks voters to establish the West Rutland Asset Fund, and Article 8, which seeks voter approval to fund it with the Fiscal Year 2024 surplus resulting from this one-time influx of ARPA money into the general fund.



## **QUARRY VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING**

### **Annual School District Meeting**

**February 27 and March 5, 2024**

The legal voters of the Quarry Valley Unified Union School District consisting of the towns of Poulney, Proctor and West Rutland, are hereby notified and warned to meet at Proctor High School in said town at seven o'clock in the evening on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, to transact any of the following business not involving voting by Australian ballot. Upon the conclusion of the business not involving Australian ballot, the meeting is to be adjourned and reconvened in the respective polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. at which time the polls open until 7:00 P.M. at which time the polls will close, to transact business involving voting by Australian ballot.

#### **February 27, 2024**

- Article 1. To elect a moderator for a term of one (1) year.
- Article 2. To hear the reports of the School Board and other District officials and act thereon.
- Article 3. To elect a treasurer for a term of one (1) year.
- Article 4. To elect a clerk for a term of one (1) year.
- Article 5. To hear a presentation from the School Board on the proposed 2024-25 budget.
- Article 6. To transact any other lawful business that comes before the meeting.

#### **March 5, 2024**

- Article 7. School Budget: Shall the voters of the Quarry Valley Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend **\$20,400,847.55** which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

#### **Informational Hearing on February 27, 2024**

Said persons and voters are further notified and warned that the meeting on February 27, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Proctor High School, in Proctor, Vermont will also serve as an informational hearing to discuss Articles 7-8 which will be voted on by Australian ballot on March 5, 2024.

Said persons and voters are warned and notified that voter qualifications, registration, absentee voting, and voter procedures shall be in accordance with Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17 Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Said persons and voters are further warned and notified that pursuant to 17 V.S.A. Section 2680(h), Article 7 constitutes a Public Hearing on the proposed budget.

**Polling Places for Australian Ballot Vote on March 5, 2024**


|               |                             |                        |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Poultney:     | Poultney Fire House         | 10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. |
| Proctor:      | Proctor Jr. Sr. High School | 10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. |
| West Rutland: | West Rutland Town Hall      | 10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. |

Dated on January 23, 2024.

**QUARRY VALLEY UNIFIED UNION BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**

  
Lisa Miser, Board Chair

  
Kristen Ross, Clerk


  
Rebecca Gardner, Board Member

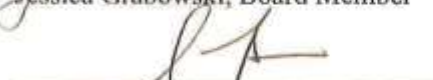
  
Eric Hier, Board Member

  
Linda Smith, Board Member


  
Michael Moser, Board Vice Chair

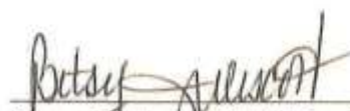
  
Tom Callahan, Board Member

  
Jessica Grabowski, Board Member

  
Sarah Lohnes-Watulak, Board Member

Received for record and recorded prior to posting this <sup>24<sup>th</sup></sup> day of January , 2024.

WEST RUTLAND TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
24th day of January A.D. 2024  
AT 9 O'Clock 10 Minutes A.M.  
And Recorded in Town Meeting  
Book Vol 6 Page 321-322  
Attest   
Town Clerk

  
Quarry Valley Unified Union District Clerk

## Town Manager Report 2023

As we approach the end of another year, we cannot help but reflect on the challenges faced by communities far and wide. Fortunately, our town has been spared the severe weather and flooding that many of our neighbors have endured.

In light of escalating costs across various sectors, we remain steadfast in our commitment to fiscal responsibility. This year's budget reflects a 5.6% increase, a testament to our dedication to providing the best possible value to our community. Our experienced team is unwavering in their commitment and works tirelessly to ensure the efficient use of resources.

We are actively involved in various ongoing projects, with some in the design and permit queue, while others are approaching completion. These projects, all funded through grants, include:

- \$180,000 Marble Street Parking Lot: Supporting Town Hall and its various events.
- \$320,000 Marbleway Path: A new multi-use path adjacent to the channel, running from the Thrall Avenue Park & Ride to Gilmore Street.
- \$172,091 Elm Street Sidewalk Replacement: Enhancing accessibility to support the Marble Village Housing project.
- \$537,143 Youngs Brook Dam Removal: Administering the removal of the dam off Dewey Avenue, once the Town's water supply.
- \$79,960 Water Service Line Inventory – mandated by the Federal Lead Copper Rule.
- \$40,225 Water System Asset Management Plan for the Water System
- \$12,000 Clean Water Service Provider – Recreation Area Wetland Restoration
- \$8,050 Bylaw Modernization – to facilitate updates to our outdated zoning bylaws and Town Plan.
- \$50,000 Tri Town Trails Scoping Study – the feasibility of a multi-use path to connect us with the towns of Proctor and Pittsford.

Our continued success in securing funding has allowed us to maintain our roads effectively. Notable grant allocations include \$200,000 for the repaving of Whipple Hollow Road, \$12,000 through the Grants in Aid Program for the re-ditching of Pleasant Street, \$20,000 Better Roads Grant for culvert upgrades, and ditch work on Clark Hill Road, along with \$23,220 for a safety grant addressing site issues on Pleasant Street and Whipple Hollow Road. We are pleased to welcome Jacob Crockett, a town resident, to our highway team, who obtained his CDL license in the fall and eagerly awaits the winter season.

This year, we will finalize the report and design for the upgrade to our aging wastewater facility. The 25+ year old facility is beyond its useful life, and implementing state-of-the-art improvements will enhance efficiency.

With voter approval, we will take over the Rutland Town Fire District this calendar year, following the installation of a pressure-reducing valve at the corner of Sheldon and Pleasant Street. Adding 92 customers will enable better economies of scale and stabilize utility rates.

In September, Aimee Pittrich joined us as our new Recreation Director, injecting fresh ideas into our programming and engaging residents of all ages with fantastic results. Looking ahead, we anticipate even more special events and opportunities for everyone in the coming year.

The recreation area saw significant improvements this year, resulting in increased daily attendance. Amenities such as a putting green, pickleball courts, and newly mowed walking and hiking trails along the river have enhanced the overall experience. The perennial favorite, the dog park, continues to attract residents and visitors alike. Collaborating with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corp, we successfully removed invasive phragmites, further preserving the natural beauty of our recreation area. As we strive for continual improvement, we are actively seeking funding opportunities for a new pavilion at the recreation area.

In conclusion, we express our sincere gratitude to our residents for their unwavering support. Together, we look forward to building on these accomplishments in the upcoming year. Thank you to our staff, elected officials, and committees for your commitment to serving our community.

Best Regards,

**Mary Ann Goulette**, Town Manager

## Town Officers / Appointments

| POSITIONS                                                         | OFFICERS                        | TERM<br>DURATION | TERM ENDING                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Animal Control Officer                                            | Sheriff's Department            | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Development Review Board                                          | Mike Moser, Chair               | 3 Years          | March, 2026 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Anthony (Tim) Ponto, Vice Chair | 3 Years          | March, 2025 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Ron Ryan                        | 3 Years          | March, 2026 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Jon Wallace                     | 3 Years          | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Deb Higgins                     | 3 Years          | March, 2025 (by appointment) |
| Emergency Management Director                                     | MaryAnn Goulette                | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Fire Chief                                                        | Michael Skaza                   | 2 Years          | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| First Constable                                                   | Rutland County Sheriff's Dept.  | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Forest Fire Warden                                                | Steve Czachor                   | 5 Years          | March, 2024                  |
| Health Officer                                                    | MaryAnn Goulette                | 3 Years          | March, 2025 (by appointment) |
| Library Board of Trustee                                          | Shelly Williams                 | 3 Years          | March, 2025                  |
| Listers                                                           | Lisa Wright, Chair              | 3 Years          | March, 2024                  |
|                                                                   | Adan Garcia                     | 3 Years          | March, 2025                  |
|                                                                   | Patrick Trepanier               | 3 Years          | March, 2026                  |
| Planning Commission                                               | Jim Flint                       | 4 Years          | March, 2027 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Sean Barrows, Chair             | 4 Years          | March, 2026 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Leona Minard                    | 4 Years          | March, 2027 (by appointment) |
|                                                                   | Michael Brzoz, Vice Chair       | 4 Years          | March, 2027 (by appointment) |
| Quarry Valley Unified Union School Directors                      | Tom Callahan                    | 3 Years          | March, 2025                  |
|                                                                   | Michael Moser                   | 3 Years          | March, 2026                  |
|                                                                   | Jessica Grabowski               | 3 Years          | March, 2024                  |
| Regional Ambulance Representative                                 | Paul Kulig                      | 3 Years          | March, 2025 (by appointment) |
| Rutland County Solid Waste District Representative, Primary       | Chet Brown                      | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Rutland County Solid Waste District Representative, Alternate     | John Harvey                     | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Rutland Region Planning Commissioner - Primary                    | Leona Minard                    | 2 Year           | March, 2025 (by appointment) |
| Rutland Region Planning Commissioner - Alternate                  | Deb Higgins                     | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Rutland Regional Transportation Council Representative, Primary   | Sean Barrows                    | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Rutland Regional Transportation Council Representative, Alternate | Mary Ann Goulette               | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Selectpersons                                                     | John Harvey, Chair              | 3 Years          | March, 2024                  |
|                                                                   | Nick Notte, Vice Chair          | 1 Year           | March, 2024                  |
|                                                                   | Chester Brown, Secretary        | 3 Years          | March, 2026                  |
|                                                                   | Richard Daley                   | 3 Year           | March, 2025                  |
|                                                                   | John Center                     | 1 Year           | March, 2024                  |
| Town Clerk                                                        | Debora Jasmin                   | 1 Year           | March, 2025                  |
| Town Law Agent                                                    | Michael Moser                   | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Town Moderator                                                    | Michael Moser                   | 1 Year           | March, 2024                  |
| Town Service Officer                                              | Michael Moser                   | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Treasurer                                                         | Patricia Kulig                  | 3 Years          | March, 2025                  |
| Tree Warden                                                       | Christopher Wener               | 1 Year           | March, 2024 (by appointment) |
| Zoning Administrator                                              | Jeff Biasuzzi                   | 3 Years          | March, 2025 (by appointment) |

# NOTICE TO VOTERS

## For Local Elections

### **BEFORE ELECTION DAY:**

**CHECKLIST POSTED** at Clerks Office by February 4, 2024. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by February 24, 2024.

**HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE:** There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to [olvr.sec.state.vt.us](http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us).

**REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS:** You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at [mvp.sec.state.vt.us](http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us). The latest you can request ballots for the March 5, 2024 Election is the close of the Town Clerk's office on March 1, 2024. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

### **WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:**

You may vote in the town clerk's office before the deadline.

Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the clerk's office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail. Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

If you are sick or disabled before Election Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

### **ON ELECTION DAY:**

**If your name was dropped from the checklist in error**, or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, you can fill out a new registration form.

If the clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a superior court judge, who will settle the matter on Election Day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

**If you are a first time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail and did not submit the required document**, you must provide a current and valid photo identification, or a bank statement, utility bill, or government document that contains your name/current address.

**If you have physical disabilities**, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

**If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place** let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

**If you have any questions or need assistance while voting**, ask your Town Clerk or any election official for help.

## **NO PERSON SHALL:**

Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.

Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.

Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.

Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.

Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

**FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)**

**If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated**, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633.

**If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process**, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

**If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process**, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Paper Ballots**

### **CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS:**

Go to the entrance checklist table.

Give name and, if asked, street address to the election official in a loud voice.

Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

An election official will give you a ballot.

Enter within the guardrail and go to a vacant voting booth.

### **MARK YOUR BALLOT:**

For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc."

To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for.

**WRITE-IN candidate(s).** To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

### **CHECK OUT:**

Go to the exit checklist table and state your name in an audible voice.

Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

**CAST YOUR VOTE** by depositing your voted ballot in "Voted Ballots" box.

**LEAVE** the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.

The March Election will be held on March 5, 2024. Polls will be open 10:00am—7:00pm.

### **Ballots will not be mailed for this election.**

If you would like to request an absentee ballot, contact (802) 438-2204.



# BUDGET SUMMARY

|                             | ACTUAL 2022         | ACTUAL 2023         | BUDGET 2024         | PROPOSED            | CHANGE      |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| <b>GENERAL REVENUES</b>     |                     |                     |                     |                     |             |
| PROPERTY TAXES              | \$ 1,589,881        | \$ 1,652,246        | \$ 1,621,611        | \$ 1,729,978        | 6.7%        |
| OTHER                       | \$ 256,659          | \$ 273,361          | \$ 230,790          | \$ 232,340          | 0.7%        |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>       | <b>\$ 1,846,540</b> | <b>\$ 1,925,607</b> | <b>\$ 1,852,401</b> | <b>\$ 1,962,318</b> | <b>5.9%</b> |
| <b>GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b> |                     |                     |                     |                     |             |
| ADMINISTRATIVE              | \$ 514,745          | \$ 450,998          | \$ 480,118          | \$ 497,393          | 3.6%        |
| HIGHWAY                     | \$ 704,543          | \$ 765,065          | \$ 739,901          | \$ 807,762          | 9.2%        |
| FIRE                        | \$ 207,365          | \$ 222,871          | \$ 225,244          | \$ 235,074          | 4.4%        |
| STREET LIGHTS & LIBRARY     | \$ 92,473           | \$ 95,285           | \$ 97,900           | \$ 103,800          | 6.0%        |
| TOWN HALL                   | \$ 88,018           | \$ 93,179           | \$ 89,891           | \$ 79,116           | -12.0%      |
| LAW ENFORCEMENT             | \$ 98,384           | \$ 94,319           | \$ 104,916          | \$ 115,358          | 10.0%       |
| RECREATION                  | \$ 58,047           | \$ 65,245           | \$ 66,063           | \$ 74,527           | 12.8%       |
| COUNTY TAX                  | \$ 13,599           | \$ 15,788           | \$ 20,365           | \$ 13,432           | -34.0%      |
| OTHER                       | \$ 45,498           | \$ 46,175           | \$ 33,004           | \$ 35,856           | 8.6%        |
| <b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>         | <b>\$ 1,822,672</b> | <b>\$ 1,848,925</b> | <b>\$ 1,857,402</b> | <b>\$ 1,962,318</b> | <b>5.6%</b> |

## Municipal Tax Rate PROJECTION

| Town Expenditures                       | FY 22               | FY 23               | FY24                | FY25                |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| General & Highway                       | \$ 1,673,857        | \$ 1,737,602        | \$ 1,857,402        | \$ 1,962,318        |
| Services Articles                       | \$ 23,264           | \$ 23,004           | \$ 23,004           | \$ 23,004           |
| Voted Town Articles                     | \$ 80,000           | \$ 100,000          | \$ 200,000          | \$ 200,000          |
| Exemptions - Veterans, etc.             | \$ 7,780            | \$ 20,010           | \$ 20,010           | \$ 10,667           |
| <b>Town Total Expenses</b>              | <b>\$ 1,784,901</b> | <b>\$ 1,880,616</b> | <b>\$ 2,100,416</b> | <b>\$ 2,195,989</b> |
| Less Other Revenues                     | \$ 199,300          | \$ 207,760          | \$ 217,650          | \$ 232,340          |
| <b>Expenses less Revenues</b>           | <b>\$ 1,585,601</b> | <b>\$ 1,672,856</b> | <b>\$ 1,882,766</b> | <b>\$ 1,963,649</b> |
| <b>Grand List Value</b>                 | <b>\$ 2,112,634</b> | <b>\$ 2,059,240</b> | <b>\$ 2,058,966</b> | <b>\$ 2,079,263</b> |
| Est. Municipal Tax Rate per \$100 value | 0.751               | 0.812               | 0.914               | 0.944               |

| ESTIMATED TAX CALCULATION |             |             |             |             | annual    |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Municipal Tax             | FY22        | FY23        | FY24        | FY25        | \$ change |
| home value                |             |             |             |             |           |
| 100,000                   | \$ 750.53   | \$ 812.37   | \$ 914.42   | \$ 944.40   | \$ 29.97  |
| 150,000                   | \$ 1,125.80 | \$ 1,218.55 | \$ 1,371.63 | \$ 1,416.59 | \$ 44.96  |
| 200,000                   | \$ 1,501.07 | \$ 1,624.73 | \$ 1,828.85 | \$ 1,888.79 | \$ 59.95  |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

|                            | ACTUAL 2022         | ACTUAL 2023         | BUDGET 2024         | PROPOSED 2025       |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>REVENUES</b>            |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| PROPERTY TAXES             | \$ 1,589,881        | \$ 1,652,246        | \$ 1,621,611        | \$ 1,729,978        |
| STATE HIGHWAY AID          | \$ 93,435           | \$ 86,558           | \$ 90,000           | \$ 86,000           |
| RAILROAD TAX               | \$ 380              | \$ 380              | \$ 380              | \$ 380              |
| SEWER & WATER ADMIN        | \$ 39,500           | \$ 39,500           | \$ 39,500           | \$ 39,500           |
| ORDINANCE FINES            | \$ 6,924            | \$ 9,364            | \$ 6,000            | \$ 8,000            |
| SCHOOL TAX BILLING FEE     | \$ 6,415            | \$ 5,891            | \$ 6,000            | \$ 6,000            |
| CLERK FEES                 | \$ 27,365           | \$ 18,129           | \$ 18,000           | \$ 15,000           |
| ZONING FEES                | \$ 1,301            | \$ 2,253            | \$ 1,500            | \$ 1,500            |
| COPIER                     | \$ 437              | \$ 292              | \$ 300              | \$ 300              |
| DOG LICENSES/T CLERK OTHER | \$ 2,101            | \$ 1,881            | \$ 1,800            | \$ 1,800            |
| INTEREST                   | \$ 1,478            | \$ 3,115            | \$ 1,500            | \$ 5,000            |
| TOWN HALL RENT             | \$ 3,980            | \$ 6,992            | \$ 5,000            | \$ 6,000            |
| LIQUOR LICENSE             | \$ 755              | \$ 785              | \$ 700              | \$ 750              |
| DEL. TAX INT/PENALTY       | \$ 38,699           | \$ 35,242           | \$ 30,000           | \$ 30,000           |
| PERMITS                    | \$ 558              | \$ 1,772            | \$ 500              | \$ 500              |
| MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE      | \$ 3,976            | \$ 25,574           | \$ 3,000            | \$ 3,000            |
| SPONSORSHIP                | \$ 3,483            | \$ 9,795            | \$ 3,000            | \$ 5,000            |
| MISC. REC. PROGRAMS        | \$ 1,279            | \$ 1,480            | \$ 1,500            | \$ 1,500            |
| REC BASEBALL/SOFTBALL      | \$ 2,737            | \$ 2,475            | \$ 2,000            | \$ 2,000            |
| PILOT PROGRAM              | \$ 3,070            | \$ 3,110            | \$ 3,110            | \$ 3,110            |
| STATE LAND USE             | \$ 14,192           | \$ 14,023           | \$ 14,000           | \$ 14,000           |
| REC FALL SPORTS            | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 300              | \$ 300              |
| SENIOR MEALS               | \$ 1,404            | \$ 1,554            | \$ 1,200            | \$ 1,200            |
| BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SPONSOR  | \$ 3,185            | \$ 1,900            | \$ 1,000            | \$ 1,000            |
| DOG PARK                   | \$ 5                | \$ 1,316            | \$ 500              | \$ 500              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>\$ 1,846,540</b> | <b>\$ 1,925,607</b> | <b>\$ 1,852,401</b> | <b>\$ 1,962,318</b> |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

| EXPENDITURES              |             |             |             |               |      |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------|
| ADMINISTRATIVE            | ACTUAL 2022 | ACTUAL 2023 | BUDGET 2024 | PROPOSED 2025 |      |
| MANAGER'S SALARY          | \$ 86,950   | \$ 86,242   | \$ 90,554   | \$ 93,271     |      |
| MANAGER'S EXPENSE         | \$ 2,567    | \$ 3,887    | \$ 3,000    | \$ 3,500      |      |
| TREASURER'S SALARY        | \$ 15,577   | \$ 19,012   | \$ 16,223   | \$ 16,709     |      |
| OFFICE BACK UP            | \$ 1,112    | \$ 1,250    | \$ 1,300    | \$ 1,300      |      |
| TOWN CLERK SALARY         | \$ 46,918   | \$ 46,535   | \$ 40,040   | \$ 41,241     |      |
| TOWN CLERK ASSISTANT      |             | \$ -        | \$ 19,500   | \$ 14,000     |      |
| TOWN CLERK SUPPLIES       | \$ 4,307    | \$ 2,882    | \$ 3,750    | \$ 3,050      |      |
| COPIER LEASE              | \$ 3,551    | \$ 3,603    | \$ 3,700    | \$ 3,700      |      |
| COMPUTER SOFTWARE/CLOUD   | \$ 3,693    | \$ 11,500   | \$ 19,000   | \$ 22,141     |      |
| TOWN OFFICIAL EXPENSE     | \$ 6,134    | \$ 6,712    | \$ 6,000    | \$ 7,000      |      |
| EDUCATION / TRAINING      | \$ 146      | \$ 987      | \$ 2,000    | \$ 1,000      |      |
| SAFETY / WELLNESS         |             |             | \$ 1,000    | \$ 1,000      |      |
| LISTERS                   | \$ 15,835   | \$ 19,562   | \$ 23,000   | \$ 24,000     |      |
| SELECTMEN SALARY          | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| PLAN/ZONING SALARY        | \$ 1,344    | \$ 1,778    | \$ 1,500    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| ZONING MILEAGE            | \$ 26       | \$ 119      | \$ 200      | \$ 200        |      |
| ZONING ADMIN. SALARY      | \$ 13,584   | \$ 12,968   | \$ 16,000   | \$ 15,000     |      |
| HEALTH OFFICER SALARY     | \$ 2,400    | \$ 2,400    | \$ 2,400    | \$ 2,400      |      |
| BOOKKEEPERS SALARY        | \$ 63,172   | \$ 66,599   | \$ 75,584   | \$ 78,668     |      |
| HEALTH & DENTAL           | \$ 16,245   | \$ 20,289   | \$ 24,721   | \$ 21,684     |      |
| FICA                      | \$ 23,763   | \$ 26,633   | \$ 21,879   | \$ 22,168     |      |
| PROPERTY & LIABILITY      | \$ 9,287    | \$ 9,301    | \$ 11,688   | \$ 15,134     |      |
| WORKERS COMP              | \$ 180      | \$ 426      | \$ 1,261    | \$ 1,958      |      |
| RETIREMENT(VMERS)         | \$ 11,412   | \$ 11,998   | \$ 13,868   | \$ 14,814     |      |
| EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE       | \$ 1,911    | \$ 2,599    | \$ 2,730    | \$ 2,869      |      |
| UNEMPLOYMENT INS          | \$ 417      | \$ 399      | \$ 364      | \$ 396        |      |
| DISABILITY                | \$ 413      | \$ 410      | \$ 408      | \$ 420        |      |
| PUBLIC OFFICIAL LIABILITY | \$ 2,242    | \$ 3,050    | \$ 2,956    | \$ 2,629      |      |
| AUDITING                  | \$ 20,850   | \$ 24,314   | \$ 20,000   | \$ 23,400     |      |
| SINGLE AUDIT              | \$ 6,787    | \$ 5,263    | \$ 7,000    | \$ 6,000      |      |
| ELECTIONS                 | \$ 2,348    | \$ 4,529    | \$ 3,000    | \$ 7,200      |      |
| TAX BILLING               | \$ 839      | \$ 1,076    | \$ 1,000    | \$ 1,200      |      |
| IT / EQUIPMENT / WEBSITE  | \$ 20,248   | \$ 9,185    | \$ 8,000    | \$ 8,000      |      |
| LEGAL FEES                | \$ 7,034    | \$ 4,927    | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| LEGAL FEES - LISTERS      | \$ 102,241  | \$ 14,032   | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES           | \$ 2,084    | \$ 2,809    | \$ 4,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| POSTAGE                   | \$ 1,858    | \$ 3,179    | \$ 2,500    | \$ 3,500      |      |
| TOWN REPORT               | \$ 1,050    | \$ 1,207    | \$ 1,200    | \$ 1,400      |      |
| ADVERTISING               | \$ 870      | \$ 1,516    | \$ 1,000    | \$ 1,800      |      |
| TELEPHONE                 | \$ 2,674    | \$ 4,308    | \$ 2,800    | \$ 4,500      |      |
| REGIONAL PLANNING         | \$ 975      | \$ 1,000    | \$ 975      | \$ 1,000      |      |
| VLCT DUES                 | \$ 3,968    | \$ 3,882    | \$ 4,017    | \$ 4,141      |      |
| MISCELLANEOUS             | \$ 776      | \$ 973      | \$ 2,000    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| GRANT ADMINISTRATION      | \$ 1,955    | \$ 2,657    | \$ 3,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| Total ADMINISTRATIVE      | \$ 514,745  | \$ 450,998  | \$ 480,118  | \$ 497,393    | 3.6% |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

| HIGHWAY                     | ACTUAL 2022 | ACTUAL 2023 | BUDGET 2024 | PROPOSED 2025 |      |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------|
| EQUIPMENT SAVINGS           | \$ 70,000   | \$ 75,000   | \$ 75,000   | \$ 80,000     |      |
| LABOR                       | \$ 174,782  | \$ 164,005  | \$ 185,218  | \$ 194,946    |      |
| FICA                        | \$ 12,631   | \$ 11,742   | \$ 14,169   | \$ 14,913     |      |
| RETIREMENT (VMERS)          | \$ 10,557   | \$ 9,621    | \$ 10,650   | \$ 13,159     |      |
| HEALTH & DENTAL             | \$ 47,480   | \$ 37,105   | \$ 41,643   | \$ 49,906     |      |
| WORKMANS COMP               | \$ 4,846    | \$ 11,595   | \$ 12,397   | \$ 13,413     |      |
| PROPERTY & LIABILITY        | \$ 5,249    | \$ 12,729   | \$ 6,212    | \$ 6,825      |      |
| UNEMPLOYMENT                | \$ 262      | \$ 251      | \$ 273      | \$ 279        |      |
| DISABILITY                  | \$ 579      | \$ 559      | \$ 612      | \$ 622        |      |
| UNIFORMS                    | \$ 1,798    | \$ 1,691    | \$ 1,800    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| SALT                        | \$ 102,403  | \$ 89,382   | \$ 95,000   | \$ 95,000     |      |
| SAND                        | \$ 5,317    | \$ 8,229    | \$ 9,000    | \$ 9,000      |      |
| MAG. CHLORIDE /DUST CONTROL | \$ -        | \$ -        | \$ 3,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| ENGINEERING                 | \$ -        | \$ 13,643   | \$ 2,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| CULVERTS                    | \$ 3,292    | \$ 3,526    | \$ 4,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| GRAVEL                      | \$ 8,338    | \$ 14,377   | \$ 15,000   | \$ 16,000     |      |
| HOT MIX                     | \$ 317      | \$ 125      | \$ 2,000    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| CRACK SEAL                  | \$ -        | \$ 18,000   | \$ 13,500   | \$ 13,500     |      |
| RESURFACING & REPAIRS       | \$ 45,745   | \$ 133,082  | \$ 25,000   | \$ 30,000     |      |
| ICE MELT                    | \$ -        | \$ -        | \$ 500      | \$ 500        |      |
| COLD PATCH                  | \$ 676      | \$ 1,600    | \$ 4,000    | \$ 4,000      |      |
| EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE       | \$ 5,020    | \$ -        | \$ 2,000    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| RENTAL EQUIPMENT            | \$ -        | \$ -        | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| LAWN MAINTENANCE            | \$ 7,447    | \$ 7,966    | \$ 7,500    | \$ 8,300      |      |
| TREE WORK                   | \$ 400      | \$ -        | \$ 3,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| TRAFFIC SIGNS & LIGHTS      | \$ 26,377   | \$ 2,049    | \$ 2,000    | \$ 4,000      |      |
| PAGER SERVICE               | \$ -        | \$ -        | \$ 550      | \$ 550        |      |
| SHOP TOOLS & MISC           | \$ 3,035    | \$ 4,227    | \$ 5,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| OFFICE EQUIP / SUPPLIES     | \$ 719      | \$ 1,615    | \$ 1,000    | \$ 1,500      |      |
| BRIDGE RESERVE              | \$ 44,500   | \$ 45,000   | \$ 45,000   | \$ 45,000     |      |
| CATCH BASIN CLEANING        | \$ 74       | \$ -        | \$ 2,500    | \$ 2,500      |      |
| CHANNEL MAINTENANCE         | \$ 600      | \$ -        | \$ 5,000    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| PERMITS                     | \$ -        | \$ 1,765    | \$ 2,000    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| SIDEWALK REPAIR             | \$ 15,772   | \$ 76       | \$ 20,000   | \$ 25,000     |      |
| STREET CLEANING             | \$ -        | \$ 496      | \$ 1,000    | \$ 2,000      |      |
| ROAD CONSTRUCTION / REPAIR  | \$ 20,000   | \$ 1,148    | \$ 15,000   | \$ 20,000     |      |
| PAVEMENT MARKING            | \$ 406      | \$ 14       | \$ 3,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| TRAINING                    | \$ 163      | \$ 2,530    | \$ 5,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| GAS,OIL,DIESEL              | \$ 15,698   | \$ 17,742   | \$ 17,000   | \$ 18,000     |      |
| REPAIR PARTS                | \$ 8,803    | \$ 16,307   | \$ 10,000   | \$ 10,000     |      |
| OUTSIDE REPAIRS             | \$ 5,502    | \$ 6,664    | \$ 10,000   | \$ 15,000     |      |
| TIRES,CHAINS,BATTERIES      | \$ 3,778    | \$ -        | \$ 5,000    | \$ 6,000      |      |
| PLOW BLADES                 | \$ 7,384    | \$ 4,383    | \$ 7,000    | \$ 7,000      |      |
| POWER TOOLS & EQUIPMENT     | \$ 1,716    | \$ 2,248    | \$ 2,500    | \$ 5,000      |      |
| INSURANCE - AUTO            | \$ 2,961    | \$ 3,905    | \$ 3,876    | \$ 4,189      |      |
| RADIOS                      | \$ 251      | \$ 460      | \$ 350      | \$ 500        |      |
| GARAGE HEAT                 | \$ 6,063    | \$ 7,238    | \$ 7,000    | \$ 8,000      |      |
| BUILDING MAINT/REPAIRS      | \$ 5,061    | \$ 3,932    | \$ 5,000    | \$ 10,000     |      |
| TELEPHONE/INTERNET          | \$ 566      | \$ 996      | \$ 700      | \$ 1,000      |      |
| ELECTRICITY                 | \$ 1,936    | \$ 2,140    | \$ 2,000    | \$ 2,400      |      |
| DATA PROCESSING / WIFI      | \$ 1,942    | \$ 2,112    | \$ 2,000    | \$ 3,000      |      |
| GARAGE LOAN BOND            | \$ 18,427   | \$ 18,359   | \$ 16,744   | \$ 16,744     |      |
| SAND & SALT SHED BOND       | \$ 5,670    | \$ 5,431    | \$ 5,207    | \$ 5,016      |      |
| Total HIGHWAY               | \$ 704,543  | \$ 765,065  | \$ 739,901  | \$ 807,762    | 9.2% |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

| <b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>       | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b> | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b> | <b>BUDGET 2024</b> | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> |               |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| LABOR                        | \$ 24,781          | \$ 25,084          | \$ 25,250          | \$ 28,300            |               |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES              | \$ -               | \$ 366             | \$ 300             | \$ 300               |               |
| POSTAGE                      | \$ 57              | \$ 61              | \$ 100             | \$ 100               |               |
| DATA PROCESSING              | \$ 1,932           | \$ 1,932           | \$ 1,932           | \$ 1,932             |               |
| TOOLS                        | \$ 5,474           | \$ 4,271           | \$ 6,500           | \$ 6,500             |               |
| VEHICLE FUEL                 | \$ 1,132           | \$ 2,003           | \$ 1,500           | \$ 2,000             |               |
| CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES          | \$ 255             | \$ 396             | \$ 300             | \$ 300               |               |
| PHONE / INTERNET             | \$ 3,011           | \$ 4,255           | \$ 3,400           | \$ 4,900             |               |
| TRAINING                     | \$ 3,291           | \$ 937             | \$ 3,000           | \$ 2,000             |               |
| DUES                         | \$ 506             |                    | \$ 900             | \$ 900               |               |
| INS PROPERTY & CASUALTY      | \$ 5,008           | \$ 5,238           | \$ 5,092           | \$ 5,623             |               |
| INSURANCE AUTO               | \$ 6,088           | \$ 6,310           | \$ 6,277           | \$ 6,873             |               |
| WORKMAN'S COMP               | \$ 2,938           | \$ 2,366           | \$ 2,398           | \$ 2,150             |               |
| ACCIDENT & SICKNESS          | \$ 1,729           | \$ 1,235           | \$ 2,819           | \$ 1,527             |               |
| BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINT     | \$ 9,350           | \$ 7,147           | \$ 7,000           | \$ 7,000             |               |
| UNIFORMS                     | \$ 1,476           | \$ 88              | \$ 1,000           | \$ 1,000             |               |
| ELECTRIC                     | \$ 2,878           | \$ 2,802           | \$ 3,000           | \$ 3,000             |               |
| HEATING FUEL                 | \$ 3,230           | \$ 22,170          | \$ 3,600           | \$ 5,600             |               |
| CAP. EQUIPMENT SAVINGS       | \$ 10,450          | \$ 10,450          | \$ 10,450          | \$ 10,450            |               |
| COMMUNICATIONS               | \$ 5,778           | \$ 3,431           | \$ 5,000           | \$ 4,000             |               |
| TRUCK MAINTENANCE            | \$ 3,505           | \$ 4,515           | \$ 6,000           | \$ 6,000             |               |
| EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE        | \$ 4,687           | \$ 5,570           | \$ 5,500           | \$ 5,500             |               |
| PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIP    |                    |                    | \$ 9,000           | \$ 11,500            |               |
| SNOW REMOVAL                 | \$ 2,260           | \$ 2,260           | \$ 2,260           | \$ 2,340             |               |
| MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE         | \$ 436             | \$ 519             | \$ 500             | \$ 500               |               |
| MISCELLANEOUS                | \$ 559             | \$ 280             | \$ 500             | \$ 500               |               |
| TRUCK SAVINGS                | \$ 40,000          | \$ 45,000          | \$ 50,000          | \$ 55,000            |               |
| BOND PAYMENT                 | \$ 66,554          | \$ 64,185          | \$ 61,666          | \$ 59,279            |               |
| <b>Total FIRE DEPT</b>       | <b>\$ 207,365</b>  | <b>\$ 222,871</b>  | <b>\$ 225,244</b>  | <b>\$ 235,074</b>    | <b>4.4%</b>   |
| <b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>         | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b> | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b> | <b>BUDGET 2024</b> | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> |               |
| STREET LIGHTS                | \$ 37,916          | \$ 37,644          | \$ 38,000          | \$ 38,500            |               |
| SOLID WASTE MGT              | \$ 1,871           | \$ 2,266           | \$ 2,000           | \$ 2,400             |               |
| LIBRARY                      | \$ 50,000          | \$ 52,500          | \$ 55,000          | \$ 60,000            |               |
| MEMORIAL DAY                 | \$ 1,325           | \$ 1,500           | \$ 1,500           | \$ 1,500             |               |
| IRA TOWN TAXES               | \$ 761             | \$ 775             | \$ 800             | \$ 800               |               |
| CHILD ADVOCACY FIRST         | \$ 600             | \$ 600             | \$ 600             | \$ 600               |               |
| <b>Total MISCELLANEOUS</b>   | <b>\$ 92,473</b>   | <b>\$ 95,285</b>   | <b>\$ 97,900</b>   | <b>\$ 103,800</b>    | <b>6.0%</b>   |
| <b>TOWN HALL</b>             | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b> | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b> | <b>BUDGET 2024</b> | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> |               |
| MAINTENANCE LABOR            | \$ 5,434           | \$ 1,925           | \$ 6,000           | \$ 5,000             |               |
| INSPECTIONS - ELEVATOR, ETC. | \$ 7,713           | \$ 5,816           | \$ 8,000           | \$ 8,000             |               |
| JANITORIAL / ADDTNL LABOR    | \$ 3,248           | \$ 6,473           | \$ 6,000           | \$ 9,100             |               |
| ELECTRIC                     | \$ 5,260           | \$ 5,100           | \$ 6,000           | \$ 6,000             |               |
| MISCELLANEOUS                | \$ 3,302           | \$ 4,247           | \$ 3,000           | \$ 4,500             |               |
| FUEL OIL                     | \$ 8,726           | \$ 15,397          | \$ 9,000           | \$ 15,000            |               |
| ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS      | \$ 289             | \$ 1,723           | \$ 1,000           | \$ 1,500             |               |
| IMPROVEMENTS-RESERVE         | \$ 5,000           | \$ 5,000           | \$ 5,000           | \$ 25,000            |               |
| BOND PAYMENT                 | \$ 5,670           | \$ 5,431           | \$ 5,207           | \$ 5,016             |               |
| BOND - RESTROOMS             | \$ 43,376          | \$ 42,067          | \$ 40,684          | \$ -                 |               |
| <b>Total TOWN HALL</b>       | <b>\$ 88,018</b>   | <b>\$ 93,179</b>   | <b>\$ 89,891</b>   | <b>\$ 79,116</b>     | <b>-12.0%</b> |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

| <b>LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>     | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b>  | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b>  | <b>BUDGET 2024</b>   | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> |             |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| HUMANE SOCIETY             | \$ 500              | \$ -                | \$ 500               | \$ 500               |             |
| POLICE FORCE - LABOR       | \$ 98,384           | \$ 94,319           | \$ 104,416           | \$ 114,858           |             |
| Total LAW ENFORCEMENT      | \$ 98,884           | \$ 94,319           | \$ 104,916           | \$ 115,358           | 10.0%       |
| <b>RECREATION</b>          | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b>  | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b>  | <b>BUDGET 2024</b>   | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> |             |
| ELECTRIC                   | \$ 749              | \$ 735              | \$ 800               | \$ 800               |             |
| TELEPHONE / WIFI           | \$ 195              | \$ 780              | \$ 1,500             | \$ 1,500             |             |
| LABOR                      | \$ 14,028           | \$ 15,176           | \$ 15,000            | \$ 19,760            |             |
| FICA                       |                     | \$ -                | \$ 1,148             | \$ 1,512             |             |
| WORKERS COMP / UNEMPLOY    | \$ 90               | \$ 218              | \$ 9                 | \$ 669               |             |
| SUPPLIES / EQUIPMENT       | \$ 3,326            | \$ 1,931            | \$ 3,000             | \$ 3,000             |             |
| BUILDING AND GROUNDS MAINT | \$ 5,157            | \$ 3,485            | \$ 4,000             | \$ 4,000             |             |
| PROPERTY & LIABILITY INS.  | \$ 404              | \$ 612              | \$ 906               | \$ 1,086             |             |
| HEATING FUEL               | \$ 505              | \$ 661              | \$ 700               | \$ 800               |             |
| GIRLS SOFTBALL             | \$ 1,490            | \$ 1,538            | \$ 1,500             | \$ 1,500             |             |
| BOYS BASEBALL              | \$ 765              | \$ 1,370            | \$ 1,500             | \$ 1,500             |             |
| SPONSOR BANNERS            | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 500               | \$ 500               |             |
| CONSTRUCTION / REPAIRS     | \$ -                | \$ 5,853            | \$ 3,000             | \$ 3,000             |             |
| BABE RUTH                  | \$ 92               | \$ -                | \$ 1,000             | \$ 1,000             |             |
| MITEY MITES/T BALL         | \$ 712              | \$ 806              | \$ 1,000             | \$ 1,000             |             |
| SENIOR MEALS               | \$ 1,828            | \$ 2,657            | \$ 2,000             | \$ 2,400             |             |
| MISC PROGRAMS              | \$ 997              | \$ 1,118            | \$ 1,000             | \$ 1,500             |             |
| FIELD MOWING               | \$ 7,117            | \$ 6,177            | \$ 6,000             | \$ 7,000             |             |
| TOWN FOREST MAINTENANCE    | \$ 470              | \$ 1,033            | \$ 1,000             | \$ 1,000             |             |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS       | \$ 20,000           | \$ 20,000           | \$ 20,000            | \$ 20,000            |             |
| DOG PARK                   | \$ 122              | \$ 1,095            | \$ 500               | \$ 1,000             |             |
| Total RECREATION           | \$ 58,047           | \$ 65,245           | \$ 66,063            | \$ 74,527            | 12.8%       |
| COUNTY TAX                 | 13,599              | 15,788              | 20,365               | 13,432               | -34.0%      |
| <b>OTHER</b>               | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b>  | <b>BUDGET 2023</b>  | <b>PROPOSED 2024</b> |                      |             |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT       | \$ 5,917            | \$ 5,491            | \$ 5,000             | \$ 5,000             |             |
| REDEVELOPMENT FUND         | \$ 10,000           | \$ 10,000           | \$ -                 |                      |             |
| MARKETING / SPECIAL EVENTS | \$ 6,517            | \$ 8,082            | \$ 6,000             | \$ 8,000             |             |
| GREEN UP                   | \$ 1,521            | \$ 1,410            | \$ 1,200             | \$ 1,500             |             |
| PROPERTY & GIS MAPPING     | \$ 5,975            | \$ 5,150            | \$ 6,000             | \$ 6,000             |             |
| STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS   | \$ 4,374            | \$ 4,150            | \$ 4,000             | \$ 4,000             |             |
| CEMETERY MAINTENANCE       | \$ 1,890            | \$ 2,588            | \$ 1,500             | \$ 2,500             |             |
| RUTLAND REGIONAL AMBULANCE | \$ 9,304            | \$ 9,304            | \$ 9,304             | \$ 8,856             |             |
| Total OTHER                | \$ 45,498           | \$ 46,175           | \$ 33,004            | \$ 35,856            | 8.6%        |
| <b>BUDGET GRAND TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$ 1,823,172</b> | <b>\$ 1,848,925</b> | <b>\$ 1,857,401</b>  | <b>\$ 1,962,318</b>  | <b>5.6%</b> |



# Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

77 Barre Street  
P.O. Box 947  
Montpelier, VT 05601  
802/223-2352  
[www.sullivanpowers.com](http://www.sullivanpowers.com)

Richard J. Brigham, CPA  
Chad A. Hewitt, CPA  
Jordan M. Plummer, CPA  
VT Lic. #92-000180

December 30, 2023

Selectboard  
Town of West Rutland  
35 Marble Street  
West Rutland, Vermont 05777

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of West Rutland, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023.

The financial statements and our report thereon are available for public inspection at the Town Manager's Office.

*Sullivan, Powers & Co.*

**DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES**  
**Balances over \$10 as of June 30, 2023**  
**✓ = Paid as of 1/15/2024**  
**A = Payment Agreement in Effect**

| Name                  |                    | Previous Years | 2022-2023    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Alberico              | Darrell J          |                | \$3,427.71   |
| Aprilliano            | John               |                | \$18.27 ✓    |
| Bassett               | Joseph P           | \$5,625.09 A   | \$2,260.32 A |
| Bennett               | William D          |                | \$1,088.49 ✓ |
| Bills                 | Dale               |                | \$2,067.21   |
| Brewster              | Todd               |                | \$10.15 ✓    |
| Breyette              | Michael            |                | \$1,439.69 ✓ |
| Brown                 | Gertrude           | \$1,345.81     | \$1,297.74   |
| Bruno                 | James A & Kathleen |                | \$482.93 ✓   |
| Burlett               | Daryl              |                | \$2,303.80   |
| Butler                | Andrew             |                | \$15.17 ✓    |
| Carris                | Jessie             | \$330.33 ✓     | \$1,909.29   |
| Carris                | Jessie             | \$3,309.81     | \$4,502.01   |
| Chadwick              | Julie              | \$1,083.50     | \$1,889.31   |
| Clifford              | Gary               |                | \$34.48 ✓    |
| Clifford              | Gary H             |                | \$1,637.97   |
| Curtis                | Glen               |                | \$1,143.80   |
| Davis                 | Jonathan M         | \$7,143.60     | \$5,822.71   |
| Dee-Cliff Farm LTD    |                    |                | \$1,373.19 A |
| Dodds                 | Jeffrey            | \$4,634.83     | \$2,516.46   |
| Dziubek               | Michael            |                | \$797.44 ✓   |
| Elliott               | Larry D            |                | \$25.00 ✓    |
| Flynn                 | Christopher        |                | \$211.62 ✓   |
| Flynn                 | Christopher        |                | \$7,251.57   |
| Flynn                 | Steven             |                | \$174.11 ✓   |
| Frasier               | Carole A           |                | \$233.83 ✓   |
| Grant                 | Erica              |                | \$1,469.16 ✓ |
| Greene                | Lauretta           |                | \$2,043.79 ✓ |
| Henry                 | Michael, Jr.       | \$3,464.89 ✓   | \$3,814.95 A |
| Higgins               | Patrick C          | \$4,056.11 A   | \$4,445.67 A |
| Hyjek                 | Velma              |                | \$10.24 ✓    |
| Jarrosak              | Kevin              | \$1,122.37 A   | \$2,901.21 A |
| Johnson               | Kevin              |                | \$1,655.67 ✓ |
| Little                | Frederic           |                | \$663.50 ✓   |
| Mayne                 | Christopher        |                | \$175.44 ✓   |
| McGee                 | Theresa S          |                | \$1,055.54 ✓ |
| Michaud               | Jeffrey            |                | \$952.00     |
| Moore                 | Christina          |                | \$611.35 ✓   |
| New Cingular Wireless |                    |                | \$7,443.09   |
| Northeast Hemp Com    |                    | \$6,562.22     | \$5,555.04   |

**DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES**  
**Balances over \$10 as of June 30, 2023**  
**✓ = Paid as of 1/15/2024**  
**A = Payment Agreement in Effect**

| Name                            |               | Previous Years | 2022-2023    |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Peters                          | Hal Mitchell  |                | \$1,012.02   |
| Poploski                        | Michael J     | \$7,271.68 A   | \$3,217.62 A |
| Prevendoski                     | Charles       | \$4,092.46 A   | \$2,497.20 A |
| Ray                             | Mary V        |                | \$724.58 ✓   |
| Reed                            | Rebecca L     | \$186.72 A     | \$553.14 A   |
| Rice                            | Timothy       |                | \$1,812.22 ✓ |
| Rutland Realty, LLC             |               |                | \$57.57 ✓    |
| Rutland Valley Real Estate, LLC |               |                | \$2,094.77 ✓ |
| Senecal                         | Douglas       |                | \$714.62 ✓   |
| Sherman                         | Cecil         | \$5,813.15     | \$1,319.01   |
| Shull                           | Richard L     | \$1,169.95 ✓   | \$2,595.90 A |
| The Ilsa Lund Revocable Trust   |               |                | \$14.15 ✓    |
| Tuttle                          | Timothy       |                | \$553.26 ✓   |
| Waters                          | Danielle & Al |                | \$2,084.10 ✓ |
| WCEC Revocable Trust            |               | \$284.52 ✓     |              |
| Wing                            | Bartley J     | \$826.56 A     | \$2,879.88 A |
| Wos                             | Jeffrey J     |                | \$659.10 ✓   |
| WRVT001TRUST                    |               |                | \$2,600.38   |
| Yarson                          | Kerianne      |                | \$3,379.77   |
| Totals                          |               | \$58,323.60    | \$105,500.21 |
| Grand Total                     |               | \$163,823.81   |              |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

| <b>WATER DEPARTMENT</b>           |                    |                    |                    |                      |               |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <b>ADMINISTRATION</b>             | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b> | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b> | <b>BUDGET 2024</b> | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> | <b>change</b> |
| SALARIES                          | 57,021             | 71,680             | 70,386             | 72,087               |               |
| ASSISTANT LABOR                   | 62                 | -                  | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| ADMINISTRATIVE REIMBURSEMENT      | 16,000             | 18,500             | 18,500             | 18,500               |               |
| FICA                              | 4,237              | 5,337              | 5,385              | 5,515                |               |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES                   | 689                | 445                | 500                | 500                  |               |
| DATA PROCESSING                   | 500                | 351                | 2,000              | 2,000                |               |
| ADVERTISING                       | -                  | -                  | 200                | 200                  |               |
| CONTRIBUTIONS & SUBSIDIES         | -                  | -                  | 350                | 350                  |               |
| HEALTH/ & DENTAL INS              | 9,201              | 15,083             | 9,583              | 10,567               |               |
| RETIREMENT VMERS                  | 3,038              | 4,269              | 4,047              | 4,145                |               |
| DISABILITY/LIFE INSURANCE         | 150                | 205                | 164                | 205                  |               |
| PROPERTY & LIABILITY INSURANCE    | 1,211              | 1,836              | 2,795              | 3,100                |               |
| WORKERS COMP INS                  | 232                | 554                | 6,819              | 4,665                |               |
| UNEMPLOYMENT INS                  | 97                 | 93                 | 91                 | 72                   |               |
| TESTING & SAMPLING                | 1,447              | 6,757              | 2,000              | 4,000                |               |
| PROFESSIONAL SERVICES             | 743                | 670                | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| PERMITS                           | 2,766              | 5,550              | 5,000              | 6,000                |               |
| POSTAGE                           | -                  | 367                | 800                | 800                  |               |
| Total ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET       | 97,394             | 131,697            | 130,620            | 134,706              |               |
|                                   |                    |                    |                    |                      |               |
| <b>WELL &amp; LINE OPERATIONS</b> |                    |                    |                    |                      |               |
| PUMP & WELL SUPPLIES              | -                  | 500                | 500                | 500                  |               |
| CHLORINE & CHEMICALS              | 555                | 500                | 600                | 600                  |               |
| PHONE /FIBER                      | 448                | 1,156              | 1,200              | 1,400                |               |
| PAGER SERVICE                     | 300                | 347                | 500                | 500                  |               |
| CONTRACT SERVICES                 | -                  | 1,400              | 2,500              | 2,500                |               |
| WELL/PLANT MAINTENANCE            | 5,516              | 3,479              | 6,000              | 7,000                |               |
| TANK MAINTENANCE                  | 304                | -                  | 500                | 1,000                |               |
| METER PURCHASE/REPAIR             | 3,182              | 2,118              | 7,000              | 10,000               |               |
| LINE MAINTENANCE                  | 33,593             | 41,780             | 30,000             | 40,000               |               |
| PROPANE-WELL                      | -                  | 1,478              | 1,500              | 1,500                |               |
| ELECTRIC-WELLS                    | 33,400             | 33,187             | 35,000             | 35,000               |               |
| ELECTRIC-PINE HILL                | 2,252              | 2,742              | 2,400              | 3,000                |               |
| PROPANE-PINE HILL                 | 290                | 400                | 400                | 450                  |               |
| PHONE-PINE HILL                   | 448                | 888                | 550                | 1,000                |               |
| ELECTRIC-CLARK HILL VALVE VAULT   | 987                | 1,000              | 1,100              | 1,100                |               |
| HYDRANT MAINTENANCE               | -                  | -                  | 100                | 500                  |               |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVE       | 35,000             | 35,000             | 35,000             | 35,000               |               |
| VEHICLE INSURANCE                 | -                  | 321                | 532                | 721                  |               |
| VEHICLE FUEL                      | 1,283              | 1,225              | 1,500              | 1,500                |               |
| VEHICLE MAINT.                    | 121                | 500                | 500                | 1,000                |               |
| UNIFORMS                          | 356                | 598                | 660                | 660                  |               |
| TRAINING                          | 291                | 547                | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| ENGINEERING                       | -                  | -                  | 2,000              | 5,000                |               |
| PUBLICATION EXPENSE-CCR           | 525                | -                  | 200                | 200                  |               |
| GENERATOR MAINTENANCE             | 865                | -                  | 1,500              | 1,700                |               |
| Total WELL & LINE                 | 119,716            | 129,166            | 132,742            | 152,831              |               |
|                                   |                    |                    |                    |                      |               |
| BOND PRINCIPLE & INTEREST         | 186,315            | 235,557            | 223,475            | 221,123              |               |
| Total Water Department            | 403,425            | 496,420            | 486,837            | 508,660              | 4.5%          |

**TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND  
BUDGET WORKSHEET**

| <b>WASTEWATER EXPENSES</b>              | <b>ACTUAL 2022</b> | <b>ACTUAL 2023</b> | <b>BUDGET 2024</b> | <b>PROPOSED 2025</b> | <b>change</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| SALARIES                                | 76,002             | 76,699             | 102,834            | 105,159              |               |
| HEALTH/DENTAL INSURANCE                 | 19,864             | 15,226             | 22,361             | 16,761               |               |
| DISABILITY/LIFE INSURANCE               | 264                | 205                | 245                | 24                   |               |
| WORKMAN'S COMP                          | 3,627              | 8,679              | 10,229             | 8,163                |               |
| UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE                  | 194                | 186                | 91                 | 143                  |               |
| PROPERTY & LIABILITY                    | 4,038              | 6,119              | 9,448              | 9,373                |               |
| F I C A                                 | 5,399              | 3,875              | 7,867              | 8,045                |               |
| RETIREMENT (VMERS)                      | 4,765              | 4,474              | 6,941              | 7,098                |               |
| UNIFORMS                                | 780                | 600                | 1,140              | 800                  |               |
| ASSIST LABOR                            | -                  | -                  | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| ADMIN REIMBURSEMENT                     | 18,500             | 21,000             | 21,000             | 21,000               |               |
| PROFESSIONAL SERVICES                   | 743                | 399                | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| DATA PROCESSING                         | 4,718              | 261                | 2,000              | 1,000                |               |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS                    | 65,000             | 65,000             | 65,000             | 70,000               |               |
| VEHICLE MAINTENANCE                     | 1,982              | 1,869              | 2,000              | 2,000                |               |
| VEHICLE INSURANCE                       | 963                | 1,318              | 798                | 721                  |               |
| VEHICLE-FUEL                            | 1,747              | 1,313              | 1,500              | 1,500                |               |
| LAB CHEMICALS                           | 448                | 434                | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| LAB EQUIPMENT                           | 1,849              | 2,308              | 2,000              | 2,500                |               |
| INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROL               | 2,530              | 3,097              | 10,000             | 10,000               |               |
| SOLID WASTE REMOVAL                     | 1,871              | 2,266              | 2,000              | 2,500                |               |
| LAB TESTING                             | 3,730              | 4,720              | 7,000              | 10,000               |               |
| SODA ASH                                | 1,080              | 1,824              | 1,500              | 2,000                |               |
| SODIUM ALLUMINATE                       | 8,984              | 9,495              | 11,000             | 12,000               |               |
| UV BULBS                                | -                  | -                  | -                  | 1,000                |               |
| TELEPHONE / WIFI                        | 2,098              | 4,183              | 2,000              | 4,000                |               |
| MODEM PHONE                             | 1,439              | 3,476              | 1,800              | 3,000                |               |
| PAGING SERVICE                          | 300                | 312                | 400                | 400                  |               |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES                         | 1,657              | 898                | 1,200              | 1,200                |               |
| MISCELLANEOUS                           | 1,070              | 851                | 1,500              | 1,500                |               |
| TRAINING / EDUCATION                    | 1,011              | 367                | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| PLANT MAINTENANCE                       | 7,247              | 14,740             | 20,000             | 20,000               |               |
| ENGINEERING/PLANNING                    | -                  | 4,009              | 5,000              | 5,000                |               |
| HEATING FUEL                            | 6,763              | 11,635             | 10,000             | 12,000               |               |
| UV ROOM HEAT                            | 1,688              | 2,225              | 2,000              | 2,500                |               |
| EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE                   | 1,092              | -                  | 5,000              | 5,000                |               |
| LAWN SERVICE                            | 1,512              | 2,128              | 2,310              | 2,500                |               |
| GENERATOR MAINTENANCE                   | 28                 | -                  | 2,000              | 2,000                |               |
| SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE                  | 9,886              | 6,230              | 15,000             | 15,000               |               |
| SLUDGE MANAGEMENT                       | 31,492             | 40,040             | 40,000             | 41,000               |               |
| ANNUAL OPERATING PERMIT                 | 1,350              | 1,350              | 1,350              | 1,350                |               |
| MANHOLE MAINTENANCE                     | 784                | 3,000              | 3,000              | 5,000                |               |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                        | <b>298,495</b>     | <b>326,811</b>     | <b>403,514</b>     | <b>417,237</b>       |               |
| PLANT - ELECTRIC                        | 23,888             | 22,854             | 25,000             | 25,000               |               |
| PUMP STATION MAINTENANCE                | 8,913              | 12,278             | 12,000             | 15,000               |               |
| ELM STREET                              | 16,515             | 22,529             | 15,000             | 10,000               |               |
| ELM ST FUEL                             | 618                | -                  | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| HARRISON AVENUE                         | 4,811              | 13,911             | 5,000              | 6,000                |               |
| HARRISON AVENUE PROPANE                 | 224                | 74                 | 200                | 200                  |               |
| BARNES STREET                           | 802                | 744                | 1,000              | 1,000                |               |
| BAXTER STREET                           | 9,890              | 2,003              | 1,500              | 2,500                |               |
| CLARENDON AVENUE                        | 2,014              | 1,832              | 2,000              | 2,000                |               |
| CLARENDON AVENUE PROPANE                | 157                | -                  | 150                | 150                  |               |
| MAIN STREET                             | 1,644              | 1,906              | 1,700              | 2,000                |               |
| THRALL AVENUE                           | 822                | 711                | 900                | 900                  |               |
| ELECTRIC ROUTE 4                        | 294                | 271                | 400                | 400                  |               |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                        | <b>70,592</b>      | <b>79,113</b>      | <b>65,850</b>      | <b>66,150</b>        |               |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>               | <b>369,087</b>     | <b>405,924</b>     | <b>469,364</b>     | <b>483,387</b>       | <b>3.0%</b>   |
| <b>BOND PRINCIPLE &amp; INTEREST</b>    | <b>31,388</b>      | <b>31,388</b>      | <b>31,388</b>      | <b>33,676</b>        |               |
| <b>Total Wastewater Treatment Dept.</b> | <b>400,475</b>     | <b>437,312</b>     | <b>500,752</b>     | <b>517,063</b>       | <b>3.3%</b>   |

**DELINQUENT UTILITIES**

Balances over \$10 as of June 30, 2023

✓ = Paid as of 1/15/2024

A = Payment Agreement in Effect

|                |                 |              |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Anagnos        | Sheila          | \$1,151.22 ✓ |
| Aprilliano     | John            | \$10.14      |
| Austin         | Charles J       | \$1,321.94 A |
| Bailey         | Michelle        | \$781.24     |
| Bassett        | Joseph          | \$1,926.92   |
| Beaulieu       | Matthew         | \$506.97 ✓   |
| Bedard         | Mark J          | \$496.30 ✓   |
| Biathrow       | Howard          | \$958.92 ✓   |
| Bills          | Dale E          | \$479.77     |
| Bissitte       | Michael, Jr.    | \$1,455.27 ✓ |
| Boguslawski    | Jeffrey P       | \$486.31     |
| Boynton        | Justin          | \$435.24     |
| Bruno          | James           | \$1,025.51 A |
| Bryant         | Cheryl          | \$677.07 ✓   |
| Burlett        | Daryl           | \$1,554.02   |
| Burlett        | Daryl           | \$1,938.56   |
| Cain           | William, Jr.    | \$848.15 A   |
| Chadwick       | Julie           | \$1,532.47   |
| Chandler       | Holly           | \$4,666.32   |
| Coombs         | Francesca ET AL | \$1,027.47   |
| Crowningshield | Kenneth H       | \$1,195.03   |
| Cushman        | Steve           | \$3,179.22   |
| Davis          | Bettina         | \$502.69     |
| Davis          | Shawn           | \$944.41     |
| Dodds          | Jeffrey         | \$1,523.10   |
| Doty           | Katrina         | \$987.25     |
| Dumas          | Robert          | \$1,187.05   |
| Duncan         | Charles         | \$1,781.53   |
| Duprey         | Gregory         | \$1,022.08   |
| Dusablon       | Milan William   | \$492.64     |
| Fales          | Chad            | \$1,726.73 ✓ |
| Fischer        | Lyndsi          | \$689.91 ✓   |
| Fitzgerald     | Scott           | \$1,394.51   |
| Fleming        | Jeremy          | \$2,010.27 A |
| Fox            | Edward          | \$2,080.67   |
| Galiano        | Michael J.      | \$489.04     |
| Gallagher      | Kathryn         | \$776.90 A   |
| Gallipo        | Lawrence        | \$516.88     |
| Gelbar         | Edward          | \$1,643.44 A |
| Geryk          | Robert          | \$1,652.85   |
| Graham         | Bonnie          | \$1,613.15 A |



**DELINQUENT UTILITIES**

Balances over \$10 as of June 30, 2023

✓ = Paid as of 1/15/24

A = Payment Agreement in Effect

|            |              |              |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Grandchamp | David        | \$935.70     |
| Grandchamp | Samuel       | \$155.05 ✓   |
| Grant      | Erica        | \$965.15 ✓   |
| Greene     | Lauretta     | \$486.79 ✓   |
| Greene     | Lauretta     | \$272.47 ✓   |
| Greene     | Sandra       | \$609.38 ✓   |
| Hewitt     | William      | \$305.13 ✓   |
| Higgins    | Patrick C.   | \$724.89 A   |
| Higgins    | Patrick C.   | \$4,120.97 A |
| Holden     | William      | \$1,447.39 ✓ |
| Howard     | Anthony      | \$749.32 ✓   |
| Jarrosak   | Kevin        | \$973.65 A   |
| Johnson    | Dennis D.    | \$594.83     |
| Kinsman    | Rita         | \$1,751.51   |
| Korey      | Elliott      | \$579.93     |
| Korzun     | Constance    | \$2,824.37   |
| Laclair    | Amy          | \$250.29 ✓   |
| Lacz       | Jeffrey      | \$984.23     |
| Lafond     | Thomas       | \$289.32 ✓   |
| Lasante    | William      | \$279.96 ✓   |
| Logan      | Paul         | \$502.82 ✓   |
| Loso       | Gary T       | \$2,822.79 A |
| Lynch      | Marcia A     | \$1,148.02   |
| Marcoux    | Stephen      | \$3,489.76   |
| Martelle   | Shawn        | \$1,518.46 ✓ |
| Martindale | Frances      | \$464.53 ✓   |
| Martucio   | Margaret     | \$25.88 ✓    |
| Mathis     | Benjamin W.  | \$633.10 A   |
| McCullough | Roy          | \$462.00     |
| McGee      | Sean         | \$545.77     |
| McLaren    | Paul         | \$534.91 ✓   |
| Michaud    | Jeffrey      | \$988.11     |
| Mills      | Connie       | \$450.20     |
| Miner      | Richard      | \$2,194.44 A |
| Molinari   | Keith        | \$517.36 ✓   |
| Mumford    | James, Jr.   | \$930.44     |
| Pearo      | Austin       | \$482.04     |
| Pease      | John R. Jr.  | \$659.69     |
| Peters     | Hal Mitchell | \$1,660.43 A |
| Peters     | Hal Mitchell | \$544.72 ✓   |
| Picard     | Jason        | \$454.87 ✓   |

# **DELINQUENT UTILITIES**

Balances over \$10 as of June 30, 2023

✓ = Paid as of 1/15/24

A = Payment Agreement in Effect

|                                 |              |                     |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Poploski                        | Michael      | \$3,609.93 A        |
| Prevendoski                     | Charles      | \$713.42 A          |
| Reed                            | Demetris D.  | \$226.60 ✓          |
| Reed                            | Rebecca      | \$1,026.09 A        |
| Renaud                          | Jennifer L.  | \$484.56 ✓          |
| Reynolds                        | Jeffrey      | \$314.11 ✓          |
| Rivers                          | Michael      | \$1,064.05          |
| Rockwell                        | Jeffrey      | \$491.44            |
| Rutland Valley Real Estate, LLC |              | \$5,223.41 ✓        |
| S.J. Wilk Property, LLC         |              | \$173.34 ✓          |
| Smith                           | Greg         | \$233.32 ✓          |
| Smith                           | Richard      | \$996.67 ✓          |
| Sprague                         | Bethany      | \$486.24 ✓          |
| Therrien                        | Elizabeth    | \$424.75 A          |
| Thornton                        | Michael A    | \$1,429.18 A        |
| Trigo                           | Linda        | \$183.64 ✓          |
| Turner                          | Ethan        | \$983.29            |
| Tyler                           | Stacey       | \$475.00 ✓          |
| Tyminski                        | Timothy      | \$997.06            |
| Viggue, Jr.                     | Ronald       | \$1,856.49          |
| Webster                         | Kayla        | \$225.84 ✓          |
| Wiese                           | Mariah       | \$484.30 ✓          |
| Wing                            | Bartley J    | \$1,507.30 A        |
| WRVT001TRUST                    |              | \$1,578.96          |
| WRVT001TRUST                    |              | \$305.89 ✓          |
| WRVT001TRUST                    |              | \$2,128.28          |
| Wysolmerski                     | Sigismund    | \$707.00 ✓          |
|                                 | <b>Total</b> | <b>\$119,349.99</b> |

# Water & Wastewater Department

Hello everyone, 2023 was a good year for the water and wastewater system. Overall, the town's water system, along with the wastewater system ran well and in compliance with all regulations. 2023 brought some highly anticipated and much needed upgrades to the waste water system. New pumps and a new control panel were installed at the Elm Street pump stations. Elm street is the heart of the Wastewater System as it takes all the wastewater in the town and pumps it to the treatment plant. The old equipment was having multiple issues for years, so the installation of the new pumps and controls let us sleep a lot better at night! The wastewater system also saw the installation of a brand-new UV system which, like the Elm Street pumps, work much more efficiently with less bulbs than the old system to save the town electricity and money. We are very happy with the upgrades that we saw in 2023 and look forward to more in 2024. The water system, as voted on by the town, will be seeing a larger expansion in 2024 with the addition of Rutland Town Fire district #1. We are excited to serve them with our high-quality water! We first need to complete a few more steps before we can turn our water on to them. One, being the installation of a Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV). The PRV will be installed near the corner of Sheldon Avenue and Pleasant Street. The PRV is needed because we run a much higher PSI then the Fire District does and the added pressure could cause problems within that system. The merger with the Fire district will also give the town Water and Wastewater employees control of the whole water and wastewater systems in the fire district. Before the merger, the town only treated the fire district wastewater but could not go work within the system to make any necessary changes or fix issues that could create problems within the treatment plant. We are very excited for the merger to be finalized and to be able to serve more customers!

We would like to take a bit of your time and point out some things that homeowners and other users of the water and wastewater systems could do to make the systems work better and cost less to operate. One of the best ways to help is to make sure that what goes into the waste stream is free of all fat and grease. The fat and grease can cause many problems from plugging the sewer mains to fouling the operation of the wastewater facility. Also, please be careful what you flush - many of the new flushable towelettes do not break down fast and they can plug pumps and sewer lines. When you use the water, please be sure to only run the tap when you need the water and make sure that any leaks are repaired as soon as possible.

If you hear what sounds like water running and you are not using water, please call us and we will come out and check for a leak in our line. If you see anyone other than us opening any manholes, please call us! And if you live near a fire hydrant, we want to thank you for shoveling the snow and keeping the grass and brush trimmed from around it. Please be sure to run your water on extremely cold nights if you have experienced frozen water in the past.

We take a lot of pride in our work at the treatment plant and providing the town with high quality water. We work 365 days a year testing the water and wastewater to make sure the systems are operating safely and in compliance with State and Federal regulations.

A big THANKS to the town for your support, patience and help you provide us with! We also want to thank Mary Ann and the Board for their continued support. The staff at the town hall are also a great help and we appreciate all the work that they do for us. We also continue to work with and get help from the road crew— thank you!

We are available 24/7 at (802)438-5633

Thank you,

**Seth Pietryka**, Superintendent

**Dave Zawistowski**, Operator



## Highway Department Report

The West Rutland Highway Department had another busy year in 2023. The Winter months were spent doing the usual winter plowing, sanding and salting, as well as patching pot holes and preparing for upcoming projects. Much time was also spent preparing equipment for work ahead as well as working on some compliance paperwork.

When Spring finally arrived, work began on Thrall and Sheldon Avenue, removing shoulder berms to allow for better drainage. Planning and preparation had also begun for the much-anticipated summer paving projects. We also took advantage of some training workshops throughout the Spring.

A few projects that took place throughout the Summer and into the Fall include a ditching project on Clark Hill, paving preparation at various locations around town, and another ditching and surface project at the Northeast end of Pleasant Street.

The project on Clark Hill which was funded by a “Better Roads” grant issued by Vtrans included cleaning and re-establishing ditches and stone lining them to prevent erosion, as well as removing a portion of a large berm to improve sight lines, and installing and replacing a couple new culverts. This project spanned a distance of about a half mile on both gravel and pavement.

As for paving, we were fortunate enough to be awarded a Class 2 surface grant from Vtrans for \$200,000 (plus 20% match) which allowed us to reclaim and pave a one-mile section of Whipple Hollow Road. Reclaiming is where the old asphalt surface is pulverized and mixed into the existing road base material to establish a new base surface. The lower section of Thrall Ave. also received sidewalk repairs, and then a portion of it was reclaimed and all of it was paved. The North end of Sheldon Ave. also received a much needed reclaim and paving. Pleasant Street was also repaved from about Slason St. to Anderson St. A short section of Barnes St. from the RR tracks over the bridge was also paved. And finally, Skyline Drive received a patch simply to make it passable while plans are being made for a reconstruction project in the future. Once the paving is done, many of the shoulders require that material be added to prevent a steep drop off the pavement, which is done by the highway crew.

Finally, ditching and resurfacing took place on Pleasant St. This included cleaning and widening sections of the ditch by removing sections of ledge, and then either stone or grass lining the ditches. Vegetation was also trimmed back behind the ditches. This covered a distance of about 2,500 feet. This project was mostly funded by the “Grants in Aid” program through the VT Agency of Natural Resources.

Future plans include continued paving at various locations around town, sidewalk repairs on Elm St., ditch work on Boardman Hill Rd, as well as other locations in town. The usual spring grading on gravel roads and spring sweeping will take place. We will be doing an Ash tree inventory along our roadsides and parks, and devising a plan to deal with dead and dying Ash trees due to the Emerald Ash Borer.

We would like to thank you for your continued support. We don’t mind how many fingers you hold up as you wave to us, but please, give us a brake when you pass by, for all of our safety.

Respectfully;

Sean Barrows – Foreman

Frank Woolf

Jacob Crockett



## TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

2023

The Town Clerk's office is full of statistics. Here are a few:

- Recorded 1312 pages in Land Records
- Town Clerk fees were \$18,128.00.

Restoration Fees and Digitizing Fees totaled \$6,630.00. These fees are for preservation of old records and scanning of new records.

Vital Statistics are as follows:

- 18 Births
- 20 Deaths

16 Issued Marriage Licenses

We did 239 dog licenses totaling \$3,325.00 in fees:

- \$1195.00 was paid to the state for their rabies and neutering program.
- License costs for spayed and neutered dogs are \$20.00. Unspayed/unneutered dog licenses are \$24.00.
- Sorry to say we will no longer have a Rabies Clinic here in West Rutland. Due to the Retirement of our Veterinarian.
- Dog Licenses are still due by April 1st. Checks can be mailed or dropped in the drop box at the Town Hall. A current rabies certificate must be on file or included with your payment.

The Town Clerk's office continues to do vehicle registration renewals.

- This year we processed 27 renewals. These renewals generated \$81.00 in fees.

I would like to extend a thank you to all of the voters, volunteers and BCA members for your participation in our Elections.

The March Election will be held on March 5, 2024. Polls will be open 10:00am - 7:00pm. Ballots will not be mailed for this election. For the Presidential Primary, voter needs to request Democrat or Republican ballot. Only one will be sent, If you would like to request an absentee ballot, contact (802) 438-2204.

Town Clerk's office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Call (802) 438-2204. Clerk's Office closed the day before all elections.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Wener

Town Clerk



## **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR (ZA) REPORT – Fiscal Year 2022- 2023**

The ZA reviewed 24 zoning permit applications in the past fiscal year; a 15% decrease from the previous year. No new single family house applications were received, perhaps a result of high material costs and labor shortages. The major difference in the type of permits processed this Fiscal Year was in the several larger-scale commercial projects approved for the Regional Ambulance, Rutland Housing Trust, and West Way Mall.

| <b>Summary of permits requested:</b>                                          | <b>#Applications</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Residential (attached to the residence): additions, decks, porches            | 4                    |
| Accessory (detached) Structures: garages, sheds, pools, fences                | 8                    |
| New Single Family Residences (stick-built, modular, panel, log, mobile homes) | 0                    |
| Commercial Projects, Changes of Use, Home Occupations                         | 6                    |
| Demolitions (Note that a VT Asbestos Certification may also be required)      | 2                    |
| Miscellaneous (“No Permit Required” determination; amended permit)            | 1                    |
| Signs (business)                                                              | 2                    |
| Subdivisions, Boundary Line Adjustments                                       | 0                    |
| Barns, Agricultural Structures (to qualified farmers)                         | 1                    |
| Denied, incomplete, or withdrawn Applications                                 | 0                    |
| <b>Total # Applications:</b>                                                  | <b>24</b>            |

The **PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)** focused on a (VT required) update of the Town Plan in 2023. Town Plans serve as a long term guide for the Community’s future, identifying its current demographics, establishing policy and future objectives. The PC worked many meetings monthly, with invaluable assistance from Logan Solomon of the Regional Planning Commission, to have a draft Plan ready in time for the adoption review in February 2024.

The **PLANNING COMMISSION NEEDS One ADDITIONAL MEMBER! The new state Housing Rules require changes to the Zoning Regulations.** Please consider joining current commissioners Sean Barrows, Leona Minard, Stan Brzozza and Jim Flint in this important assignment. Requirements are a desire to contribute to the future of your Community, common sense, and approximately three hours per month. A stipend and training is offered. If interested, please contact the Town Manager or this ZA for more information.

The **PC** holds regular Public Meetings at Town Office on the first Wednesday of every month, starting at 6:00 pm. The Public may also participate by phone or Zoom video conferencing (Please notify the ZA one week in advance of your interest in *remote attendance*). Agendas, meeting minutes and remote Log-On instructions are posted in the Post Office, Town Office, and on the Town’s website ([www.WestRutlandVT.org](http://www.WestRutlandVT.org)).

West Rutland also benefits from its Development Review Board. The five DRB members are tasked with reviewing zoning applications and applying the Town’s regulations. Please refer to a separate article in this Report for details.

F.Y.I, the Town Plan, Zoning & Subdivision Regulations, application forms and helpful information on the permit process are available on Zoning page of the Town website. When considering a project, please **check with the ZA** (not the contractor, salesperson, or neighbor) on if a permit is required, several weeks in advance of any work startup. I am *usually* available to assist you on completing an application on Mondays or on Thursday mornings. Contact me at [zoning@westrutlandvt.org](mailto:zoning@westrutlandvt.org) or 802-438-2204 ext. 16 for additional Information.

*“The Right Information, at the Right Time, is 9/10ths of any Battle.”* **Jeffrey Biasuzzi, Z.A.**

## **West Rutland Development Review Board**

### **Report for 2023**

Our board consists of Deb Higgins, Jonathan Wallace, Ron Ryan, Anthony Ponto (Vice Chair), and Michael Moser (Board Chair).

The Board would like thank Denis Lincoln for his years of dedicated service to the WRDRB. His insight and experience were valued.

The WRDRB would like to welcome new member Ron Ryan to the board. Ron has been in the building trades for decades as a sales consultant and builder. We look forward to his input and service as a WRDRB member.

The Board works with Jeffrey Biasuzzi, the West Rutland Zoning Administrator, when cases for consideration are brought before the Board.

I'd like to thank the Board Members for their dedication of time and thoughtful attention to each case with which we were presented. Our goal is to examine each case brought before us by the Zoning Administrator, and to use as a "yardstick" the regulations with which we are provided to insure that a fair ruling can be equally applied.

Our challenge and desire is to provide equal judgment as we serve the citizens of West Rutland, Vermont.

Our meetings are open to the public on the third Wednesday of the month, as needed, and are held in the Conference Room of the West Rutland Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

If you have any questions concerning the Development Review Board, you can contact the Zoning Administrator, Jeffrey Biasuzzi at 438-2204 Ext. 16.

We look forward to continuing our service to the community and working on the cases brought before the Board in 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Moser – Chairman

West Rutland Development Review Board





## **West Rutland Board of Listers Annual Report 2023**

The Board of Listers are charged with determining the assessed value of property in West Rutland and setting the Grand List for each tax year. The Select Board uses the total value of the Grand List to set the tax rate based on budgets that the Town voters have passed, with those budgets the basis for the town to provide town services. Please keep in mind that the State of Vermont determines the final rate property owners will pay for the educational portion of your tax bill.

Here are some statistics from our Grand List: In 2023, we had 659 homesteads; compared to 653 in 2022, 645 in 2021, and 643 in 2020. The number of homesteads has remained fairly constant over the past 5 years. Out of 1004 total taxable parcels, this equates to 65% of our parcels occupied by full-time residents of the town.

In 2023, the Listers heard 2 Lister Grievances. One of those parcels went on to appeal before the Board of Civil Authority, and has also appealed beyond BCA to State of Vermont PVR.

On an annual basis, the State of Vermont Property Valuation & Review (PVR) conducts a Sales Study in each town and uses that study to calculate a CLA, or Common Level of Assessment, and COD, or Coefficient of Dispersion. The CLA is a driver of the education tax rates for the following tax year. For 2023, the CLA has been determined to be 78.69% and the COD is 21.65%, compared to the 2022 CLA of 87.23% and COD of 16.30%, and compared to the 2021 CLA of 100.38% and COD of 9.61%. The CLA is the average ratio of list price to sale price, using valid sales over the last three years. For more information about the sales cited in this study and the calculations you can visit the PVR website at the following link:

<https://tax.vermont.gov/municipalities/reports/equalization-study>

A CLA over 100% results in a decrease in the tax rate and a CLA less than 100% results in a higher tax rate. This is designed to make the statewide base rates more equitable by applying a decrease in the tax rate to towns over 100% and applying an increase in the tax rate to towns under 100%. The COD is a measure of the dispersion of the range of sales ratios for valid sales in the study and is intended to measure uniformity or equity of assessments. The higher the COD the less uniform assessments become.

The Listers will be conducting property inspections for any properties for which there have been any building permits or other known changes to the property since last April 2023. This includes re-valuing any properties listed as a percentage of completion last year. Taxpayers whose property has been revalued will receive a change of assessment notice in the mail in June of 2024. This notice will show previous and current assessed value, including homestead and housesite values. This notice will also indicate the dates of Listers Grievances to be held and the process for submitting a grievance if the taxpayer chooses to do so.

The Listers hold office hours on Tuesday mornings and by appointment. You can also contact the Listers office at 802-438-2263 or e-mail [listers@westrutlandvt.org](mailto:listers@westrutlandvt.org).

West Rutland parcel mapping is now on GIS and online and available to the public. In addition to viewing the parcels, and applying various overlays to the map, you can also access a copy of your full property record card (aka "Lister Card") from the GIS mapping. The mapping can be accessed at the following link:

[https://www.axisgis.com/West\\_RutlandVT/](https://www.axisgis.com/West_RutlandVT/)

Be sure to file your Homestead Declaration by April 15 and complete the Property Tax Adjustment Form at the same time. This avoids having to pay late fees.

## FRIENDS OF THE WEST RUTLAND TOWN HALL

PO Box 591  
West Rutland, Vermont 05777

Balance July 1, 2022               \$     1212.72

### Receipts

|                       |           |                |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Friendship Tree       | \$        | 692.00         |
| Donations             | \$        | 375.00         |
| <b>Total Receipts</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>1067.00</b> |

### Expenses

|                       |           |               |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|
| General Fund          | \$        | 166.00        |
| Friendship Tree       | \$        | 536.12        |
| <b>Total Expenses</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>702.12</b> |

Balance June 30, 2023               \$     **1,577.60**

### Current Assets (Dec. 31, 2023)

|                     |           |                  |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Checking Account    | \$        | 1,629.49         |
| Heritage Fam. Svgs. | \$        | 1,032.94         |
| Heritage Fam. MM    |           |                  |
|                     | \$        | 11,373.98        |
| <b>Total Assets</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>14,036.41</b> |

As the pandemic has eased, the Town Hall is in use again, with monthly senior lunches and other events.

If anyone would like more information about the Friends of the Town Hall, please call the town office at 438-2263.

# **CARROL B. AND HARRIET ROSS MEMORIAL FUND**

This fund was established by the late Donald Ross in memory of his parents.

The purpose of the fund is to assist “the residents of the Town of West Rutland who have encountered unexpected misfortunes by reason of sickness, accident or financial distress beyond the relief furnished by governmental agencies, as determined by a Committee of all the clergy in the Town of West Rutland.”

In 2023 the fund distributed \$18,866 to one individual, and one institution which serves West Rutland residents. One \$5000 grant is pending.

All requests for help are treated with confidentiality. If any West Rutland resident requires assistance and meets the conditions set in the trust please do not hesitate to contact:

**Bill Harvey**

**802-438-5771, 802-236-4194, or**

**[wfharvey972@gmail.com](mailto:wfharvey972@gmail.com)**

# WEST RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 385 35 Marble Street West Rutland, VT. 05777

Peter Kulig - President \* Mary Reczek - Vice-President

Barbara Trepanier - Treasurer \* Jean Heleba - Secretary

Chris Mathewson - Trustee \* Ceil Scott - Trustee

Margie Salengo - Trustee \* Beth Moser - Trustee

Kitty Furman - Trustee

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At the close of another year the members of the West Rutland Historical Society would like to extend our thanks to Town Manager Mary Ann Goulette and staff at the Town Hall for their continued support of the Historical Society. Their help answering calls and emails, collecting donated items dropped off at the Town Hall for our archives is greatly appreciated. Many thanks to Stan Jagodzinski at the Town office for his assistance in scheduling our meetings and for his help with all the technical support we needed. We would like to thank all the people who work on the lawn and garden maintenance for the Town that keep the Veteran's monuments and cemeteries looking beautiful.

The Officers and members of the Board of Trustees were pleased to organize several lectures and presentations in 2023 on a variety of topics that highlighted many areas of West Rutland's history.

On April 16th the Historical Society welcomed Dr. Jack Mayer to our meeting in the Town Hall auditorium for his book signing and presentation on his inspiring work of non-fiction, Life in a Jar – The Irena Sendler Project. His talk offered a truly moving and inspirational account of the life of Irena Sendler, a Polish Catholic social worker, who organized a rescue network to save over 2,500 Jewish children from death in the Warsaw Ghetto during World War Two. Her story was suppressed by communist Poland and virtually remained unknown for 60 years, until three high school girls from a rural school district in Kansas brought the story to worldwide attention through the creation of their history project that they called *Life in a Jar*.

In May the Historical Society participated in the Memorial Day parade with a float to honor all our country's departed veterans and this year we included a special recognition to our Korean War veterans on the 70-year anniversary of the close of military action.

This year thanks to a generous donation from the Crown Point Road Association and the assistance of the Highway Department a new historical marker was installed on the West side of the Whipple Hollow Road that marks the crossing point of the 1775 Mount Independence Hubbardton Military Road.

Again, this year as last, the members of the Historical Society were invited to meet with representatives of the Rutland County Audubon Society on Saturday, July 12 at the West Rutland Marsh Boardwalk to learn about their yearly efforts to document the types of bird species observed there and the tremendous amount of work and financial support it takes to maintain the boardwalk. This year we learned of the work accomplished by a team of volunteers to complete the second stage of the Audubon Society's plans to build another interpretative hiking trail on the Western side of the Marsh on the Whipple Hollow Road.

On August 8th we met at the Town Hall to find out Why Are There Bears in My Backyard? That was the title of the talk by Travis Hunt, a Wildlife Biologist for the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. Travis helped us explore the environmental and landscape history of the two Wildlife Management Areas in West Rutland. Our State has a long and interesting history of wildlife and fish management.

WEST RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 385 35 Marble Street West Rutland, VT. 05777

Peter Kulig - President * Mary Reczek - Vice-President

Barbara Trepanier - Treasurer * Jean Heleba - Secretary

Chris Mathewson - Trustee * Ceil Scott - Trustee

Margie Salengo - Trustee * Beth Moser - Trustee

Kitty Furman - Trustee

~~~~~  
This presentation detailed how environmental changes have impacted this history since Vermont's earliest recorded settlement times. A question-and-answer session rounded out the presentation.

At the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Historical Society at the Town Hall, longtime Rutland Herald sportswriter and Proctor, VT native Tom Haley encaptured the attendees recalling stories he has covered throughout his career covering local high school and college sports in Vermont. Many of these anecdotes he has chronicled in his book Maple Mayberrys and Other Sweet Spots. Afterwards Tom generously gifted the Historical Society with a copy of his book.

We set up a booth at the Annual September Block Party to sell copies of the Historical Society's books and publications and hopefully generate some interest in discovering more about our Town's history.

This summer some new information was discovered by Historical Society member David O'Rourke that fills in a lot of the previously unknown who, what and why of the dedication of the Civil War, Spanish American War, World War One monument on the Town Hall green. We presented this information to our members at our next meeting. The program included a report on the origin of the cannon located in front of the monument.

To conclude this year's scheduled programming the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting featured a review of a 2006 video interview of the late Leo Haick. Leo and his family lived on the Whipple Hollow Road. He was also an entertaining storyteller, and, in his interview, he recalled many adventures and trials his large family experienced living in our town in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

We hope that our programs are an educational and interesting look at our town and hope that our citizens will consider supporting us with your presence at our events and that you will consider becoming a member in the future.

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Annual Historical Society membership dues are: Individual-\$15.00; Family-\$30.00; Youth (under18) \$5.00;
Institutional-\$25.00; Sustaining-\$50.00.

Payment may be mailed to **West Rutland Historical Society, PO Box 385, West Rutland, VT 05777**. Please include your Name, Address, Phone number and Email address.

Contact us via mail at history@westrutlandvt.org ; via Facebook: [@West Rutland Historical Society](https://www.facebook.com/WestRutlandHistoricalSociety), or visit our website at <https://www.westrutlandvt.org/historical-society/>

Respectfully submitted,

Pete

Peter Kulig, President

WEST RUTLAND FREE LIBRARY

The Staff and Trustees of the West Rutland Free Library would like to thank our patrons and community for recognizing all the library has to offer. The library has continued to serve West Rutland for almost a century and the library has evolved and changed to meet the needs of the community.

In 2023 the library's basement was damaged because of water leaking through the foundation. We appreciate the donations from our patrons to help us get the basement back to its previous appearance.

We also thank the parents of our after-school programs participants. Without them there would be no snack time.

In 2023 the library staff helped visitors with job applications, creating resumes, computer assistance, research, online ordering, driving directions, bus schedule, and many other questions and needed assistance.

Our Courier brings materials from other libraries that our patrons borrowed through interlibrary loan, which makes more choices available.

The adult fiction area has been rearranged for our patrons to discover new authors or continue with a favorite author. Don't forget we also have DVDs! In our children's area we have added popular book series and DVDs along with many subjects and interests. The Graphic Novel section has more than doubled in size due to demand. The library has a 'Library of Things' available to borrow. This includes Cake Pans, Pickleball Paddles & Balls, Metal Detector, 2-sizes of Havahart Traps, Audubon Backpack, and Snowshoes.

Free WiFi is continuously available inside (when we're open) and outside the library. We also offer Passes to borrow for Echo, Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, Vermont Historical Sites, Vermont History Museum & Visitor Center, Vermont State Parks, VINS, and Wonderfeet. Passes are for free or reduced admission.

The library is now accepting book and DVD donations. Please bring donations inside the library. There is a book recycling bin behind the library for discarded books, DVDs, and CDs.

Submitted by

Rene Cressy

Librarian

Hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday: 1:30pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday: 9:30am - 12:30pm



West Rutland Free Library

2023 Budget versus 2022 Budget

INCOME	2023	2024
Town of West Rutland	55,000.00	57,500.00
Proctor Trust	17,200.00	16,075.00
Miscellaneous	14,130.00	14,000.00
Total	86,330.00	87,575.00
EXPENSES		
Donations (for patron passes)	500.00	600.00
Green Mountain Library Consortium	460.00	400.00
Insurance	3,400.00	3,500.00
Job Supplies	450.00	500.00
Magazines	100.00	50.00
Legal & Accounting	1,800.00	2,300.00
Office Supplies & Software	900.00	1,000.00
Other Business Expenses	1,500.00	2,250.00
Payroll Expenses	10,750.00	11,070.00
Purchases (Books, DVDs, Magazines)	8,000.00	8,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	3,600.00	4,000.00
Salaries & Wages	43,000.00	44,300.00
Shipping, Freight & Delivery	1,300.00	1,300.00
Taxes & Licenses	20.00	20.00
Telephone & Internet	1,300.00	1,300.00
Travel	300.00	300.00
Utilities (including heat and a/c)	9,000.00	9,500.00
Total	86,330.00	90,390.00
Net Operating Income (Loss)	(0.00)	(2,815.00)



West Rutland Fire Department

P.O. Box 206

West Rutland, VT 05777

2023 – 2024 Annual Report of the Fire Chief

It is my honor to provide this Annual Report to the residents of the Town of West Rutland. The West Rutland Fire Department continued to provide high-quality emergency services to our residents and visitors, answering 87 emergency calls throughout the past year.

During Fire Prevention Week, we provided fire prevention safety education to West Rutland School's kindergarten through third grade classes. Approximately 100 students participated in this program where they enjoyed a field trip to the fire station and learned important fire safety lessons. Each student received fire prevention educational materials for them to review in the classroom and at home with their families. We continue to encourage all families to discuss fire safety at home.

We have been working on some important capital equipment projects this year to ensure that we are operationally ready to respond to the emergencies that we face in our community. Last year, we signed a contract and ordered a new rescue pumper to replace Engine 3 and anticipate delivery in June 2024. The new truck will be capable of both fire and rescue responses and will provide more space for carrying rescue equipment and personnel than our current truck does. We have ordered new extrication equipment to replace our current tools, which are approximately 25 years old. Commonly known as the "jaws of life", these tools are battery-operated and designed to work on the high-strength steel that is used in today's vehicles. We have also been working on an upgrade to our radio communications system to ensure that our members can reliably communicate with one another during emergencies. All of these projects have been funded using our capital savings, which we make annual budgeted contributions to.

This year we recognized Firefighter David Joslin for 5 years of service, Firefighter Jeff Lacz for 30 years of service, and Chief Michael Skaza for 30 years of service. We thank Rodney Kenyon, who retired from the department after 18 years of service and Brandon Groh who resigned after 3 years of service. Our department is currently served by 17 very dedicated members who spend hundreds of hours each year responding to emergency calls, training, performing equipment and building maintenance, and performing public education. I would like to thank our firefighters and their families for their selfless dedication to our community.

The West Rutland Fire Department is seeking new members. If you are a West Rutland resident who is interested in serving your community as a firefighter, please contact the Fire Chief. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, have a willingness to serve their community, be a citizen in good standing, and have the physical ability to perform the duties of a firefighter. No experience is necessary, and we will provide all the training and equipment needed to get you started.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Skaza".

Michael Skaza
Fire Chief

Current Firefighter Roster

Name	Year of Service	Name	Years of Service
Steve Czachor, Fire Warden	45	Dillon Notte	7
Tom Lacz, Assistant Chief	36	David Joslin	5
Chris Jakubiak	36	William Grabowski	4
Pete Guay	32	Dave Jeffers	3
Jeff Lacz	30	Sam Grandchamp	2
Michael Skaza, Chief	30	Austin May	2
Lori Lyons, Clerk	27	Austin Pearo	0.5
Jeff Wos, Captain	18	Gordon Lunna	0.5
Andrew FitzGerald, Lieutenant	9		

2023 Emergency Call Volume

Motor Vehicle Crash	28	Electrical Wires Down	3
Mutual Aid Given	17	Electrical or Appliance Fire	3
Fire Alarm / Smoke Detector Activation	10	Hazardous Material Spill/Leak	2
Assist EMS, Medical Call	7	Building or Chimney Fire	3
Carbon Monoxide Detector Activation	5	Water Emergency	1
Smoke / Odor Investigation	3	Assist Law Enforcement	1
Outdoor Fire (swamp, grass, brush, and unpermitted burning)	3	Motor Vehicle Fire	1

Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors save lives!

Make sure that you have working smoke detectors near your bedrooms and on every level of the home. You should have at least one carbon monoxide detector near your bedrooms. Test them monthly and change the batteries twice a year.

Outdoor Burning Regulations

Burn permits are required for outside burning within the Town of West Rutland and can be obtained by calling Forest Fire Warden Steve Czachor at 802-438-2840. Permits can only be issued for the burning of natural products when conditions are safe and burning will not create a nuisance. All outside burning must comply with Town Ordinance.

WEST RUTLAND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2023 REPORT

To the residents of West Rutland, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the support I have received from the community as I settle into my role as West Rutland's new Recreation Director.

Since taking on this position four months ago, I have had an incredible amount of support from the community. Whether it has been through a donation of supplies to one of our new programs, volunteering your time and talent to future projects, or coaching one of our sports teams, your support has made a big impact on our department.

In this short period of time we have managed to successfully add two new programs to our department. The first is a kids club, which meets every Wednesday after school, providing a fun and engaging environment for our younger community members. The second program, starting at the end of January 2024 is a Coffee, Crossword and Coloring session for adults.

The Rec department has been able to host a variety of events bringing community members together in a fun and festive way. These events include a Dog Halloween Costume Contest, a Gingerbread House Decorating event, and a Craft Fair with 26 vendors.

As I move forward, I am eager to continue expanding our recreational activities and programs. I want to ensure there is something available within our community for everyone to enjoy. If there is something you would like to see added to the Rec Dept, or you would like to volunteer with future projects or events please reach out.

Thank you,

Aimee

Aimee Pittrich

West Rutland Recreation Director

<https://www.facebook.com/westrutlandrecreation>

<https://www.westrutlandvt.org/recreation/>



SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORTS



Town of West Rutland Sheriff's report

Thus far in the current 2023-2024 contract Rutland County Sheriffs have responded to 557 incidents, had 26 criminal arrests, preformed 368 traffic stops and issued 231 tickets and 137 warnings in the town of West Rutland. West Rutland is in a cooperative patrol with Proctor where each town contracts for 40 hours per week but is provided 80 hours of patrol coverage per week. Deputies have a positive working relationship with the board as well as the citizens of West Rutland. The Rutland County Sheriff's Department prides itself on being adaptable to the needs of the town as they arise. I want to thank the citizens of West Rutland for their positive feedback and support for the Sheriff's patrols. I would like to say it's an honor and privilege to support the citizens of West Rutland and we hope to continue serving the citizens of West Rutland for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted.

Sheriff

David J. Fox



40th
ANNUAL REPORT
(Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023)
40 Years of Service 1983 – 2023

To The Honorable Citizens of West Rutland:

We are pleased to present our 40th annual report to the Citizens we serve. Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. has continually provided emergency and non-emergency ambulance service for forty years. From 1983 to the end of the fiscal year, Regional has responded to 261,225 ambulance calls. This past year, ending June 30, 2023, the service responded to a total of 11,255 ambulance calls in our 12 communities and an additional 120 "Medic One" paramedic intercept calls. We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to continuing to serve the public.

Staff shortages have plagued healthcare including EMS throughout the country. Regional Ambulance has had problems like all healthcare with staffing. It is our employees who deserve the credit for their continued excellent response and commitment to the communities we serve. We thank them and encourage you to do the same for the work they do. All of our employees continue to serve and fulfill our motto of "Serving People First with Pride, Proficiency and Professionalism".

Regional Ambulance started construction on a second facility in West Rutland. This facility will start being used in the next year. It has the capacity to house 4 ambulances. When staffed it will be closer for calls on the west side as well as have redundancy for dispatch and be able to be used during any type of disaster that affects the main building in Rutland.

We thank everyone from the communities we serve, our co-workers, our fellow emergency service workers and everyone in the community who have been so gracious with their support, kindness and generosity.

With the continued support of the citizens, our employees, and community governing bodies, we have successfully level funded or lowered the assessment rate for the past 39 years. Since 1990 the assessment rate has decreased by 36%. Our current assessment rate is \$4 per capita and remains unchanged for the next fiscal year. The public support of our Membership program, direct donations, memorials and estate gifts have been vital to our continued success. Thank you.

Monthly CPR classes are taught at Regional Ambulance. Last year, through the R.A.S. American Heart Association Training Center, 1,755 people were trained in CPR. Tours, lectures, demonstrations and CPR classes are available for the general public. Child Car Seat inspections are performed at the Regional Ambulance building at 275 Stratton Rd by appointment only. We completed 65 child car seat inspections this past year.

The public is encouraged to visit and talk to our employees at our Stratton Road facility. Please feel free to contact Jim Finger, Chief Executive Administrator, or your Representative, if you have any questions concerning the service.

We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to serving you in the future. The Board of Directors, Administration and employees of Regional Ambulance Service Inc. will continue working to provide the highest quality of emergency ambulance care at the lowest possible cost to all of the citizens we serve.

Sincerely, Paul Kulig, President
R.A.S. Board of Directors



RSVP & The Volunteer Center



2024 REQUEST FOR TOWN FUNDING & Yearly Report for FY23 TOWN OF: WEST RUTLAND • AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$400.00

Brief Description of RSVP & The Volunteer Center

RSVP & The Volunteer Center is a volunteer program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through volunteer service. RSVP/VC considers volunteering to be a key solution in responding to Rutland County's most pressing challenges. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health care, education, literacy, and the arts. RSVP/VC involves individuals in service that matches their personal interests and makes use of their varied life and professional experiences. RSVP/VC enables people to contribute to their communities while enjoying the personally satisfying and rewarding experience that community engagement offers.

RSVP also offers several free "Signature Programs" that benefit residents. These include RSVP Bone Builders, an osteoporosis prevention program which provides free strength and balance exercise classes offered twice per week at many locations in Rutland County; RSVP Rutland Reads a children's literacy and mentoring program; RSVP Veterans Connections Program, a program designed to reduce social isolation in veterans; and RSVP Operation Dolls & More, which distributes over 15,000 new and restored items to children. Last year approximately 15,188 items were distributed through RSVP Operation Dolls & More to 37 partner agencies and an estimated 1,200 children. We also partner with AARP to provide free income tax return services to low-income residents of Rutland County. Locally, RSVP/VC is the largest program of coordinated volunteer services serving the people of Rutland County with 557 volunteers. From July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, RSVP/VC volunteers provided 92,293 hours of community service. The cost benefit to the communities of Rutland County in terms of cost of services provided equals \$2,934,917.

Services Provided to West Rutland Residents

In FY'23, West Rutland residents took advantage of RSVP programs such as free income tax return preparation, and our free Bone Builders classes. West Rutland RSVP volunteers donated their services to the following non-profit organizations: Community Cupboard, Pittsford Food Shelf, Rutland Regional Medical Center, the Chaffee, Ira Go Getters, Castleton Community Center, Congregate Meals West Rutland Town Hall, RSVP Bone Builders, AARP Tax Program and RSVP Operation Dolls & More.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help continue to defray the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our organization along with the cost of providing volunteer placement, support, transportation, and recognition. With your help, RSVP & The Volunteer Center will continue to respond to the increasing needs of our local communities.

On behalf of RSVP & The Volunteer Center and our non-profit partners, we would like to thank the residents of West Rutland for their continued support of RSVP. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our programs, please feel free to call us at 468-7056.

Sincerely,

Maryesa White
RSVP Director

16 North St. Ext. Rutland, VT 05701
Office: 802-468-7056 Email: maryesarsvp@gmail.com
Website: volunteersinvt.org

Town of West Rutland

To the Officers and Citizens of West Rutland:

In 2022, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region (VNAHSR) provided West Rutland residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. From children with more intensive medical needs to seniors who wish to remain independent at home and those who are facing a terminal illness, we continue to bring quality health care wherever it is needed, **regardless** of the location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

In the face of shrinking federal and state reimbursements, along with rising healthcare costs, the VNAHSR has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective healthcare services to West Rutland's most vulnerable individuals.

Last year VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 127,393 home visits to 3,043 patients. **In West Rutland, we provided 3,380 visits to 89 individuals.**

Thank you for your continued support! With your vote of confidence, we will continue to fulfill our promise to your community to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services.

Sincerely,



Sara C. King, CEO
VNA & Hospice of the
Southwest Region



Dan DiBattista, President
Board of Directors



Community Care Network Rutland Mental Health Services

In the year 2023, 28 towns in Rutland County supported the work of Rutland Mental Health Services through town giving. Our agency is committed to providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. The generous support of towns such as the Town of West Rutland assures that quality services are available for their families, friends and neighbors. Services provided to town residents include:

- Individual Counseling for Children, Adults and Families
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Emergency/Crisis Services
- Developmental Disability Services

During fiscal year 2023, Rutland Mental Health Services provided 14,539 hours of services to 142 West Rutland residents. We value our partnership with the Town of West Rutland in providing these much needed services and thank you for your continued support.

Dick Courcelle

Chief Executive Officer
Rutland Mental Health Services, Inc.



16 Evelyn Street, Suite 101 / Rutland, VT 05701 / Phone 775-0617

**Rutland County Vermont Adult Learning Annual Report
Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023**

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL), is a non-profit, seven-county organization providing individuals 16 years of age and older confidential education and literacy services with no cost to students. We provide basic instruction in reading, writing, math and technology. Vermont residents can access our services and earn a high school diploma from their town of residence, or a GED. We also offer citizenship classes for individuals wishing to become an American citizen as well as instruction in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). We are the only official GED testing site in Rutland County.

Our flexible pathways provide students with the opportunity to obtain a high school diploma with many options and resources including dual enrollment at local colleges, technical classes at Stafford Tech, online classes, internships and other creative options.

In addition to our Adult Basic Education programming, Vermont Adult Learning operates Energy Works, a workforce training program for jobs in the weatherization and heat pump installation fields. Participants partake of technical training, job readiness training and coaching, and job shadowing opportunities. If you like working with your hands and want to get started in a growing field, this could be for you. Participants must be at least 18 years old.

Vermont Adult Learning served 1180 students statewide in fiscal year 2023. 173 students were served in our Rutland Center where we provided approximately 5262 hours of education. This was a 20% increase in the number of students served here in Rutland County! We provided 254.5 hours of instructional service to four students from West Rutland, including one student between the ages of 16-21.

Classes are held five days a week, Monday – Friday, with evening classes available. VAL staff have successfully adapted our classes to an online format following the COVID19 pandemic. This has lessened the transportation barriers many of our students faced but increased the need for technology supports. In response, we have been able to supply our students with Chromebooks so they may remain engaged in their educational pursuits.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of the voters of West Rutland.

Contact: Chris Ettori, Regional Director
Email: cettori@vtadultlearning.org
Or call 775-0617 ext. 5011



November 16, 2023

To the Citizens of the Town of West Rutland,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action assisted **213** residents of the Town of West Rutland. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, weatherization, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$1,250.00.

We truly value our collaboration with West Rutland as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO
tdonahue@broc.org



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

BOARD OFFICERS

Melissa Stevens
President

Open
Vice President

Tim Wing
Treasurer

Kate Tibbs
Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

John B Wing

Herman Goldberg

Margaret Hayward

Bonnie Lennihan

HONORARY MEMBER

Terry Mangieri

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Diane Drake

REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE

Kris Call

Mission Statement: To advocate for the right of individuals with developmental disabilities (DD) and their families to be regarded as valued citizens with the same entitlements as non-disabled individuals, including the right to lifelong opportunities for personal growth and full participation in the community.

PROGRAMS:

Representative Payee Program: ARC serves about 50 individuals living with Developmental/Intellectual Disabilities by managing each client's individual SS income and processing payments of their financial obligations monthly. In addition, as Rep. Payee, Kris works with other agencies and client's case managers to direct our members toward receiving appropriate services.

Self-Advocates (SABE-R) and Aktion Club: The Self Advocates Becoming Empowered - Rutland were able to give testimony before the House of Representatives this year about issues concerning them as individuals living with developmental disabilities. The largest group of Self Advocates attended the State Convention for Green Mountain Self Advocates in South Burlington this past spring. Our SABE-R group also gave mini-clinics on Disability Awareness at National Night Out. The Aktion Club (a Kiwanis member group) collaborated with RSVP and decorated postcards for shut-ins and Veterans this year, along with a self-sponsored Carwash and Bake Sale raising funds to help their peers who lost belongings in the flood at Bardwell House this summer.

Social Events/Great Outdoor Experiences: These events provide a safe and healthy environment for individuals with developmental disabilities that builds a circle of support, family and community while practicing social skills, and getting physical exercise. Following years of limited activities due to COVID, we can boast over 450 attended 5 dances, 3 outdoor events and engaged in the community with new community partners.

Transportation: We are especially grateful to **MVRTD** through a grant, which allows us to provide transportation to some of our members who live in very rural areas who would otherwise be unable to access the services of Rutland Area.

On behalf of those we serve and their families for the last 65 years, we are grateful for the support and continued assistance from the citizens of Rutland Area. Rutland County's population claims nearly 32% as having a disability--the highest county in the State. We rely on the support of 17 towns in the Rutland Area along with grants, donations and small fundraisers throughout the year - NOT on state or federal funding. We choose to embrace peer to peer comradery, to offer opportunities for the disabled to share in the community through self-advocacy skills and respectfully appreciate the offerings from all of Rutland Area. For those wanting more information on these wonderful services or to volunteer, please call 802-775-1370.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Drake, Executive Director

Rutland Office
143 Maple St
Rutland VT, 05701
(802) 786-5990



Bennington Office
160 Benmont Ave, Suite #90
Bennington VT, 05201
(802) 442-5436

Report to the Citizens of West Rutland

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to older residents in West Rutland during SVCOA's most recent annual reporting period of 10/1/2022 through 9/30/2023.

Nutrition Support

The Council helped provide 5,636 meals that were delivered to the homes of 35 older residents in your community. This service is often called "Meals on Wheels". In addition, 70 older West Rutland residents came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 501 meals were provided.

Additionally, SVCOA provided 24 hours of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments and resource connections and referrals, to 20 residents of West Rutland.

Case Management Assistance:

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 29 older residents in your community for a total of 279.25 hours. Case managers meet with an older resident privately in their home or at another agreed upon location and assess their individual situation. They will work with the older resident to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the resident desires, the case manager will link them to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help older residents connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail older Vermonters facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

- 1) "Senior Helpline" assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior Helpline staff provide telephone support to older Vermonters and others who need information on available programs and community resources.
- 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program.
- 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project.
- 4) Information about issues and opportunities directly affecting older Vermonters via various agency articles and publications.
- 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA's Registered Dietician.
- 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound older Vermonters.
- 7) Outreach services to older Vermonters dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland Mental Health.
- 8) Transportation assistance.
- 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to older Vermonters in need of assistance.
- 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to older Vermonters and younger disabled individuals.



110 Marble Street, West Rutland, VT 05777
(802) 438-2303 | nwwvt.org | info@nwwvt.org

12/11/2023

Town of West Rutland
Attn: MaryAnn Goulette
35 Marble Street
West Rutland 05777
Re: 2023 Town Report

Dear MaryAnn Goulette and Selectboard Members,

On behalf of our board of directors, staff and customers at NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, we want to sincerely thank you for your continued support!

While it was once again a challenging year for so many, we are pleased to report that with continued generous funding from our incredible partners, the State of Vermont, and West Rutland, we were once again able to assist many Vermonters with affordable housing services including homebuyer education and counseling, downpayment assistance, home repair and energy loans and grants, home energy audits and energy efficiency projects. Below is a summary of the specific services we were able to provide throughout our service area.

In the last fiscal year (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023), our services comprised of:

- 192 Low-cost, Comprehensive HEAT Squad Energy Audits and 60 Home Energy Improvement Projects were completed for which homeowners received a rebate from Efficiency Vermont.
- 35 Energy Loans, totaling \$666,861 were made to help homeowners make energy improvements to their home.
- 13 rental units rehabilitated.
- 16 Down Payment Assistance Loans totaling \$324,294 were made to assist homebuyers make it over the 20% down payment barrier.
- 8 Home Repair Loans totaling \$110,482 and 49 Home Repair Grants totaling \$181,461 were made to homeowners to make health and safety upgrades.
- 1 first mortgage loan in partnership with Habitat for Humanity was made in the amount of \$157,900 to a first-time home buyer.
- 4 loans totaling \$233,250 were made to homebuyers who utilized the state of Vermont's Share Equity Program.
- 95 families attended Homebuyer Education and of those 32 became homeowners.
- 67 households participated in homeownership or financial coaching.

Again, thank you for your support as we wouldn't otherwise be able to provide these services.

Sincerely,
Melanie Paskevich

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Paskevich".

Interim Executive Director
mpaskevich@nwwvt.org 802-797-8610



January 2024

To the Residents of the Town of West Rutland,

The Housing Trust of Rutland County believes that everyone deserves to have an affordable, safe, stable, supported place to call home. Our mission is to transform buildings and land into quality housing and develop relationships to cultivate communities that thrive.

The Housing Trust is proud to be part of the West Rutland Community. We currently own and manage 35 affordable rental apartments in the town, Stanislaus Apartments, Colonial West and 259 Marble Street all nestled in the Marble Street/Barnes Street area. In 2023 we also began providing property management and maintenance services for NeighborWorks of Western Vermont's 12 apartments at 110 and 290 Marble Street.

The Housing Trust will continue to invest in West Rutland with the creation of Marble Village. This project could not happen without the town's hard work on zoning and the support of the residents. Marble Village will consist of 24 mixed-income apartments in the town's Designated Village Area. If everything remains on schedule, the project will begin in early Spring.

The Housing Trust is asking for your continued support of an appropriation of \$750 to help us continue to serve the residents of West Rutland with affordable housing needs.

We truly appreciate the support of town management, the select board and residents of West Rutland for their support over the years. Together we can create more affordable housing in West Rutland and throughout Rutland County.

Sincerely,

Mary Cohen

Mary Cohen
Executive Director

Housing Trust of Rutland County
27 Wales St., Suite 201
Rutland, VT 05701
802-775-3139
Info@HousingRutland.org
HousingRutland.org



Project Snapshot: West Rutland Wetland Restoration & Trail

In summer 2023 members serving on the VYCC Rutland Youth crew assisted the Town of West Rutland with wetland improvement projects along the recreation trails in West Rutland, VT.

Accomplishments

- Closed out **1** trail in a sensitive wetland area and created a **650** foot re-route
- Removed **5,226** square feet of phragmites

Crew members manually removed invasive phragmites from a site that is slated for additional wetland restoration work in 2024. Their efforts cutting and bagging phragmites prepared the site for future earth work and will help prevent further spread of this tenacious species. The crew also closed out one walking trail in a sensitive wetland area and re-routed the path through a more suitable section of forest to reduce erosion and runoff into the wetland from foot traffic.

This partnership was made possible with financial support from the VT Department of Environmental Conservation and technical support from the Town of West Rutland and Otter Creek Engineering.



Phragmites removal site



Crew with bags of phragmites



Crew member grades new trail

West Rutland Food Shelf

Town Annual Report 2023

The West Rutland Food shelf is located at 71 Marble St., in the lower level of the white, Christian Science Society building: next to Town Hall. There is a new sign out front, thanks to the Christian Science Society and the Town of West Rutland.

Anyone who lives in West Rutland is welcome. All that's required is to bring any legal ID with your name and current address on it. If you don't have an ID, a piece of mail with your name and current address will work as well.

Once again, we would like to thank all groups, organizations and individuals for their generosity:

The townspeople of West Rutland, Town Hall Offices and the employees, all the churches, schools, Scouting Clubs, The Masons, Order of the Eastern Star of VT Grand Chapter / 88 Gilman Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, The American Legion Post 87 (their Auxiliary & The Sons of the American Legion), OMYA, Vermont Country Store, Market32, and the West Rutland Post Office and its employees.

Due to generous donations, volunteers were able to purchase and distribute food to 43 families and individuals throughout 2023. Funding has also made it possible to purchase portions of meat, plus vegetables and or fruit each time we are open.

23 people received a Thanksgiving turkey basket. Signing up in October was required.

If anyone is in an emergency situation needing food, please contact one of the four of us. We will help as we are able. Thank you.

Norm Desjardins 438-6385 Ruth Manning 438-2255
Stacey Czarnecki 770-0457 Barb Flint 586-9127

~~~~~  
**West Rutland Food Shelf**  
**71 Marble Street**

**Most months, the Food Shelf is open the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays. Exceptions are July (when we are closed) and November and December (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays). Hours of Operation 12-2 pm**

### **2024 Schedule**

|                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>January 13 &amp; 27</b>  | <b>July (closed)</b>      |
| <b>February 10 &amp; 24</b> | <b>August 10 &amp; 24</b> |
| <b>March 9 &amp; 23</b>     | <b>Sept. 14 &amp; 28</b>  |
| <b>April 13 &amp; 27</b>    | <b>Oct. 12 &amp; 26</b>   |
| <b>May 11 &amp; 25</b>      | <b>Nov. 9 &amp; 16</b>    |
| <b>June 8 &amp; 22</b>      | <b>Dec. 14 &amp; 21</b>   |

**Reminder: If you would like a turkey basket for Thanksgiving, please signup during October. The deadline is Oct. 31. If you aren't able to make it to the food shelf during October, please call Ruth, Stacey, or Barb. Barb needs to have the number of turkeys to order by Nov. 1. If you don't sign up, you won't be able to get a basket. We can't make any exceptions. One turkey per household.**



Marble Valley Regional Transit District  
“The Bus”

2023 Town of West Rutland, Annual Report

Kris Bascue, Community Outreach Coordinator

Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD), known as “The Bus” is in its forty seventh year of providing service to the residents of the greater Rutland area. The Bus is the largest, non-urban, public transportation system in the State of Vermont and provides transportation to the general public throughout Rutland County, as well as to social and human service agencies, the resort communities and area businesses. MVRTD provides an enhanced level of self-sufficiency for the elderly, disabled and transportation disadvantaged who rely on public transportation. System ridership was over 616,730 rides this year. MVRTD provides 65 jobs year-round, with upwards of 80 during the winter peak season.

MVRTD provided over 1,900 rides to West Rutland on the Fair Haven Route, a commuter service with stops at Colonial Apartments, Marble Street, West Rutland High School, West Rutland Industrial Park and Westway Mall. Other highly successful routes operated by MVRTD both within Rutland County and beyond provide connections to three adjoining counties thus serving the growing population committed to the environmental benefits of public transit use, as well as the savings realized in the cost of fuel.

MVRTD has provided service under the Elderly and Disabled Program to West Rutland for many years.

For more information about schedules and services please call (802)773-3244x112 or visit MVRTD’s web site at [www.thebus.com](http://www.thebus.com) .

MVRTD thanks the residents of West Rutland for their support of public transportation.

**Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District (RNRCD) Report**  
**Amount Requested \$250**

A sample of the activities the RNRCD was involved in during 2022/2023:

**Organization:**

**Local Work Group** - District Supervisors participate in Local Work Group meetings to assist USDA in setting local priorities for Cost Share Programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

**Programs:**

**Agricultural Outreach Specialist** – The District in cooperation with the Poultney Mettowee and Bennington County NRCD's share staff who work with landowners to find solutions to water quality issues, assist with nutrient management planning and oversee shared equipment used by farmers to cost effectively implement environmentally friendly field practices.

**Conservation Planner** - The District works with a Conservation Planner providing technical assistance to farmers for the development of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans, natural resource assessment, and conservation contract development and management.

**Portable Skidder Bridges** – The District has a portable skidder bridge available for rent to loggers and foresters. Skidder bridges reduce stream disturbance, minimizing the potential for erosion and sedimentation.

**Outreach:**

**Website** – Please visit our website: <https://www.vacd.org/conservation-districts/rutland> for more information about District projects and programs. Search for us on Facebook

**Watershed Planning for the Upper Otter Creek and its Tributaries:**

With funding through grant sources, the District:

- Received a final design for a Stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) at West Seminary Street Public Park in the Town of Brandon. This park includes a basketball court, playing field and dog park. The design was completed by Watershed Consulting Associates, LLC.
- Hired an Engineering Consultant to develop a Stormwater Master Plan (SWMP) for the Town of West Rutland. The overall objective is to provide the Town with a strategic approach for meeting stormwater management needs in the Clarendon River watershed, to address pressing water resource concerns in a cost-efficient and targeted manner.
- Is continuing to work with the Town of Proctor to develop a Stormwater Master Plan (SWMP). The overall objective is to provide the Town with a strategic approach for meeting stormwater management needs in the Otter Creek watershed, to address pressing water resource concerns in a cost-efficient and targeted manner.
- Worked to develop and prepare projects for future design and implementation throughout the District. These projects have been identified in Stormwater Master Plans or other assessments/reports.

The District will continue to work with the City of Rutland, Towns, and landowners to develop and prepare projects for future design and implementation. These projects have been identified in Stormwater Master Plans or other assessment/plans.

For further information or to be added to our mailing list or list of volunteers, please contact Nanci McGuire at [nanci.mcguire@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:nanci.mcguire@vt.nacdnet.net)





**American Red Cross**  
Northern New England Region

## Rutland County Service Delivery

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

### Disaster Response

In the past year, the American Red Cross has responded to **49 disaster cases** in Rutland County, providing assistance to **110 individuals**. Most commonly, these incidents were home fires. Red Cross workers were on the scene to provide food, clothing, lodging, emotional support, and more to families during their hours of greatest need. Our teams also provide Mass Care to first responders. Things like food, water, and warm drinks strengthen the brave people of your local Fire and Police Departments as they answer the call to keep your residents safe.

| Town/City  | Disaster Events | Individuals | Town/City       | Disaster Events | Individuals |
|------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Bomoseen   | 2               | 2           | North Clarendon | 1               | 2           |
| Brandon    | 1               | 5           | Pawlet          | 1               | 3           |
| Castleton  | 2               | 9           | Poultney        | 2               | 4           |
| Fair Haven | 2               | 7           | Proctor         | 3               | 13          |
| Leicester  | 5               | 7           | Rutland         | 26              | 52          |
| Mendon     | 4               | 6           |                 |                 |             |

### Home Fire Campaign

Last year, Red Cross staff and volunteers worked throughout Rutland County to educate residents on fire, safety and preparedness. We made 5 homes safer by helping families develop emergency evacuation plans.

### Blood Drives

We collected **2,676** pints of lifesaving blood at 71 drives in Rutland County.

### Training Services

Last year, **645** Rutland County residents were taught a variety of important lifesaving skills such as First Aid, CPR, Babysitting Skills and Water Safety.



### Service to the Armed Forces

We proudly assisted 21 of Rutland County's Service Members, veterans, and their families by providing emergency communications and other services, including counseling and financial assistance.

### Volunteer Services

Rutland County is home to **18** American Red Cross Volunteers. We have volunteers from all walks of life, who are trained and empowered to respond to disasters in the middle of the night, to teach safety courses, to help at our many blood drives, and so much more. The American Red Cross is proud that 90% of its staff is made up of volunteers; they are truly the heart and soul of our organization.



# WONDERFEET KIDS' MUSEUM 2023

*How does support of your local children's museum impact the area's families and economy?*

Over 20,000 visitors this year - spending time and money in our downtown and neighboring businesses.

Averaging 2,500 visitors a month since opening our new location at the GMP Energy Innovation Center



Over 100 families visited the museum using a Local Library Lending Pass



Over 150 families received reduced-cost Family Museum Memberships



Over 1,000 attendees to our FREE weekly postpartum support and play group, It Takes a Village



Over 800 local students received Wonderfeet programming in their schools or during field trips to the museum



150 visits were conducted by social workers and social service agencies connecting families through the healing power of play!



Wonderfeet partnered with Come Alive Outside, Let's Grow Kids, Rutland County Parent Child Center, Rutland Free Library, Children's Literacy Foundation, Partners for Prevention, Rutland Mental Health Services, Rutland Regional Medical Center, Rutland County Boys & Girls Club, and The Mint to provide community events and programs in 2023

Wonderfeet had 84 visitor families from West Rutland, 23 families have active Wonderfeet Memberships. 9 West Rutland families are receiving reduced-cost memberships based on economic need. 13 visitors used a pass from the West Rutland Library for a free visit. Our education team led 2 school field trips for 60 West Rutland students. Museum staff also facilitated 1 summer enrichment program for 65 West Rutland students.

Children's museums are a community wide investment in children and families. These institutions serve as a place of early discovery and the development of life-long learning. Exhibits and programs compliment school curricula and reinforce skills needed for academic success. As cultural attractions, kids' museums have a positive impact on the local economy by bringing visitors into downtown areas. Children's museums strengthen entire communities by developing partnerships that involve schools, colleges, youth organizations, corporate partners and community leaders.

Sincerely,

Danielle Monroe  
Executive Director  
Wonderfeet Kids' Museum  
66 Merchants Row  
Rutland, VT 05701





## NewStory Center Annual Report 2023

For 44 years NewStory Center has been the single agency in Rutland County supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence by working to end the cycle of violence through support, education, prevention, and collaboration.

During FY23, NewStory Center served 674 survivors and their children through direct services such as emergency shelter, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, case management, clinical services, support groups, and the 24/7 crisis hotline. Additionally, we provide training and technical assistance to our community partners, including local law enforcement, to ensure a more effective community response to domestic and sexual violence.

The Board and Staff of NewStory Center thank the voters of West Rutland for their support of our agency. Your generosity allows us to, not only provide survivors with necessities and ongoing advocacy, but also affords us the ability to grow and expand our services to better serve your community.

### REQUEST

**NewStory Center** is requesting the sum of \$500, to be voted on at the town meeting in March 2024, to support victims in Rutland County. We are very thankful for the help that the people of West Rutland have given us in the past, and would be very grateful for your continued support of our mission. We provided services for at least **23 residents of West Rutland** this past year. As our services are confidential, in some cases we might not be informed as to where our clients live.



Dear Citizens of West Rutland,

The Child First Advocacy Center (CFAC) serves as a central agency through which reports of suspected child abuse can be channeled for investigation and victim recovery. CFAC was established in 1995 and became a fully Accredited Member of the *National Children's Alliance (NCA)* in 2004. We share with NCA the passion to minimize the traumatic effect of child abuse upon the children and families of our community. CFAC is a non-profit organization serving Rutland County to assist families in the discovery, intervention, treatment and prevention of child sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and children affected by violence. We provide a safe comfortable environment for the forensic quality and child appropriate interviews, training for professionals and collateral referral services for victims and their non-offending family members. Our agency serves families of all socio-economic levels and is committed to providing quality services regardless of the ability to pay.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Child First Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team, we want to thank you for your continued support and dedication.

In calendar year 2023, The Child First Advocacy Center served 171 clients and 144 of their family members. **We were able to provide direct wrap around services and support to eight (8) West Rutland families as they began their recovery from the effects of trauma.** In addition, we continue to provide community awareness and education at no cost, to provide adults with the ability to recognize, react and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse and increase each school district's ability to complete the legislatively mandated ACT 1 initiative to train Educators, Community Members and Student's grades K-12 in Child Sexual Abuse Awareness.

The Child First Advocacy Center is requesting funds in the amount of \$600 to continue our efforts in supporting families in your community. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Wendy Loomis, Executive Director

802-747-0200 or [wendy.loomis@partner.vermont.gov](mailto:wendy.loomis@partner.vermont.gov)

# Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

**Rutland Local Health Office | 88 Merchants Row, Suite 300, Rutland, VT  
802-786-5811 | AHS.VDHRutland@Vermont.gov**

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. **The Rutland Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to Rutland County.** Some highlights of our work in 2023 are below. For more information on our work, visit [HealthVermont.gov/local/rutland](https://HealthVermont.gov/local/rutland)



## Meeting Community Needs

- In 2023 we held weekly vaccination clinics for community members experiencing barriers to accessing care. COVID test kits, Narcan harm reduction kits, condoms and health education materials were available at these clinics.
- Our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers partnered with Rutland County Free Clinic, Turning Point and Rutland Mental Health to support the complex needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- We supported healthcare coordination for kids in foster care, gave out free baby supplies at our community baby shower and provided food and nutrition services to over 1,200 people through the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.



## Building Capacity

- Our staff provides grant consultation to local non-profit organizations. With our support, partners received nearly \$250,000 in 2023 which has helped our community create lasting systems that improve the health of our friends and neighbors. These funds supported many programs, such as the new Rutland County Pride Center.
- Our staff also trained and educated the community on important topics. One example is a workshop we gave on Xylazine, which is a sedative found in street drugs. This drug makes it harder to respond to overdoses and provide medical care.



## Emergency Preparedness

Our staff supported community members impacted by this summer's flooding events. We staffed state-wide flood resource centers, gave out drinking water test kits, supported the development of a Long Term Recovery group and provided many hours of consultation and information around flood response.





# RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

As we reflect on the past year, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) extends its deepest gratitude to the towns within our region for their unwavering support and collaborative efforts in advancing community and economic development, thoughtful planning, and sustainable growth.

## **Community and Economic Development**

In the pursuit of fostering vibrant communities, we are actively engaged in community and economic development initiatives, such as Brownfields Redevelopment. Through strategic partnerships and public investment, we've worked to transform underutilized areas, like Pittsford Village Farm, into valuable community assets.

## **Town Planning and Zoning**

By providing guidance and support to towns modernizing and updating their municipal plans and zoning regulations, we aim to create balanced, sustainable, and resilient communities that meet the needs of residents and businesses.

## **Water Quality and Natural Resources**

Preserving our region's water quality and natural resources is a shared responsibility. Through collaborative efforts with local governments and organizations, our work as the South Lake Champlain Clean Water Service Provider identifies and develops projects that safeguard our water sources and protect the richness of our natural landscapes.

## **Emergency Preparedness and Climate Resilience**

The RRPC led the charge responding and recovering from this summer's historic flooding. Beyond enhancing planning processes, we are committed to training local Emergency Management Directors (EMDs), ensuring swift and effective emergency responses, and building resilient communities equipped to navigate evolving climate dynamics.

## **Multimodal Transportation**

Efficient and sustainable transportation is vital for the well-being of our communities. The RRPC has worked towards developing multimodal transportation solutions, such as an analysis of the Rutland City Bus System, that prioritize accessibility and safety.

## **Energy Conservation and Efficiency**

Addressing the importance of energy conservation and efficiency, the RRPC has supported initiatives aimed at reducing energy consumption and promoting the use of renewable energy sources. We are working with towns across the region to implement the Municipal Energy Resilience Program, aimed at saving energy and money for our critical town-owned buildings.

## **Affordable Housing**

Recognizing the need for diverse and affordable housing options, the RRPC has actively supported initiatives to address housing challenges. We worked closely with Vermont Finance Housing Agency (VFHA) to complete the 2023 Rutland Region Housing Needs Assessment and created a new planning program to help towns navigate housing challenges and opportunities.

## **Equity**

Promoting equity is at the core of our planning efforts. We are dedicated to ensuring that our planning processes consider the needs and perspectives of all residents, fostering inclusive and equitable communities.

## **Regional Planning**

We are thrilled to initiate a three-year process to update the 2018 Regional Plan, aiming to make it a true reflection of local priorities. We encourage active participation from residents, businesses, and organizations in meetings, workshops, and surveys to ensure diverse perspectives shape the updated plan. Your insights are invaluable in creating a blueprint for sustainable development, economic growth, and community enhancement. Stay tuned for upcoming engagement opportunities!

In closing, we want to thank all of the dedicated local volunteers and civil servants for their commitment to our region. Active participation in the local planning process ensures that diverse perspectives contribute to our shared vision. All are invited to join in helping shape our future as we look forward to another year of progress, innovation, and shared success.

## **Devon Neary, Executive Director**

The Opera House | 67 Merchants Row | PO Box 430 | Rutland, VT 05702 | 802-775-0871 | [RUTLANDRPC.ORG](https://www.rutlandrpc.org)

## **Rutland County Solid Waste District | Annual Report - Calendar Year 2023**

The Rutland County Solid Waste District offers a variety of solid waste, recycling, waste education, household hazardous waste, composting and administrative support programs for our eighteen member municipalities, residents, and businesses. Some services are also available to non-district communities on a fee for service basis. In addition, the District operates a regional drop-off center and transfer station at 14 Gleason Road in Rutland City. District program, facility and rate and program information and obtaining your required annual permit on our web site, [www.rcswd.com](http://www.rcswd.com).

This year, The District has had many new challenges amid COVID-19. Being deemed essential by Governor Scott we remained on the job in full force. Each of our employees raised for the occasion in implementing the guidelines from the CDC, VOSH, and VBOH. The District also has developed many efficiencies. A new annual permit can be obtained from the convenience of your home or business via [www.rcswd.com/permits](http://www.rcswd.com/permits) in about 5 minutes. Debit and credit cards are accepted as an added means of payment accepted at our facilities. A small convenience fee will be charged.

The RCSWD did complete the Districts Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) for the 2020-2025. The State requires that all communities have a current SWIP in place that meets the requirements of the State's Material Management Plan and delineates how solid and hazardous waste will be managed in the District towns for a five-year period. Milestones will need to be reported back as required. The community's involvement in drafting and developing this document was encouraged.

The District has worked and will continue to engage local businesses informing them about recycling composting, hazardous waste and the programs that we offer. The District will also be working with local schools on many of these same issues. To this end, RCSWD was awarded a USDA, rural development grant this year. This assisted the District in providing an expanded outreach program to 12 member towns with fewer residents. This included reaching out to every household in these towns. It included working with town Boards, employees, residents. This included seeking what each town needs to reduce reliance on landfills through waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs. Pre and post surveys will assist in measuring these efforts.

**Our website has been updated!** This is your virtual Solid Waste Administration Office. Appointments, permits, events, and so much information and detail at your fingertips 24 -hours a day. To keep up to date do ensure you subscribe to our newsletter, and to your choice e-mail events alerts. Please see our 2023 Annual Report Book which covers greater detail and all our programs to include but not limited to:

**Waste Disposal:** During 2023, residents and businesses in our member municipalities disposed of approximately 36,931 tons of municipal solid waste which includes the construction and demolition activity along with a significant amount of bulky waste.

**Recycling:** The District owns a Material Recovery Facility (MRF), recycling center in Rutland City that is leased to Casella Waste Management for their operations. The MRF accepts Zero Sort recycling from transfer stations, commercial haulers and large generators for processing and sale for re-use. The facility currently receives approximately 36,931 tons of recyclables a year from a large geographical area. Since we began tracking material in 2013 the facility has processed over 259,843.27 tons of recyclables.

**Household Hazardous Waste:** Rutland County Solid Waste District operates an extensive Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program for district residents and small business generators. The program operates year-round from the Gleason Road facility by appointment. An additional 32 events are scheduled collections at twelve town transfer stations within eighteen member towns through the spring, summer, and fall. The HHW program collects and safely disposes of dozens of hazardous, flammable, and toxic materials. The RCSWD HHW also collects electronic waste and has collected over 45.95 tons of material.

**Other Programs:** The District also offered waste management education, and reduction programs, construction, demolition waste, clean wood, and composting. The District is continuing with its "Merry Mulch" program in collecting and processing over 1,200 Christmas trees annually. The District also has been working local organizations including the Rutland Master Gardener's Club, 350 Rutland County, the Rutland Dismas House, Rutland Neighborhood Program, and Vermont Southwestern Council on Aging, Rutland Hospital and Women's Network & Shelter and the Rutland County Humane Society and our valued haulers.

**Mark S. Shea, District Manager**



## Rutland County Solid Waste District 2024 HHW Rural Rover Collection Schedule



Gleason Road HHW facility is open Mon-Sat (7am - 2pm)  
(Online appointment recommended<sup>1</sup> in advance for the Gleason Rd facility)

**NEW**

Call us to find out more on the drop-in days

|                |                                                 |                                              |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| APRIL 6, 2024  | CASTLETON<br>7:30AM - 11:00AM                   | WEST RUTLAND<br>12:00AM - 2:00PM             |
| APRIL 13, 2024 | MT. HOLLY<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                   | KILLINGTON / PITTSFIELD<br>11:30AM - 1:30PM  |
| APRIL 20, 2024 | BRANDON<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                     | PITTSFORD<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                |
| APRIL 27, 2024 | POULTNEY<br>8:00AM - 10:00 AM                   | IRA<br>11:30AM - 1:30PM                      |
| May 4, 2024    | PROCTOR<br>11:00AM - 2:00AM                     |                                              |
| MAY 11, 2024   | DANBY/MT. TABOR @ DANBY T.S<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM |                                              |
| MAY 18, 2024   | WALLINGFORD<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                 | CLARENDON<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                |
| MAY 25, 2024   | BRANDON<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                     | PITTSFORD<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                |
| JUNE 1, 2024   |                                                 | POULTNEY<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                 |
| JUNE 8, 2024   | CASTLETON<br>8:00AM - 11:00AM                   | WELLS<br>12:00PM - 2:00PM                    |
| JUNE 15, 2024  | IRA<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                         | WEST RUTLAND<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM             |
| JUNE 22, 2024  | MT. HOLLY<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                   | KILLINGTON / PITTSFIELD<br>11:30AM to 1:30PM |
| JULY 20, 2024  | DANBY/MT. TABOR @ DANBY T.S<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM | WALLINGFORD<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM              |
| SEPT 7, 2024   | CASTLETON<br>8:00AM - 11:00AM                   | WELLS<br>12:00PM - 2:00PM                    |
| SEPT 14, 2024  |                                                 | POULTNEY<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                 |
| SEPT 21, 2024  | WALLINGFORD<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                 | CLARENDON<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                |
| SEPT 28, 2024  | BRANDON<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM                     | PITTSFORD<br>11:00AM - 1:00PM                |
| OCT 5, 2024    | KILLINGTON / PITTSFIELD<br>8:00AM - 10:00AM     | PROCTOR<br>11:30AM - 1:30PM                  |

# 2024 HHW RURAL COLLECTION SCHEDULE



Questions call<sup>1</sup>: 802-775-7209; or visit [www.rcswd.com](http://www.rcswd.com)





**ANNUAL REPORT TO  
The Town of West Rutland  
2023**

The Rutland County Humane Society is dedicated to advocating for and working towards a responsible and humane community. We provide shelter and adoption opportunities for pets that are homeless and promote animal welfare through community programs that benefit both animals and people.

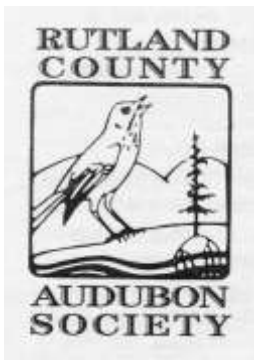
We also serve our community by providing information and referral services to people dealing with animal issues.

The RCHS shelter is the largest program of the agency, taking in more than 1,000 animals in 2023.

Our agency is funded through fees for service, town funding, membership, donations and special events. No funding comes from the state or federal government or national organizations. We sincerely thank those who support our operations. We can only save lives with your help.

The Rutland County Humane Society took in 47 animals from the Town of West Rutland from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Please call us at 483.9171 or visit our website at [RCHSVT.org](http://RCHSVT.org) if you would like more information about the Rutland County Humane Society.



RUTLAND COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
PO Box 1813, Rutland, VT 05701  
[www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org](http://www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org)

## **RUTLAND COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY (RCAS) REPORT FOR 2023 FOR TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND**

As we begin our 21st year of monitoring the West Rutland Marsh, we are delighted to report that 202 species of birds have been reported as having been seen there. In the past year, since Dec.'22, 143 species were cited by all who reported from the Marsh and the Whipple Hollow Trail.

We averaged 9 participants on our monthly monitoring walks this year. While we have no counter for those who used the Whipple Hollow Trail alone, we did have a camera there for about two weeks in the fall and about 9 people/day crossed the boardwalk. A Bobcat and Raccoon were also spotted on this trail.

Regarding other items of note, we completed the refurbishment of the boardwalk on Marble Street and refurbished the kiosk, as well. Just recently, with the help of a donation from Mr. Litts, WR resident, and the Vermont Audubon Wetland Fund, we dismantled and replaced the fencing around the cellar hole of the former tenement building, which is at the entrance to the Marble Street Boardwalk. We also replaced several of the Bridge to Bridge signs that go from Water Street to Pleasant Street.

It being our 50th anniversary as an organization, in June, we honored Roy Pilcher, one of our earliest founders, by designating the boardwalk on the Whipple Hollow Trail as "Roy's Ramble" and designing a sign to hang at the entrance to mark this.

During the summer, some of our Board members met with the West Rutland Historical Society to explain our mission and give a short tour of the area. We also met with some State employees regarding the invasive phragmites that has grown around the Marsh. This will be an on-going discussion.

RCAS also once again came out for Green Up Day in May and bagged many articles which could injure birds and other wildlife. In line with this, we reported the use of a trap near the Marble St. Boardwalk to Fish and Wildlife. Furthermore, we had several instances of theft and vandalism. Both the camera on the Marble Street Boardwalk and the one on Whipple Hollow Trail were taken, while it appeared that rocks were thrown at our newly replaced kiosk plexi-glass.

All in all, it's been another good year and we appreciate the use of the Conference Room at the Town Hall for our monthly meetings. Thank you.

**Kathleen Guinness, RCAS VP/Sec.**



## Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region Annual Town Report - December 31, 2023

Navigating the pandemic journey and recent flooding have proven to all of us that Rutland County is a large collection of neighbors, all of whom stand ready to support one another. We encourage you to reflect on all the positive things that are happening in the region. Working together we are moving forward in positive ways. Our communities and businesses are resilient and proactive in their thinking. Every town has something happening that is noteworthy. A small sample of the momentum currently underway includes but is in no way limited to the following. This report is a “shout out” to your hard work and to all of you for standing as neighbors, making Rutland County Strong.

- The Town of Killington was approved for Tax Increment Financing District status, which has launched history changing, long awaited, development of the Town.
- Middletown Springs has moved into their new Town Office.
- The MINT, Rutland’s Makerspace, located in Rutland Town, has expanded offerings and space, and has partnered with Rutland Area Robotics, to create a world class facility.
- Fair Haven has launched an easy to navigate website that includes Town services and marketing.
- Activity is underway to grow commercial development at the Airport Industrial Park in Clarendon.
- The Farmers Food Center, in Rutland, and the Pittsford Village Farm projects are reimagining agricultural and town center ecosystems, creating destination locations and economic vitality.
- StartUp Rutland, located in the newly renovated Hub CoWorks in Downtown Rutland, has entered a partnership with gener8tor, the nation’s third largest business incubator.
- The Wallingford Block continues its path to be a local destination location.
- Danby has successfully renewed its Designated Village Center status allowing for future growth.
- Wonderfeet Kid’s Museum has expanded their space and programming with a move to the former Energy Innovation Center on Merchants Row in Rutland.
- Castleton’s Recreation Department is bringing people together in exciting ways.
- Proctor continues to expand and improve its outdoor recreation assets.
- A housing working group is developing a plan to meet the spectrum of need.
- Brandon continues to evolve into the one of the finest “quintessential small towns with a village feel.”
- West Rutland is focused on downtown housing that will help resolve regional housing issues.
- Mendon is focused on implementing “Mendon on the Move,” a comprehensive vision for the future.
- Poultney is reimagining itself with Slate Valley Trails and downtown revitalization.
- The Regional Marketing Initiative is tracking and following up on 1,484 potential new neighbors.
- And look forward to the Third Annual Whoopie Pie Festival in September of 2024!

The Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR) exists to serve our region’s families, communities, and businesses. We would like to thank our dedicated Board of Directors, committee members, our member organizations, and sponsors of our work, events, and activities. We look forward to continuing to serve you – our colleagues, friends, organizations, and businesses – as we focus on supporting this special place we call home. For the full story on CEDRR’s activities, go to [www.RutlandVermont.com](http://www.RutlandVermont.com) and click on the Annual Report.

The Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD) is a non-profit organization with a mission to develop programs to facilitate the conservation of healthy soil and clean water. PMNRCD has been providing environmental support, education, and outreach to the 14 towns in the District watersheds for over 70 years. In addition to a five-member board, five employees staff the District: District Manager, Hilary Solomon; Agricultural Outreach Specialist Jennifer Alexander; Native Plant Nursery Manager and Program Coordinator, Sadie Brown; Agricultural Outreach Specialist, Whitnee Burgess; and Project Technician, Averie Noble.

**Stormwater Management** The District is currently working with several towns on planning and implementing 'green stormwater' projects. We worked this past season in Castleton, Poultney, Fair Haven, and Wells to design stormwater projects, develop scoping studies, and implement green stormwater infrastructure with grant funds, and are planning on continuing this work in other local towns.

This past year, we worked with lakes in the watershed and installed many small shoreline plantings through our Lake Education and Action Program (LEAP). In addition to implementing buffer plantings and small stormwater treatment practices, we completed LakeWise Assessments along Lake Bomoseen and Lake St. Catherine, resulting in recommendations for homeowners to implement lake friendly practices in their yards. We plan to continue both programs with shoreline homeowners in the coming year. The District is currently working on the Lake Watershed Action Plan for Lake St Catherine to identify stormwater runoff issues, assess natural resources, and propose high priority mitigation projects.

**Waterways** The District planted approximately 4,000 native trees and shrubs within the Poultney River and Mettowee River watersheds. Projects were focused along waterways within the riparian zone with the goal of stabilizing stream banks and reducing erosion, restoring native plant communities and habitat, improving water quality, and increasing flood resilience.

PMNRCD and partners removed the final barrier to fish passage for trout and other aquatic travelers in the headwaters of the Mettowee River. The culmination of the six projects, with ongoing work since 2016, helped open approximately 50 miles of connected habitat on the Mettowee River and its headwater tributaries.

**Agricultural Programs** The District assists farmers applying manure and fertilizer to their fields through farm-specific, nutrient management plans via a statewide partnership program. The District provides agronomic and water quality guidance to local farms, writes grants to implement water quality improvement projects on farms, and assists in developing long-range plans to continue sustainable conservation practices. PMNRCD provides rental of a no-till seed planter and soil aerator to farmers, which help to improve soil health.

**Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery** PMNRCD collaborates with Poultney's Champlain Valley Nursery and area residents to make improvements to water quality. Many restoration plantings were completed in the District to create habitat and to control erosion. The Nursery also serves as an educational center, providing field trip opportunities for elementary students and internships for high school and college students. Plants are available to local landowners through our tree sale or on-site. Visit our website for more information.

**Clean Water Service Provider** PMNRCD has partnered with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to provide funding and technical assistance to local towns as the local CWSP.

***The Poultney-Mettowee watershed consists of all the lands that drain to the Poultney or Mettowee Rivers and their tributaries.***



GREEN UP VERMONT

[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

**Green Up Day**  
**May 4, 2024**



**Green Up Day**, continued to grow with 23,500 volunteers statewide who cleaned up nearly 348 tons of litter and 15,000 tires. We saw 23% more volunteers lend a hand and heard in many cases there was less litter (30%) to be cleaned up. Tire collection saw a 4.8% increase. The statistics show that the hard work to beautify Vermont is still needed but also that our efforts for awareness are paying off. As one of Vermont's favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, as well as keep residents civically engaged.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding for 2024.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives.

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.**

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or online at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow on Instagram (greenupvermont).  
[greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org) 802-522-7245



# Green Up Day

***First Saturday in May ~ May 4, 2024***

- Join us on the Town Hall Green at 9:00am to divide and conquer!
- Hot Dog lunch served from 11:00am—Noon.
- Long pants, light colored clothing, boots and gloves are advised.
- Garbage bags are provided!!

## ***Green Up Day Appliance Pick-Up***

*If you have appliances that need to be disposed of and would like the town to pick them up on Green-Up Day, contact the Town Office by May 2, 2024, at **802-438-2263** for rates and instructions.*



# TOWN OF WEST RUTLAND TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

**SATURDAY MAY 11, 2024  
8:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.**

**For more information or to rent a space call 802-438-2263**





Town of West Rutl and

# Memorial ★ Day ★ Parade

Monday, May 27, 2024 \* 10:00 A.M.

Please Join Us in Honoring our Veterans and  
Celebrating Our Community!



***If you or your business would like to participate in the parade  
or be a sponsor of the event, please contact the  
Town Office at 802-438-2263***

# HOME COMING BLOCK WEST RUTLAND PARTY COMMUNITY ALUMNI MUSIC FOOD FUN

Marble Street & Town Hall Green

Marble Street (from Main to Campbell) will be closed to traffic

Saturday, September 7, 2024

3:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Music ~ Games ~ Vendors  
Food Trucks



West Rutland

Annual

Christmas Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 7th, 2024 at 6:00 pm

West Rutland Town Hall

*This event brought to you by The Friends of the Town Hall & The Town of West Rutland*



Support the West Rutland Dog Park!



**West Rutland Dog Park Bumper Stickers are still available at the Town Hall Treasurer's Office for \$5**

Proceeds benefit maintenance of the park

#### **TIME TO SPAY & NEUTER CATS & DOGS and LICENSE!**

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), under VT Economic Services is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VVSA). Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, resources are limited by the number of dogs licensed as required by law by 6 months of age. A rabies vaccination is required to license. The first vaccination can be given at 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a vet office, Community Animal Aid (free to those on public assistance: 734-0259 at the E. Barre Fire Station) & Tractor Supply host monthly clinics. After vaccinating, contact your Town Clerk to license your dog. By statute, unlicensed dogs can be seized. Rabies is in Vermont and it is deadly.

Licensing identifies your dog and is proof the dog is protected in the event bitten by an animal, but would still need immediate medical attention. Vaccinations and licensing protect if they bite another animal or person, which could result in the quarantine of the animal or euthanized. If not proven by being licensed to be currently vaccinated, testing for rabies requires the brain to be examined.

For an Application for VSNIP send a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Note if it is for a cat, dog, or both. To print out, go to: [VSNIP.Vermont.Gov](http://VSNIP.Vermont.Gov). VSNIP helps income challenged Vermonters with neutering and vaccinations. If approved, you'll receive a Voucher and instructions. If not, a list of low-cost resources will be sent. Several humane societies host spay neuter clinics open to the public. Your cost for a VSNIP surgery is \$27.00, if without complications. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters with their \$4.00 fee collected at licensing.

**Veterinarians and their staff are the backbone of this important program. Thanks to their generosity and altruistic vision, Vermont no longer uses routine euthanasia as a means of population control. Sincerely thank your veterinarian for their participation in VSNIP. If not currently a participating office, please ask them to join and help make a difference in your community. They are very needed.**

Support the West Rutland Dog Park!



**West Rutland Dog Park Bumper Stickers are still available at the Town Hall Treasurer's Office for \$5**

Proceeds benefit maintenance of the park

#### **TIME TO SPAY & NEUTER CATS & DOGS and LICENSE!**

**Facts:** Female cats as young as 4 months can become pregnant. The “mom” cat can/will become pregnant when nursing is finished. Males travel for miles to find a female in heat, often not returning. Cats and dogs (naturally) mark their territory if not neutered. Resolve Carpet Cleaner and a single moth ball in its place will help deter from repeat markings. (Do not use moth balls with young children in the house.) 70% of cats and 15% of dogs using VSNIP are reported as strays or abandoned, which is cruel and illegal. Please do promote VSNIP, helping those that cannot afford to neuter, that will otherwise reproduce over and over. Repeat litters can cause uterine infection, mammary tumors, kidney failure, etc., leading to death. “Farm” cats are especially at risk. Be wary of any seller of animals that won’t allow you to see how they are kept before acquiring and want to meet in a parking lot. Animals are often used as a means of making money, and their life may be the inside a room or cage. Please be the voice for those that cannot speak. Purchasing does not ‘save’ one, it ‘enables’ those to continue to misuse animals for money. Thank you for promoting this time proven program.

Thanks to now retired Lynn Murrell, DVM, who first agreed to extend reduced rates for animals in need, and all the Veterinarians and Clinics that served for the last forty years plus. A sincere thank you to Bernard “Snook” Downing for helping support many animals in need over the years with his hard work, contributions, and the donors we are unable to thank in print – but you know who you are! ***Together We Truly Do Make a Difference!*** 800 HI VSNIP (1-800-448-7647)

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator: VSNIP      Executive Director: VVSA



# FREE TAX HELP FOR VERMONTERS

## FREE E-FILE WITH FREE FILE OR MYFREETAXES PARTNERSHIP

Two out of three Vermont taxpayers qualify to use Free File to file their federal and state tax returns for free. Free File is offered in partnership with commercial online filing software companies, the IRS, and the Vermont Department of Taxes. You may not know whether you qualify for one or more Free File services. Find out today by [visiting our website \(tax.vermont.gov/free-file\)](https://tax.vermont.gov/free-file).

The MyFreeTaxes partnership provides free federal and Vermont e-filing for qualified individuals. Are you eligible? Go to [MyFreeTaxes \(https://myfreetaxes.com\)](https://myfreetaxes.com) to learn more.

## VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) AND TAX COUNSELING FOR THE ELDERLY (TCE) PROGRAMS

Free tax help to people who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns, including:

- People who generally make \$60,000 or less
- Persons with disabilities; and
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers

The TCE program focuses on those aged 60 years and older. Visit the IRS to learn more about [VITA or TCE and find a location near you \(https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep\)](https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep).

## AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE PROGRAM

Provides tax assistance sites to taxpayers who qualify, such as those with low and moderate incomes, giving special attention to those age 50 and older. Learn more about the Tax-Aide Program and find a location near you at [AARP \(https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp\\_taxaide/locations.html\)](https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/locations.html).

**To participate, you must meet the program's eligibility requirements.**

Disclaimer: The information provided here is intended to be an overview only. Vermont tax statutes, regulations, Vermont Department of Taxes rulings, or court decisions supersede information presented here. Revised December 2023 | Publication FL-1166





## TOWN TELEPHONE NUMBERS

|                                                         |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Town Manager                                            | 802-438-2263 |
| Town Clerk Fax                                          | 802-438-5133 |
| Town Treasurer's Office/Bookkeepers                     | 802-438-2263 |
| Town Clerk                                              | 802-438-2204 |
| Listers' Office                                         | 802-438-2263 |
| Zoning Administrator                                    | 802-438-2204 |
| Highway Department—Town Garage                          | 802-438-2854 |
| Wastewater Treatment Plant                              | 802-438-5633 |
| Water Department                                        | 802-438-5633 |
| West Rutland Library                                    | 802-438-2964 |
| West Rutland School                                     | 802-438-2288 |
| West Rutland Recreation Department                      | 802-438-2263 |
| Neighbor Works of Western VT                            | 802-438-2303 |
| West Rutland Food Shelf                                 | 802-586-9127 |
| Friends of West Rutland Town Hall                       | 802-438-2263 |
| FIRE/POLICE EMERGENCY                                   | 911          |
| Fire Warden (Steve Czachor)                             | 802-438-2840 |
| State Police                                            | 802-773-9101 |
| Ambulance                                               | 802-773-1700 |
| Animal Control Officer (Rutland County Sheriff's Dept.) | 802-775-8002 |