

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OF WARREN

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023



ARTWORK: GARY ECKHART

DEDICATION TO WAYNE KATHAN



Born February 22, 1941, Wayne was a lifelong resident of Warren with the exception of some years spent exploring Alaska with the US Army and beyond.

He served the Town of Warren for 33 years as Road Commissioner and Road Crew Foreman. He spent so many hours keeping the roads clear and maintained, mentored generations of Road Crew members, and yet found a way to balance “being there for his family with being there for his community”.

In the best Vermont tradition, Wayne was able to repair almost anything with what’s on hand, perform random acts of kindness to friends and strangers alike, and tell a hell of a story to all who would listen.

We bid farewell to Wayne last November 16, 2023. Thanks for being there for all of us!

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TOWN OFFICERS

Elected by Australian Ballot

Cemetery Commission - 5 YR Term	Expires
Camilla Behn	2026
Charles Snow	2024
Sharon Conte	2025
Michele Eid	2025
Jeff Campbell	2026
Central Vt Career Center Rep – 3 YR TERM	Expires
Jonathan Young	2025
Delinquent Tax Collector - 3 YR Term	Expires
Dayna Lisaius	2024
Harwood Unified Union School Director - 3 YR TERM	Expires
Jonathan Young	2024
Ashley Woods	2025
Justice Of the Peace - 2 YR Term	Expires
Susan Bauchner	2024
Sandra Brodeur	2024
Kenneth Scott	2024
Margo Wade	2024
Joni Zweig	2024
Library Trustees - 3 YR Term	Expires
David Ellison	2026
Susan Cummisky	2024
Ellen Kucera	2024
Alex Maclay	2025
Linda Tyler	2025
Karen Cingiser	2026
Board of Listers - 3 YR Term	Expires
Mike Kelly	2024
Sandra Brodeur	2025
Vacant	2026
Select Board	Expires
Devin Klein Corrigan (3yr)	2026
Luke Youmell (2yr)	2025
Robert Ackland (2yr)	2024
Camilla Behn (3yr)	2025
Andrew Cunningham (3yr)	2025
Town Clerk - 3 YR Term	Expires
Reta Goss	2024

Town Moderator - 1 YR Term Doug Bergstein	Expires 2024
Town Treasurer - 3 YR Term Dayna Lisaius	Expires 2026
Trustee of Public Money - 3 YR Term Dayna Lisaius	Expires 2026

Appointed by the Selectboard

American Disabilities Act Representative - 1 YR Term Jeff Campbell	Expires 2024
Constable - 2 YR Term Jeff Campbell	Expires 2026
Central VT Economic Development Rep - 1 YR Term Vacant	Expires
Central VT Regional Planning Commission - 1YR Term Alexis Leacock Jennifer Falliace	Expires 2024 2024
Central VT Revolving Loan Representative - 1 YR Term Vacant John Norton	Expires 2024 2024
Conservation Commission – 4 YR TERM Carolyn Schipa Rocky Blier Kate Wanner Clint Coleman Amy Polaczyk Jim Edgcomb Damon Reed George Schenk Vacant	Expires 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2025 2026
Development Review Board – 3 YR TERM Peter Monte, Chair Devin Klein Corrigan Chris Behn Jeff Schoellkopf Vacant	Expires 2026 2026 2025 2025 2025

Alternates

- Robert Kaufman
- Megan Moffroid
- Don Swain
- Chris Noone

Dog Catcher - 1 YR TERM	Expires
Luke Youmell	2024
Jeff Campbell	2024
Dog Pound Keeper – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Roy Hadden	2024
E911 Coordinator – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Ruth Robbins	2024
Emergency Management Director – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Jeff Campbell	2024
Energy Coordinator – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Alexis Leacock	2024
Fence Viewers – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Randy Taplin	2024
Vacant	2024
Vacant	2024
GIS Coordinator – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Mike Kelly	2024
Green Up Committee – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Roots Work Members	2024
Health Officer – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Jeff Campbell	2024
Historian – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Vacant	2024
MRV Planning District Steering Committee – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Robert Ackland	2024
Dan Raddock	2024
Mad River Valley Recreation Committee – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Douglas Bergstein	2024
Alice Rogers-Graves	2024
Peter Oliver	2024
MRV Solid Waste Management Representative – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Margo Wade	2024

Planning Commission	Expires
Macon Phillips (3yr)	2026
Adam Zawistowski (3yr)	2026
Jennifer Faillace (3yr)	2026
Michael Bridgewater (3yr)	2024
Jim Sanford (3yr)	2024
Camilla Behn (4yr)	2026
Dan Raddock (4yr)	2026
Public Safety Officer – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Jeff Campbell	2024
Recreation Committee	Expires
Alycia Biondo (3yr)	2026
Pierre Hall (2yr)	2025
Robert Meany (2yr)	2024
Kirsten Reilly (2yr)	2024
Doug Bergstein (3 yr)	2025
Transportation Authority Representative – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Camilla Behn	2024
Town Agent – 1 YR TERM	Expires
Wayne Kathan	2024
Tree Warden 1 YR TERM	Expires
Megan Moffroid	2024
Fire Chief (Elected yearly by the members of the Fire Department)	
Jeff Campbell	
Forest Fire Warden – 5 YR (appointment by US Forest Service)	
Garrett Swann	
Alternate	
Chad Koenig	
Librarian (Hired by Library Trustees)	
Marie Schmukal	
Road Foreman	
Andrew Bombard	
Town Administrator	
Rebecca Campbell	
Zoning And Planning Administrator	
Ruth Robbins	

WARNING OF 2024 TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Warren are hereby notified that Vermont now has same day voter registration. Eligible residents will be able to register to vote on any day up to and including Election Day during the hours the polls are open. Legal voters of the Town of Warren may request absentee ballots for Australian ballot at the Town Clerk's office until Monday March 4, 2024 until 4 PM. Any authorized person may apply for an absentee ballot on behalf of an absentee voter.

The residents of the Town of Warren who are legal voters in the town are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Warren Elementary School in the Town of Warren on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 5:00 PM in the afternoon to act upon the following matters:

- Article 1. Shall the Town vote a budget of \$4,400,376 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town including the capital expenditures and to authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?**

- Article 2. Shall the Town vote to allocate \$450,000 for paving of town highways, including Brook and East Warren Roads**

- Article 3. Shall the Town vote to allocate \$30,000 to the Conservation Reserve Fund for the year 2024 to be used for land conservation projects as stated in the Town of Warren Conservation Commission and Reserve Fund Charter dated 24, April 2007.**

- Article 4. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to borrow money to pay current expenses and debts of the Town in anticipation of the collection of taxes for that purpose?**

- Article 5. Shall the Town vote its current taxes into the hands of the Town Treasurer?**

- Article 6. Shall the Town have its taxes of real and personal property billed July 15, taxes due August 15, delinquent after November 15, with no discount?**

- Article 7. Shall the Town vote its Green Mountain National Forest money go to the Warren PTO?**

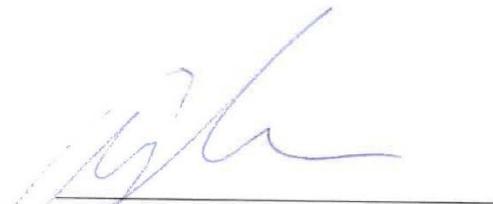
Article 8. Shall the Town empower the Select Board to accept any land if given to the Town or to purchase any land within the Town?

Article 9. To set the date, time and place of 2025 Town Meeting?

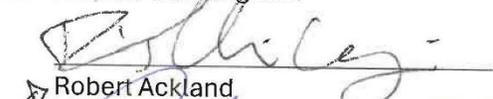
Article 10. The following items will be voted on by Australian ballot between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Tuesday, March 5, 2024

1. The Election of all Town officers by law.

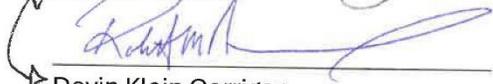
**Article 11. To transact any other business that may come before the meeting.
(Non-binding Article)**



Andrew Cunningham



Robert Ackland



Devin Klein Corrigan



Camilla Behn



Luke Youmell

WARREN SELECTBOARD REPORT

Warren Selectboard Report 2024

For the town, and likely many of you, 2023 was a year of change. We've lost important and cared for townspeople. Employees, officials and board members who've dedicated years of service have moved on. The economy and environment continue to create new challenges. In 52 weeks, the Selectboard met more than 40 times.

We have all dedicated immense time and resources to meeting these challenges. Not just the selectboard; all of you. A few important things on our minds:

The budget, how we balance our goals and what's appropriate spending, always comes first. We propose a 6% increase in our budget. It would be easy to cut spending and point to rising costs. Much harder to find responsible and appropriate ways to maintain the fabric of our town.

Keeping the town running falls to our employees. We can't stress their value enough. We work throughout the year on employee retention. Compensation is not just a budget line item to be tackled during budget season.

On the infrastructure and project side, we did minimal paving. We allocated less money to paving last year to bolster funds for upcoming projects. Our paving plans this year include voting additional funds in at town meeting. The Selectboard could vote to fund this project at a regular meeting. We feel it's more appropriate to discuss at town meeting. This is an important conversation.

After many meetings, research and design, we implemented a change in road line striping in the village. The goal being to create a way for walkers, bikers, and vehicles to coexist and use the village safely. Other work in the village included much needed repairs to the covered bridge and an overhaul of the cobblestones.

The Selectboard continues to work with the Planning Commission on an update to our Land Use Development Regulations. Countless board members, experts and townspeople have engaged to continue this important work.

A thread that runs through these examples is engagement. We engage as a board, with other boards, and with the town. It's not just something we value. It's something we need. We invite you to every meeting. Regular meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, with many more in between.

All are welcome.

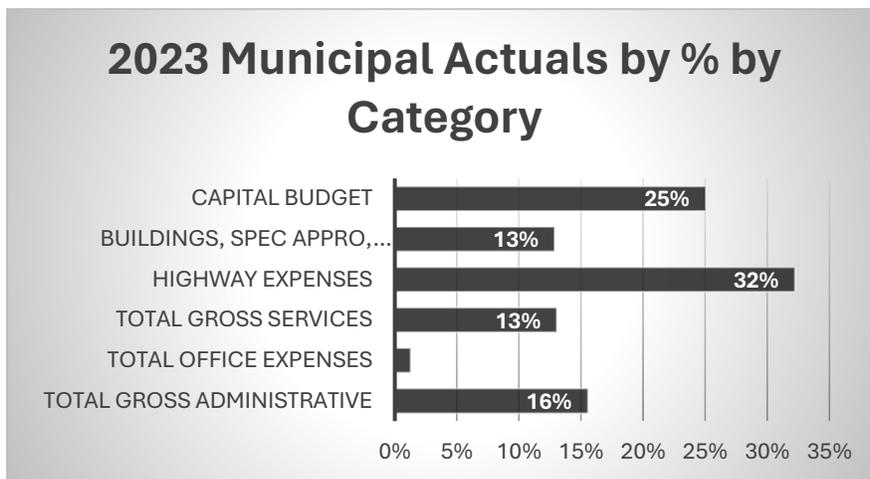
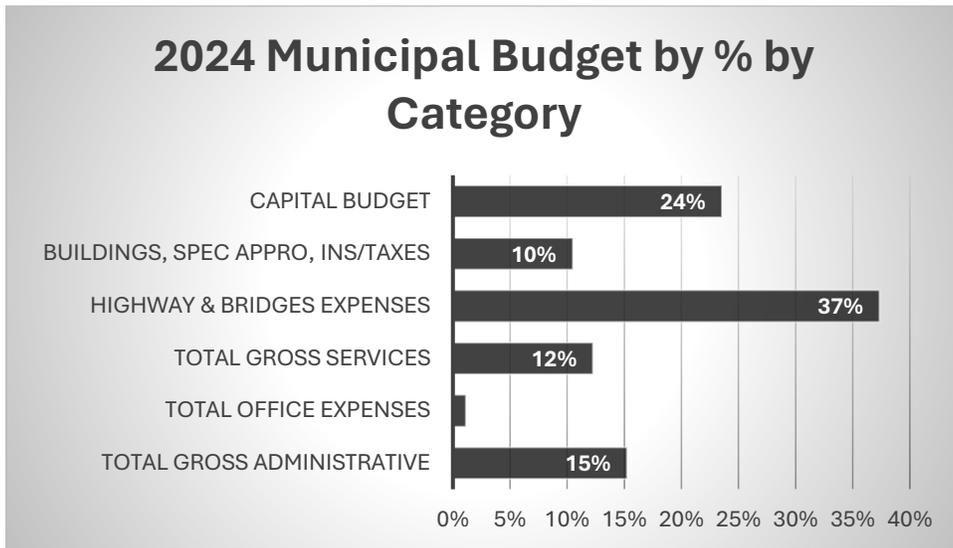
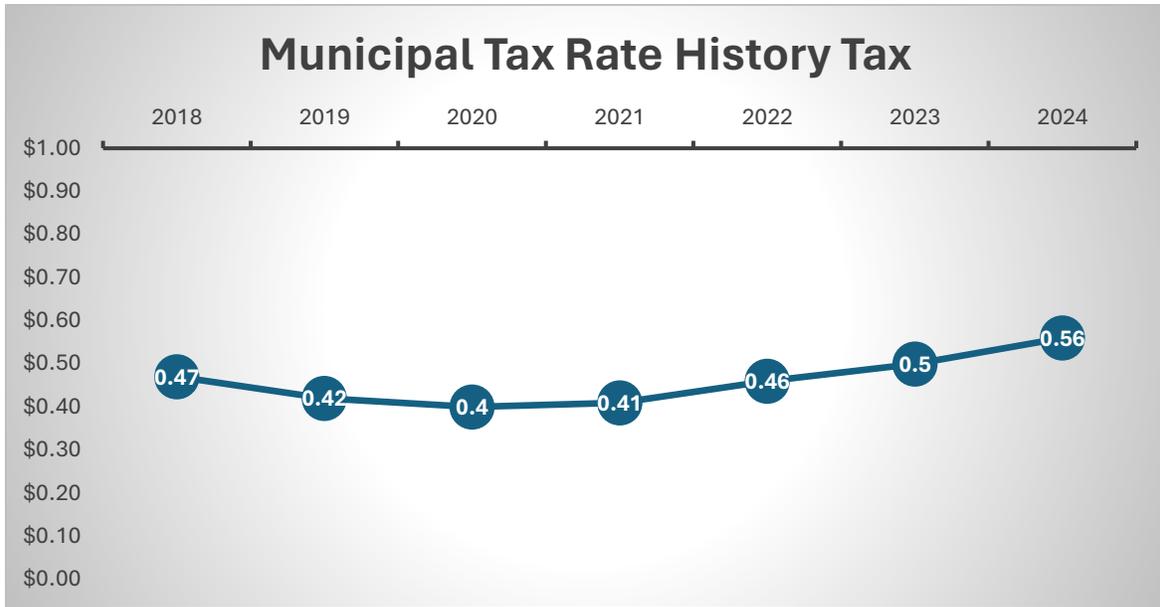
Thank you again to all our employees, officials and volunteers. Thank you to all of you.

Warren Selectboard

WARREN 2023 STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

<u>2023 Statement of Taxes Billed</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Grand List</u>	<u>Tax</u>
Non-residential Ed. Grand List	1.8935	6,108,955.38	11,567,308.04
Homestead Ed. Grand List	1.9736	1,560,531.00	3,079,864.03
Municipal Grand List	0.393	7,816,074.63	3,071,690.83
Late HS-122			13,602.64
Total Amount billed			<u>17,732,465.54</u>
Beginning Balance total Delinquent Tax list as of (12/31/22)			370979.83
Payments sent to State of Vermont Education Fund			(8,299,035.08)
Payment sent to WWSU-consolidated Union			(4,934,566.34)
2023 adjustments, corrections, and Tax appeals			7257.37
Ending Balance total Delinquent Tax List as of (12/31/2023)			<u>(343,514.23)</u>
Total payments/adj/corrections			<u>(13,198,878.45)</u>
Net Town of Warren, Municipal budget			4,533,587.09

STATISTICAL CHARTS OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS



WARREN DELINQUENT TAX REPORT

	PROPERTY OWNER	2023	PRIOR	TOTAL
	59 Mountainside LLC	\$1,356.47	\$0.00	\$1,356.47
	Abad G	\$1,822.32	\$0.00	\$1,822.32
	Albertini, J	\$37.60	\$0.00	\$37.60
pp	Altman, R	\$17,149.00	\$0.00	\$17,149.00
pp	Bada Bing LLC	\$5,898.26	\$2,985.65	\$8,883.91
	Balch M	\$1,541.10	\$1,424.03	\$2,965.13
	Bazin E	\$2,713.80	\$0.00	\$2,713.80
pd	Beardsley C	\$14,007.91	\$0.00	\$14,007.91
	Beaumont S	\$1,371.90	\$0.00	\$1,371.90
	Bell S	\$2,229.34	\$1,200.77	\$3,430.11
TS	Bergmiller G	\$2,567.74	\$0.00	\$2,567.74
	Biafore, J	\$1,847.49	\$0.00	\$1,847.49
TS	Bitler F	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
pd	Brandt S	\$143.67	\$0.00	\$143.67
TS	Brewster, J	\$9.14	\$0.00	\$9.14
pp	Brown C	\$4,566.14	\$955.23	\$5,521.37
TS	Caisse, S	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
TS	Callander, J	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58
	Camack H	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
pp	Chagnon T	\$2,757.52	\$0.00	\$2,757.52
	Christmas Tree Inn	\$117.90	\$0.00	\$117.90
	Cilley R	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
	Clark, G	\$16.00	\$0.00	\$16.00
pp	Clark J	\$2,769.91	\$0.00	\$2,769.91
pd	Codding J	\$249.23	\$0.00	\$249.23
pd	Cohen J	\$421.00	\$0.00	\$421.00
	Connolly M	\$2,743.80	\$0.00	\$2,743.80
pd	Cormier C	\$23,141.98	\$0.00	\$23,141.98
	CRR Leasing	\$250.75	\$0.00	\$250.75
	CTI LLC	\$10,003.44	\$0.00	\$10,003.44
	Cullen J	\$2,163.03	\$1,057.68	\$3,220.71
	Davis R	\$6.86	\$4.06	\$10.92
pd	Decasas J	\$1,655.31	\$0.00	\$1,655.31
	Dillon, D	\$274.38	\$0.00	\$274.38
	Dolloff R	\$164.63	\$150.80	\$315.43
	Domery, T	\$6.86	\$6.34	\$13.20
pd	Durand E	\$123.09	\$0.00	\$123.09
TS	Eckhardt, W	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58
pp	Elliott, B	\$2,795.01	\$0.00	\$2,795.01
	Ellis C	\$3.50	\$0.00	\$3.50
pd	Faillace L	\$1,208.77	\$0.00	\$1,208.77

	Fairchild J	\$3,457.14	\$0.00	\$3,457.14
TS	Falkowski, C	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58
	Fallamal, H	\$4.58	\$4.23	\$8.81
	Farrar K	\$1,115.81	\$995.37	\$2,111.18
pd	Forrest S	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
	Foster, W	\$293.62	\$0.00	\$293.62
	Frank J	\$934.10	\$0.00	\$934.10
pd	Garcia-Dale	\$3,754.44	\$0.00	\$3,754.44
pd	Gelfenbein D	\$470.44	\$0.00	\$470.44
	Giordano F	\$6,415.92	\$0.00	\$6,415.92
	Goffin J	\$4,081.41	\$0.00	\$4,081.41
	Goulet C	\$304.68	\$0.00	\$304.68
	Greenslit K	\$102.90	\$95.08	\$197.98
	Gregg L	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
	Griffin, P	\$7,481.43	\$0.00	\$7,481.43
pd	Grinovich M	\$340.69	\$0.00	\$340.69
	Happ, A	\$3,393.16	\$0.00	\$3,393.16
	Helenek E	\$3,557.80	\$0.00	\$3,557.80
TS	Heuser, P	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86
pd	Hinman E	\$88.98	\$0.00	\$88.98
	Hutchinson M	\$4,476.96	\$0.00	\$4,476.96
	Johnson G	\$4,018.48	\$0.00	\$4,018.48
	Keith D	\$1,115.81	\$0.00	\$1,115.81
	Kervin J	\$3,443.06	\$0.00	\$3,443.06
TS	Kessler, M	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86
	Kingsbury S	\$3,880.19	\$193.76	\$4,073.95
pd	Koenig C	\$751.08	\$0.00	\$751.08
	Kruskowski W	\$461.88	\$0.00	\$461.88
pd	Kurland-Platt	\$7,986.47	\$0.00	\$7,986.47
	Kyle D	\$6,267.29	\$0.00	\$6,267.29
	Labbee R	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
	Lary D	\$10.76	\$0.00	\$10.76
pp	Levitan R	\$4,709.09	\$0.00	\$4,709.09
	Lewis S	\$6,564.54	\$0.00	\$6,564.54
pd	LGPVT LLC	\$2,163.03	\$0.00	\$2,163.03
pd	Lockhart, M	\$13.72	\$12.68	\$26.40
pd	Lockhart, L	\$2,396.26	\$1,574.04	\$3,970.30
	Lockwood B	\$10,385.29	\$0.00	\$10,385.29
	Lot 9 Personal	\$14.94	\$0.00	\$14.94
pd	Lucey M	\$182.92	\$0.00	\$182.92
	Mackay R	\$755.75	\$0.00	\$755.75
	Mad River Hollow LLC	\$1,095.24	\$0.00	\$1,095.24
	Mahoney, G	\$6.86	\$6.34	\$13.20
	Majors B	\$6.70	\$0.00	\$6.70

pd	Maxwell, E	\$3.89	\$0.00	\$3.89
pp	May Valley LLC	\$9,630.74	\$1,286.16	\$10,916.90
	McAllister, T	\$637.99	\$0.00	\$637.99
	Mcauley J	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86
	McDonald, M	\$286.95	\$0.00	\$286.95
	McKenzie, J	\$5,944.90	\$0.00	\$5,944.90
	Milton E	\$2,990.74	\$0.00	\$2,990.74
pd	Montran Financial	\$4,899.97	\$0.00	\$4,899.97
pd	Morse, T	\$1,088.70	\$0.00	\$1,088.70
	Moses S	\$1,067.79	\$0.00	\$1,067.79
TS	O'Toole, J	\$9.14	\$0.00	\$9.14
pp	Ostrout T	\$703.93	\$0.00	\$703.93
	Page, C	\$5,389.28	\$0.00	\$5,389.28
	Palazzo, G	\$2.12	\$0.00	\$2.12
	Phelan C	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58
	Pierce C	\$2,174.97	\$0.00	\$2,174.97
pd	Pingree G	\$904.12	\$0.00	\$904.12
	Premier Lodging	\$2,163.03	\$0.00	\$2,163.03
	Pruitt D	\$1,245.67	\$0.00	\$1,245.67
	Rabbit Hollow Group	\$14,105.42	\$0.00	\$14,105.42
	Rand J	\$1,067.79	\$0.00	\$1,067.79
	Renkowsky R	\$22.87	\$0.00	\$22.87
	Ritchie D	\$105.18	\$0.00	\$105.18
	Robinson L	\$1,442.09	\$0.00	\$1,442.09
	Romano, J	\$8,128.51	\$0.00	\$8,128.51
	Rose A	\$10,024.01	\$0.00	\$10,024.01
	Rose P	\$13.72	\$2.90	\$16.62
	Santo, R	\$363.56	\$0.00	\$363.56
pd	Sawyer J	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58
pd	Schnepp B	\$2,163.03	\$0.00	\$2,163.03
	Seibold, J	\$6,082.69	\$0.00	\$6,082.69
pd	Showacre, D	\$6,841.84	\$0.00	\$6,841.84
	Skentos J	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86
	Skifast Ventures	\$579.92	\$0.00	\$579.92
	Skura, S	\$13.72	\$12.68	\$26.40
	Smith, D	\$1,314.74	\$781.99	\$2,096.73
	Smith Z	\$31.86	\$0.00	\$31.86
	Snow S	\$3,178.33	\$0.00	\$3,178.33
	Spencer D	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72
	SRK 1999 Trust	\$5,745.98	\$0.00	\$5,745.98
	St Germain B	\$6.86	\$4.36	\$11.22
pp	Sterling Ridge 18	\$4,890.83	\$0.00	\$4,890.83
	Stone Castle Properties	\$1,232.43	\$0.00	\$1,232.43
pp	Stone C	\$6,347.33	\$0.00	\$6,347.33

	Stryczck A	\$9.14	\$8.45	\$17.59	
	Sullivan C	\$7,490.58	\$0.00	\$7,490.58	
	Summerscales D	\$13.72	\$0.00	\$13.72	
	Swanson E	\$13.72	\$12.68	\$26.40	
pp	Sweet, I	\$5,832.75	\$0.00	\$5,832.75	
	Teixeira, M	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86	
	Tougas, R	\$9.14	\$0.00	\$9.14	
	Trillium Associates	\$81.11	\$0.00	\$81.11	
	Trombley D	\$2,238.49	\$0.00	\$2,238.49	
pp	Turner H	\$1,529.67	\$0.00	\$1,529.67	
pd	Valadakis, D	\$2,553.58	\$0.00	\$2,553.58	
TS	Vona, S	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58	
pd	Weaver K	\$292.67	\$0.00	\$292.67	
	Weisblatt D	\$781.99	\$0.00	\$781.99	
pd	Whipple R	\$4.58	\$0.00	\$4.58	
pd	Wojcik J	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86	
	Wood, D	\$13.72	\$12.68	\$26.40	
TS	Yates, E	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$6.86	
pd	Youmell L	\$4,979.20	\$0.00	\$4,979.20	
	TOTAL	\$343,514.23	\$12,787.96	\$356,302.19	2.01%
	Delinquent 02/01/24	\$247,645.98	\$8,769.70	\$256,415.68	
		\$256,415.68	\$17,732,465.54	1.45%	

TS Sold at Tax Sale Dec. 2023
pp PARTIAL PAY/PAY PLAN
PD Paid after December 31, 2023

	Delinquent	Taxes	Percent
	December 31	Billed	Delinquent
2023	\$356,302.19	\$17,732,465.54	2.01%
2022	\$370,979.83	\$ 16,138,563.45	2.30%
2021	\$340,035.43	\$ 15,892,889.44	2.10%
2020	\$447,482.80	\$ 15,247,958.88	2.93%
2019	\$396,976.41	\$ 14,931,578.09	2.66%
2018	\$444,090.44	\$ 14,632,856.51	3.03%
2017	\$391,261.53	\$ 14,576,473.80	2.68%
2016	\$516,707.99	\$ 1,997,843.90	3.69%

WARREN 2023 ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

Town of Warren
Financial Summary
Town Report for 2023

The financial performance for the Town of Warren exceeded expectations from a year ago. Excellent financial management by department heads kept spending in several areas below budget for 2023. Our total gross expenditures were under budget by \$577K or 14%. Given the inflationary pressure over the last year, this was a surprise as we wrapped up the year. This is the second year in a row that the Town has underspent.

There have been inflationary pressures, especially regarding line items within the Highway Department budget. Items like salt, vehicle repair, and tires saw spending exceed the budget. Some items dollars weren't spent since contractors to provide the needed services had staffing issues and couldn't respond.

The one downside to 2023 spending is that funding to our capital reserves was reduced in 2023 and paving projects were not kept on their normal cycle. This means catching up going forward.

The 2024 budget has been put together with a lot of thought and a continued focus on staff retention. This means that compensation was reviewed, and in instances where adjustments to staff compensation were needed, adjustments were made. A 5.5% increase was provided to all staff for 2024 based on inflation considerations.

Gross spending increased 6.05% over the 2023 budget. Grants and other revenue are down from what was collected in 2023 but about even with what was budgeted in 2023. Grant funds are constantly sought throughout the year to reduce taxes.

The anticipated tax rate based on current information, which can change based on Grand List adjustments by the state, is expected to be \$0.56. The actual tax rate is calculated in the 1st week of July and reflects the current general fund balance at that point in time, anticipated revenue to be realized in the remainder of the year, and the projected spending through the end of the fiscal year. Historically the tax rate has been lower than projected at Town Meeting.

WARREN TOWN BUDGET 2024

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
ADMINISTRATIVE / SELECTBOARD:						
Salary Expense	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	-
Benefits & Taxes	574	662	662	662	664	0.30%
Dues, Subscriptions & Meetings	250	257	250	120	300	20.00%
Legal	3,000	727	3,000	1,793	3,000	-
Public Notices	2,000	3,357	2,000	1,537	2,000	-
Town Report Printing	3,000	3,108	3,000	1,281	3,000	-
VLCT Dues	3,430	3,430	3,687	3,687	3,687	-
Office Assistant				1,159	2,818	-
Total Selectboard	19,754	19,041	20,099	17,739	22,969	14.28%
TOWN						
ADMINISTRATOR:						
Salary	66,956	66,956	71,978	58,989	75,270	4.57%
Benefits & Taxes	32,372	30,074	35,235	22,345	29,077	-17.48%
Meetings/Mileage	200	200	200	0	1,500	650.00%
Total Town Administrator	99,528	97,230	107,413	81,334	105,847	-1.46%
TOWN CLERK:						
Salary	61,763	61,763	66,395	64,779	52,420	-21.05%
Benefits & Taxes	23,014	22,081	21,154	20,201	46,660	120.57%
Dues, Subscriptions & Meetings	100	40	100	40	3,816	3716.00%
Maintenance Land Records, Filing	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	-
Election Costs	2,000	2,362	2,000	765	3,200	60.00%
Upgrade Storage & Equipment	200	0	200	0	200	-
State Mandated Election Costs	1,000	931	0	0	3,000	-
Total Town Clerk	89,077	87,177	90,849	85,785	110,296	21.41%
Fees Collected	40,000	45,579	41,100	32,422	41,100	-
Net Town Clerk	49,077	41,597	49,749	53,363	69,196	39.09%

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
TREASURER:						
Salary	46,665	46,664	50,165	50,165	53,942	7.53%
Benefits & Taxes	28,033	25,871	30,365	23,643	21,609	-28.84%
Treasurer's Mileage	750	750	750	750	750	-
Dues and Subscriptions	125	25	125	40	125	-
Other/Tax Bills	125	0	125	0	125	-
Bank Fees / Misc. Audit / Accounting Services	200	173	200	171	200	-
	18,500	18,717	19,250	19,250	24,500	27.27%
Total Town Treasurer	94,398	92,200	100,980	94,019	101,251	0.27%
Bank Interest	11,000	22,485	15,000	116,100	65,000	333.33%
Net Treasurer	83,398	69,715	85,980	(22,081)	36,251	-57.84%
OFFICE ASSISTANT:						
Salary	10,100	147	10,100	9,097	12,168	20.48%
Benefits & Taxes	2,091	11	1,200	767	1,200	-
Total Office Assistant	12,191	158	11,300	9,864	13,368	18.30%
HUMAN RESOURCES:						
Human Resources	9,000	9,000	9,675	9,675	10,207	5.50%
HR Benefits	720	689	854	740	901	5.50%
Total / Human Resources	9,720	9,689	10,52	10,415	11,108	5.50%
LISTERS:						
Salary	60,391	50,915	58,777	46,356	69,803	18.76%
Benefits & Taxes	10,453	7,019	5,190	3,546	6,164	18.77%
Office Supplies & Equipment/Mailings	500	467	500	745	500	0.00%
Other/Grievances News Paper	300	0	300	0	0	-100.00%
Dues, Subscriptions and Meetings	1,500	1,796	1,500	2,063	2,500	66.67%
Reappraisal Consultant	0	0	0	0	0	-
Contracted Services	0	0	0	0	1,000	-
Total Listers	73,144	60,197	66,267	52,710	79,967	20.67%

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
TOWN MAPPING:						
Web Support/Updates	5,000	5,700	5,000	0	5,700	14.00%
Total Mapping	5,000	5,700	5,000	0	5,700	14.00%
ZONING / DRB ADMINISTRATOR / e911:						
Salary	50,156	50,156	53,918	53,917	57,977	7.53%
Benefits & Taxes	14,334	13,747	17,009	16,535	18,411	8.24%
Mapping ZP/DRB Applications	500	0	500	0	500	-
Legal Expenses	800	0	2,000	0	1,000	-50.00%
Advertising/Public Notices	1,750	2,112	2,500	1,817	2,100	-16.00%
DRB/ZA Expense/Site Visits	75	75	150	150	225	50.00%
Office Supplies	1,250	772	1,250	580	1,250	-
Software/Hardware	1,500	0	1,500	1,851	1,820	21.33%
Total Zoning Administration	70,365	66,862	78,827	74,850	83,283	5.65%
Zoning Fees & DRB Fees Collected	40,000	44,210	40,000	30,210	38,000	-5.00%
Net Zoning Administration	30,365	22,651	38,827	44,640	45,283	16.63%
PLANNING COMMISSION:						
Zoning/Planning Clerk	12,080	11,555	15,515	16,417	17,550	13.12%
Planning Asst. Benefits & Taxes	924	884	1,370	1,256	1,550	13.14%
Mapping for Planning/GIS	800	0	500	0	500	-
Legal Contingencies	500	0	1,000	2,762	1,000	-
Office Supplies	750	176	250	0	250	-
Town Plan/Zoning Updates	1,870	1,870	875	0	4,000	357.14%
Central VT Regional Planning	2,629	2,629	2,629	2,630	2,630	0.04%
Meetings/Courses	350	0	500	35	500	-
Events	0	0	0	0	500	100.00%
Software	500	0	250	0	27,802	11020.80%
Public Notices	500	1,356	1,500	566	1,500	-
Mileage	100	61	75	15	0	-100.00%
Total Planning Commission & DRB	21,003	18,532	24,464	23,681	57,782	136.19%
*Grant Money	0	0	4,589	0	0	-100.00%
Net Planning Commission & DRB	21,003	18,532	19,875	23,681	57,782	190.73%
Total Warren Planning & Zoning	91,368	85,393	103,291	98,531	141,065	36.57%
MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT:	45,317	45,317	45,317	45,317	53,962	-

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:						
Commission	0	21,438	0	37,453	0	-
Benefits & Taxes	3,000	1,640	3,000	2,865	3,000	-
Sale of Town Property Delinquent	0	0	0	0	0	-
Tax Sale Expense	0.00	0	0	0	0	-
Total Delinquent Tax Collector	3,000	23,078	3,000	40,318	3,000	-
Collections: 8% Penalties	0	49,566	0	73,602	0	-
Net Delinquent Tax Collector	3,000	-26,488	3,000	-33,284	3,000	-
1% Interest Collected on Delinquent Taxes	0	25,448	25,000	31,911	0	-100.00%
CONSERVATION COMMISSION:						
Mapping	250	26	250	0	150	-40.00%
Dues/Subscriptions/Office	100	100	100	315	100	-
Assessments & Studies/Signage	0	0	2,000	0	2,000	-
Software/Hardware	0	0	500	500	250	-50.00%
Public Notices	200	0	0	0	0	-
Blueberry Bush Maint. at Blueberry Lake	100	0	200	0	200	-
Knotweed Management	13,498	16,387	15,000	16,753	15,000	-
Knotweed Intern Benefits	437	1,180	1,350	1,124	1,350	-
Wildlife Corridor Enhancement Project	2,000	1,729	2,000	150	2,000	-
Bear Awareness			500	500	500	-
Public Meetings			600	150	600	-
Total Conservation Commission	16,585	19,422	22,500	19,492	22,150	-1.56%
*Grant Money	0	7,340	0	3,819	3,000	-
Net Conservation Commission	16,585	46,185	22,500	15,673	19,150	-14.89%
TOTAL GROSS ADMINISTRATIVE	559,082	544,603	586,545	555,524	670,683	14.34%
POSTAGE:						
Postage for Mail	5,500	4,941	5,500	4,800	5,000	-9.09%
Postage Box Rent	92	100	105	114	125	19.05%
Meter Lease	945	756	945	567	945	-
Total Postage	6,537	5,797	6,550	5,481	6,070	-7.33%
COMPUTER:						
Maintenance Contracts	7,000	9,334	8,500	8,393	21,500	152.94%
Software Support	7,000	8,055	7,000	7,036	2,500	-64.29%
Software Purchase	2,000	270	7,000	753	1,500	-78.57%
Computer Purchase	4,975	7,094	2,000	5,439	2,500	25.00%
Computer Network Support	4,500	1,916	4,975	4,259	1,500	-69.85%
Total Computer	25,475	26,669	29,475	25,881	29,500	0.08%

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
PHOTOCOPYING MACHINE:						
Photocopying Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	-
Maintenance and Lease Contracts	3,000	3,681	3,000	3,869	4,000	33.33%
Total Photocopying Machine	4,500	3,681	3,000	3,869	4,000	-
Income	3,500	3,379	3,500	2,230	3,500	-
Net Photocopying Machine	1,000	302	-500	1,639	500	-
OFFICE SUPPLIES:	7,000	6,567	7,000	5,146	6,000	-14.29%
TELEPHONE & FAX:	8,000	7,400	8,000	7,549	8,000	-
TOTAL TELEPHONE AND FAX & Office	15,000	13,967	15,000	12,694	14,000	-6.67%
Total Gross Office Costs	51,512	46,735	50,525	45,695	50,070	-0.90%
SERVICES						
FIRE DEPARTMENT:						
Remuneration	60,000	58,338	65,000	58,786	75,000	15.38%
Benefits	5,000	4,463	6,000	4,632	6,000	-
Supplies	4,500	4,534	5,000	4,390	5,000	-
Repairs and Maintenance/Not Bldg.	25,000	25,034	25,000	18,995	32,000	28.00%
Fuel	3,000	4,456	3,000	2,480	3,000	-
Fire Warden	600	600	600	600	1,200	100.00%
Contracted Services	14,000	19,593	16,000	13,328	16,000	-
Uniforms and Safety Equipment	5,000	4,921	5,000	2,880	5,000	-
Fire Hose	3,000	3,192	3,000	2,442	3,000	-
Minor Equipment	7,500	7,773	7,500	6,670	7,500	-
Radio						
Dispatch/Telephone	7,000	7,189	19,000	18,700	19,000	-
Medical Exams	0	0	0	0	0	-
Air Packs	0	0	0	0	0	-
Training	4,000	3,635	6,000	1,962	4,000	-33.33%
Administrator Supplies	1,500	1,404	2,500	2,112	2,500	-
Dues Subscriptions/Meetings	1,500	1,473	1,500	1,774	1,500	-
75th Anniversary	7,500		0	0	0	-
FD Utilities	0	0	0	1,827	3,000	-
Recruitment & Retention	0	0	0	0	2,000	-
Total Fire Department	149,100	146,606	165,100	141,579	185,700	12.48%
*Grant Money	0	0	0	0	0	-
Net Fire Department	149,100	146,606	165,100	141,579	185,700	12.48%
CEMETERY GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:	24,930	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
SEWER OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE:						
E. Warren School House Repairs	0	2,211	2,645	-	2,645	-
Engineer Inspection -E. Warren School	750	800	840	1,190	1,190	41.67%
Town Building Usage Fees	2,700	8,585	2,835	2,973	2,975	4.94%
Total Sewer Operations & Maintenance	3,450	11,596	6,320	4,163	6,810	7.75%
LAW ENFORCEMENT:						
Washington Country Patrol	32,000	21,216	43,680	27,506	43,680	-
<i>Local Highway Fines Received</i>	3,800	1,459	3,800	1,779	1,800	-52.63%
Total Washington Law Enforcement	28,200	19,758	39,880	25,727	41,880	5.02%
CONSTABLE:						
Public Safety Memberships	250	110	250	115	200	-20.00%
Public Safety Uniforms	800	783	500	74	400	-20.00%
Contracted Services	750	528	650	519	750	15.38%
Public Safety Training	750	117	400	377	500	25.00%
P.S. Equip/Supplies	1,200	889	600	141	500	-16.67%
Public Safety Mileage	750	1,724	1,400	1,326	1,700	21.43%
P.S. Patrol Hours	10,500	10,801	7,500	7,700	8,000	6.67%
Training Hours	2,300	1,800	800	567	750	-6.25%
Training Mileage	1,500	835	750	286	400	-46.67%
Payroll/Taxes	1,000	959	700	481	500	-28.57%
Total Warren Constable	19,800	18,548	13,550	11,586	13,700	1.11%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:						
EM Training	250	348	350	0	0	-100.00%
EM Mileage	300	340	350	441	500	42.86%
EM Memberships	200	195	200	0	150	-25.00%
EM Training Expense	0	0	0	350	450	100.00%
EM Hours	4,200	4,340	4,000	5,012	5,000	25.00%
EM Benefits	400	332	400	323	400	-
EM Equipment/Supplies	200	289	300	67	400	33.33%
Total Emergency Management	5,550	5,845	5,600	6,193	6,900	23.21%
LIBRARY:						
Salary	78,799	78,256	84,709	84,636	91,087	7.53%
Benefits & Taxes	67,293	57,235	74,719	65,396	80,459	7.68%
Expenditures	18,340	37,432	18,345	27,458	19,000	3.57%
Total Library	164,432	172,923	177,773	177,489	190,546	7.19%
<i>Library Grant/Friends/Contributions</i>	20,052	23,031	10,245	10,432	11,000	7.37%
Net Library	144,380	149,892	167,528	167,057	179,546	7.17%

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
HIGHWAY:						
Highway Crew Salaries	352,931	293,383	373,685	377,834	402,683	7.76%
Benefits & Taxes	158,459	121,801	170,650	160,682	183,691	7.64%
On Call Pay	11,000	13,781	11,000	11,529	12,000	9.09%
Shop Maintenance/Supplies	18,000	15,621	18,000	16,305	20,000	11.11%
Gravel	75,000	65,140	75,000	73,773	120,000	60.00%
Meetings / Subscriptions	350	0	350	-	350	-
Trainings / Education	0	0	10,000	3,900	10,000	-
Salt	105,000	98,604	115,000	131,714	125,000	8.70%
Chloride	15,000	9,188	15,000	10,350	-	-100.00%
Sand	75,000	39,176	75,000	60,040	100,000	33.33%
Paving	240,000	257,293	0	910	240,000	-
Culverts & Guardrails	32,000	14,778	32,000	5,228	32,000	-
Crack Sealing	25,500	0	25,500	-	25,500	-
Painted Line Markings	26,000	0	26,000	-	26,000	-
Cobble & Brick Maint.	0	0	7,900	7,869	7,900	-
Equipment Rentals	8,500	0	8,500	-	8,500	-
Vehicle Repair/Maintenance	40,000	70,215	55,000	64,543	75,000	36.36%
Licenses & Registration	250	65	250	855	1,000	300.00%
Fuel-Diesel	65,000	83,596	95,000	80,549	95,000	-
Other/Safety Equipment	3,000	3,003	3,000	610	3,000	-
Telephone	2,500	2,200	2,500	2,804	2,800	12.00%
Tires	12,000	12,889	12,000	16,303	20,000	66.67%
Oil	7,000	6,431	7,000	6,024	7,000	-
Fuel Tank Inspections & Repair Fees	550	425	550	783	2,500	354.55%
Grader Blades & Chains	14,000	12,016	14,000	14,377	33,000	135.71%
Contractual	16,400	6,450	44,400	29,198	16,400	-63.06%
Gasoline	200	416	400	443	500	25.00%
Park Maintenance	17,000	17,674	17,000	11,458	17,000	-
State Mandated Signs	2,000	1,136	2,000	(163)	2,000	-
Urban/Comm. Forestry	4,000	4,650	4,000	-	4,000	-
Erosion Control	35,000	17,991	35,000	42,385	45,000	28.57%
FEMA: Flat Iron	1	0	0	6750.75	0	-
Signs and Posts	0	0	3,500	2,743	3,500	-
Traffic speed Mitigation	2,500	3,868	2,500	0	2,500	-
Total Highway	1,364,141	1,171,789	1,261,685	1,139,797	1,643,824	30.29%
Bridges/Major Culverts	273,714	273,714	166,877	11,780	-	-100.00%
Total Highway & Bridges	1,637,855	1,445,503	1,428,562	1,151,577	1,643,824	15.07%
<i>Less State & Federal Highway Aid/Grants</i>						
<i>Reimbursement on fuel, sand & salt</i>	307,661	378,510	188,802	195,498	195,498	3.55%
Net Highway	1,330,194	1,066,993	1,239,760	956,079	1,448,326	16.82%

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
RECREATION:						
Mad River Stewardship Program	5,000	5,000	7,500	7,500	7,500	-
July 4th Parade	15,000	28,437	20,000	25,495	20,000	-
Mad River Valley Recreation District	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	-
Total Recreation	60,000	73,437	67,500	72,995	67,500	-
<i>Income 4th of July</i>	11,000	12,742	13,000	10,258	13,000	-
Net Recreation	49,000	60,696	54,500	62,737	54,500	-
BUILDING MAINTENANCE:						
Supplies	2,500	1,757	2,500	1,562	2,500	-
Electricity	10,000	8,585	10,000	9,148	10,000	-
Heating Oil	3,000	3,516	4,700	4,047	4,700	-
Propane Gas	16,000	21,394	17,000	23,423	25,000	47.06%
Custodial Salaries	13,020	12,970	13,020	13,320	13,720	5.38%
Custodial Benefits	0	0	0	0	0	-
Repairs and Maintenance	35,000	33,611	35,000	32,958	35,000	-
Dump Fees	3,500	2,846	3,500	3,047	3,500	-
Solid Waste Management	13,839	13,839	13,839	13,839	13,839	-
Total Building	96,859	98,518	99,559	101,345	108,259	8.74%
<i>Rental Income</i>	1,000	750	900	1,775	1,500	66.67%
Net Building Maintenance	95,859	97,768	98,659	99,570	106,759	8.21%
OTHER EXPENDITURES:						
Leased Land	2	2	2	2	2	-
Contingencies	2,500	1,072	2,500	75	2,500	-
Dogs	1,300	683	1,300	650	1,300	-
RF1-088 Wastewater Bond -8/1/2026	39,376	1,065	39,376	39,376	39,376	-
Fire Pond Bond -12/1/2025	17,158	39,376	16,447	15,842	15,900	-3.33%
Solar Array Bond -11/15/34	33,825	33,825	33,149	33,149	33,149	-
Other/Misc.	0	133	0	1,163	0	-
Solar Array Maintenance Contract	2,500	3,417	2,500	2,490	2,500	-
Water System Maintenance Fee State	4,000	2,675	4,000	1,081	4,000	-
State Tax Blueberry Lake Registration Fee	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	-
State Municipal Road Permit Tax	1,590	1,990	1,590	1,125	1,590	-
VDAT - Warren Main Street Project	0	0	0	0	0	-
Warren PTO	0	21,124	0	24,304	0	-100.00%
Village Garden Maintenance	1500	0	1,900	1,725	1,900	-
Total Other Expenditures	104,751	106,362	103,764	121,982	103,217	-0.53%
<i>National Forest Payment</i>		21,124		24,304		-
<i>Dog Fines, Brookfield, School State Payments</i>	1,000	850	1,000	500	750	-25.00%
Net Other	103,751	84,388	102,764	97,178	102,467	-0.29%

	2022	2022	2023	2023	2024	Budget
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% Increase
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS:						
Central VT Economic Dev. Corp.	780	780	780	780	780	-
Central VT Council on Aging	900	900	900	900	900	-
VT Center for Independent Living	480	480	480	480	480	-
Washington County Youth Service	250	250	250	250	250	-
Central VT Community Action(Capstone)	300	300	300	300	300	-
Warren Arts Committee	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	-
Central VT Home & Health	4,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	-
Battered Women Services (Circle)	755	755	755	755	755	-
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	200	200	200	200	200	-
Mad River Valley Senior Citizens	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	10,000	42.86%
People's Health & Wellness Clinic	500	500	500	500	500	-
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force	100	100	100	100	100	-
MRVTV 44	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400	-
Washington County Diversion Program	200	200	200	200	200	-
Green Up Vermont	100	100	100	100	100	-
Warren Historical Society	200	200	200	200	200	-
Valley Transportation	943	943	943	943	943	-
Down Street, (Voted 3/07) Land Trust	750	750	750	750	750	-
Central VT Basic Education (Voted 3/07)	600	600	600	600	600	-
Good Beginnings (voted 2010)	300	300	300	300	300	-
Family Center of Washington County Voted 3/08	500	500	500	500	500	-
Washington Cty Mental Health Vote 2017	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	-
Prevent Child Abuse (Voted 2012)	300	300	300	300	300	-
Total Special Appropriations	26,258	26,258	27,258	27,258	30,258	11.01%
INSURANCE AND TAXES:						
Insurance - Multi- Peril	36,536	35,220	38,764	41,031	42,866	10.58%
Insurance - Vehicles	19,990	18,226	21,209	21,820	22,034	3.89%
Workers Compensation/fire/constable	31,658	25,175	33,589	36,432	26,767	-20.31%
HRA Expense	40,960	30,832	43,500	34,141	43,500	-
Town Officers Liability	3,032	3,032	3,217	3,076	3,254	1.15%
Unemployment Compensation	967	968	1,026	896	1,026	-
Broker Health Insurance Fee	2,400	2,370	2,400	180	200	-91.67%
Employment Practices Liability	4,783	4,302	5,075	0	6,161	21.40%
EAP First - Fire Dept.	1,806	1,806	1,806	1,806	1,806	-
County Tax	64,512	64,512	73,153	70,099	72,360	-1.08%
Total Insurance and Taxes	206,644	186,443	223,739	209,481	219,974	-1.68%

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase
CAPITAL BUDGET:						
Highway Department Equipment	210,000	200,383	210,000	126,755	280,000	33.33%
Fire Department Equipment	100,000	65,551	130,000	165,828	130,000	-
A. Town Reappraisal	0	917	0	0	81,000	-
B. Town Mapping	0	0	0	0	0	-
Conservation Fund	20,000	50,044	20,000	0	20,000	-
Bridge Repairs	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	25,000	66.67%
Road Paving	240,000	605,107	480,000	216,753	240,000	-50.00%
Fire Protection/Sand Pipe	10,000	0	10,000	0	12,500	25.00%
Fire fighter training & Personal Equipment	30,000	36,593	30,000	34,539	30,000	-
Library Building Improvement Fund	5,000	5,908	5,000	0	5,000	-
Town Building Renovations	25,000	33,582	25,000	5,188	60,000	140.00%
Town Improvements	25,000	60,639	25,000	36,008	50,000	100.00%
Town Planning & Development	55,000	57,156	55,000	15,140	55,000	-
Warren Wastewater	17,000	14,908	10,000	0	11,000	-
Warren Cemetery	5,000	13,116	10,000	0	10,000	-
Blueberry Dam & Covered Bridge	75,000	38,067	100,000	293,070	25,000	-75.00%
Warren Dept. of Public Safety Major Equip	2,000	6,812	2,000	1,549	2,000	-
Total Capital Budget	834,000	1,203,783	1,127,000	894,830	1,036,500	-8.03%
Total Town Gross Expenditures	3,976,224	4,133,377	4,151,475	3,574,203	4,402,621	6.05%
Total Revenue not including Taxes	439,013	571,225	346,936	510,536	374,148	7.84%
NET TOWN EXPENDITURES	3,537,211	3,562,152	3,804,539	3,063,667	4,028,473	5.89%
Total wages	844,539	787,599	889,917	863,551	953,425	7.14%
TOTAL GROSS SERVICES	459,262	475,172	504,523	466,512	539,836	7.00%

WARREN DECENTRALIZED WASTEWATER SYSTEM REPORT

The system has an uncommitted reserve of which is 5,834 GPD. Reserved as follows:

- First Priority: Reserved 2,450 GPD-(10 residential living units within the service area for failed systems).
- Second Priority: Residential, commercial, institutional and industrial facilities within the service area.
- Third Priority: New applicants within the service area.

The state required annual engineering inspection happens every April and all repairs and tank pump outs are completed per the engineer's report. Things that happen this past year were:

- Two sections of the 50,000-gallon baffled septic tank had solids pumped out and hauled.
- The Flat Iron, Village, and Luce Pierce municipal pump stations had solids pumped out and hauled.
- Control panel batteries were replaced in the Flat Iron, Village, and Luce Pierce municipal pump stations.
- A new heater unit was installed in the Luce Pierce municipal pump station control panel.

The system and operator continue to reliably provide good service. We are proactively replacing corroded brass and cast-iron valves in manhole vault structures along the collection system force-main. Starting in 2023, one or two (of the eighteen total) pipe / valve structures are chosen each year for replacement. Additional continued and future work also includes as needed replacement of electrical and controls component at the town's 35 pump stations.

WHAT MAINTENANCE DOES THE TOWN OF WARREN PERFORM?

The Town maintains 32 residential septic tank effluent pump (STEP) systems. As the homeowner, you are not responsible for most maintenance. The Town contracts Simon Operation Services (SOS) the operate and perform the operation and maintenance (O&M) services. The O&M services to be performed on the STEP system include:

1. April / May and then (if necessary) in September / October
 - a. Inspect and clean (if necessary) the effluent filter(s)
 - b. Check the pump controls
 - c. Observe the condition of all STEP system elements
2. Once per year: April / May
 - a. Measure the thickness of the septic sludge and scum layers
 - b. The Town will pump-out the STEP tank chambers as necessary
 - i. The Town pays for the tank pump-out

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU HEAR THE ALARM HORN?

The control panel detects alert conditions at the STEP system and notifies the operator directly.

1. The control panel uses a modem to dial out the alert through your telecom line. The modem dials an 800 number to a server center so there are not telephone charges to you.
2. The server center emails the operator who will respond to the alert. The alert condition will also initiate an alert audible and flashing light on the control panel. Please call the operator cell phone (see below) if the alarm audibles and alarm light flashes.
3. If there is no electrical power to the panel there will be NO notifications and NO alert sound / flash. Please check your home's electrical panel(s) to make sure breakers aren't tripped after storms and power outages.

IF YOU HEAR THE ALARM PLEASE CALL IN THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE:

1. Operator office telephone: 888 767-1885 (Mon – Fri 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
2. Operator cell phone: 802-793-5633
3. Operator emergency pager: 802-741-2347 (Emergencies only)

After calling the operator, you can silence the alarm horn by pressing the red button on the front of the control panel. This will only silence the alarm for a few hours.

If you are not successful contacting the operator after a local alert using the cell and pager, please contact a member of the Select Board and notify them of your alert.

Your STEP system is designed to store approximately 1 day of wastewater flows after a high-level alert condition. **You should act promptly and call the operator when you hear your local alert**, AND minimize any water usage during this period, to reduce wastewater flows to the STEP tank.

DO's and DON'TS

DO'S:

1. Only flush / drain normal household waste down your wastewater piping. This means only bodily solids / fluids waste and toilet paper.
2. Mow and only shovel snow (no plowing near or on lids) **around** the access covers to your STEP tank. Vehicles and heavy equipment are not to be driven over the covers of the tanks and you must be careful with mower and snow blades as they can easily break the plastic covers and risers.
3. Keep tank lid covers and access to covers clear for maintenance by the operator.
4. Check to see if the circuit breaker(s) to the system was tripped after power outage and storms.

DON'TS:

1. Flush / drain paints, solvents, or other chemicals down your wastewater piping.
2. Flush / drain any "septic safe" wipes, grease, nylons, dental floss and anything else that won't break down.
3. Open the control panel that controls your STEP system. The local alarm audible silence button is on the outside of the panel. There is no reason for you to access the inside of the panel. Call the Operator.
4. Trip or shut off the breakers that energize the STEP system.
5. Open the tank lid covers to the STEP system.
6. Don't obstruct access onto tank lids. For example: snow plowed snow / ice pile, yard equipment, landscaped features, pots, mulch, etc.
7. If your tank is raised above the grass / grade don't raise the soil, plantings and mulch bank around it. The reason it was raised was to keep dirt, roots, and debris out of the tank. In many cases, this may cause your pump to run much more often which would increase your electric bill.

Questions regarding your system, additional allocation questions, can be answered by the Town Administrator and Operator.

WARREN WASTEWATER BUDGET 2024

	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	Budget % Increase 2023/2024
Contract Operations								
Regular & Scheduled Maintenance	31,720	32,775	32,820	30,485	32,820	37,748	38,300	16.70%
Estimated Unscheduled Main & Repairs	2,459	10,560	5,500	1,872	5,500	7,855	8,000	-
Electrical	0	4,153	4,000	4,200	4,000	918	4,000	-
Individual Septic Tank Pumping	3,570	4,330	6,500	4,100	6,500	6,124	6,500	-
Effluent Sampling	600	1,200	900	900	900	300	900	-
Annual System Inspection	3,908	2,985	3,850	4,000	4,200	4,200	4,200	-
Insurance	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	-
Training/Software Upgrades	300	300	300	300	300	109	300	-
Miscellaneous Repair	4,484	1,486	2,500	6,222	3,500	1,339	3,500	-
Telephone	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	-
Vericomm Monitoring System Main. Fee	2,799	2,947	3,000	2,691	3,000	3,078	3,100	3.33%
Administration/Billing/Meter Benefits	8,150	8,250	8,745	8,745	9,401	9,401	5,760	-38.73%
Annual Operating Fee/Sewer Expansion	623	631	700	669	700	719	0	-100.00%
IDP Aquatic Stream Sampling	873	873	873	873	874	873	874	0.06%
Surface Water Investigation Nutrient Loading					5,200	4,922	5,200	0.00%
Brooks Field Storm Water Bank Fees/Service Charge					4,950	518	600	-87.88%
					0	4,824	5,000	-
Total	60,586	71,590	70,788	66,157	72,794	84,028	87,334	19.97%
Capital Maint. Set-A-Side Accounts								
Brooks Field Septic Tank Cleaning	4,300	4,300	4,300	9,400	4,300	9,100	4,300	-
Capital Replacement - Pumps (10)	8,000	15,449	8,000	24,190	12,000	12,000	12,000	-
Total	12,300	19,749	12,300	33,590	16,300	21,100	16,300	-

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Dogs: Please remember that all dogs must be licensed on or before April 1st 2024. Fees are \$9.00 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$13.00 for intact dogs. After April 1st, a 50% penalty is added. Of that license fee, \$5.00 goes to the State of Vermont for a Spay and Neutering program and rabies control program. Dogs must have a current rabies vaccination in order to be registered. Rabies vaccinations are valid for 1 year for puppies and 3 years for dogs over 1 year dog. The Town of Warren has a dog ordinance. If you would like a copy, please call our office or visit our website www.warrenvt.org. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact my office at 496-5224. We have 177 dogs registered; I feel there are many more who are not registered. A dog owner doesn't realize the value of the registration until the dog is missing. Having a tag on your dog could mean that if it is lost it could be returned to you much faster.

Vital Records 2023: Deaths = 13, Births = 9 and Civil Marriages = 32

The Town would like to congratulate the 32 couples who chose Warren for their marriage site, best wishes to you all!

We would also like to welcome our newest little residents, Lily Grace Morris, Zula Alexandra Mikell, Giovanniello, Maeve James Putnam, George Moss Ronei, Oliver Bradley Booher, Liam Axel Trujillo Torres, Emeric Daniel Swann, and David Jovanovski. Congratulations to the proud parents!

We also must bid a fond farewell to Carol Groom, Mary Rodgers, Kirk Westover, Christopher Seiler, June Sardi, Glenn Johnson, Bonnie Cook, Brian von Glahn, Charles Jerd, Nancy Armstrong, Jean Block, Marlene Defreest, Wayne Kathan, and Virginia Roth.

Reta Goss, Retired Town Clerk

Brent Adams - Assistant Town Clerk

WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION REPORT

2023 was another successful year at the Warren Public Library. Our programs and offerings continued to grow and serve the greater Warren Community in response to the needs and desires of our patrons.

Children's programs continue to be incredibly popular - so popular that we've had to add volunteer assistants to help Amanda out for Takeover Tuesdays. In 2023 we provided: free after school programs including cooking, art, STEM, and book clubs; a Dungeons and Dragons campaign; a multi-week solar science series in preparation for the April 2024 total solar eclipse; a Stuffie Sleepover hosted by Harwood National Honor Society volunteers; and a stop-motion animation workshop with Warren resident and stop-motion animation artist Hayley Morris.

In adult programming, we love to read and talk about books. Our summer book club series focused on banned books. This fall we partnered with Hannah's House and the Warren United Church for a book discussion focusing on parenting LGBTQ+ children. Local Author evening with Mary Kathleen Mehuron and Lee Hall Delfausse highlighted talent from the valley and local author Erika Nichols-Frazer joined us for a discussion of her book *Feed Me*. The monthly cookbook club continues to be well-attended and we even had a guest appearance by cookbook author Tracey Medeiros in August.

Other popular programming included a jigsaw puzzle tournament, a decorative mending workshop, cooking demos, monthly pub trivia at Déco Restaurant, and so much more. The Peeps® Diorama Contest and Halloween under the tent were amazing ways to celebrate with all ages. We are grateful for our continued partnership with our sister libraries in the Mad River Valley as it allows us to offer a wider variety of programs.

In response to changing needs, this year we switched to an online subscription to the Wall Street Journal allowing all patrons to access the paper from anywhere.

In 2023 our Strategic Planning Committee crafted the Warren Public Library Strategic Plan 2023-2028 to guide us through the next several years. We would like to thank all the community members who shared their thoughts on the library and our community as part of our strategic planning process. Whether it was attending a Tea with a Trustee, having a one-on-one conversation with a committee member, or filling out our survey, your thoughts and opinions were invaluable in showing us what our community needs and how the Warren Public Library can better serve the community. The complete Strategic Plan can be viewed on our website.

As always, we are indebted to the volunteers who contribute many hours staffing our circulation desk and keeping the library humming in various ways. A huge thanks is due to our team of Ellen Canepa, Jack Garvin, Melissa Grey, Denise Gumper, Linda Jones, Carrie Kahle, Kris Korman, Barbara Mason, Loretta Menkes, Fran Plewak, Becky Starks, and Sue Stoehr. We welcome our newest volunteers: Jenni Carpenter, Judy Hourihan, and Jennifer Kempf. Jeanne Hullett continued on as our staff Circulation Desk assistant. Thanks as well to our special projects and event volunteers covering our outdoor tent installation, Halloween festivities, IT issues, programs, StoryWalk® installation, and more. Their expertise and willingness to pitch in was much appreciated. These volunteers include: Drew Adamczyk, Susan Snider; Marci Lutsky, Jordan Schaefer, Dayna and Bob Lisaius, Rowan Clough, Peter Brooks, Carl Lobel, Debbie and Nathan Wilson, and members of the Harwood National Honor Society.

We are grateful for the generous funding from the Friends of the Warren Library for ongoing collection purchases and our popular children's programs.

With pride and gratitude, we are The Trustees of *your* Warren Public Library. Respectfully, Ellen Kucera, Chair; David Ellison, Treasurer; Karen Cingiser, Secretary; Susan Cummisky, Alex Maclay, Linda Tyler



OUR MISSION

The Warren Public Library creates and fosters community connections by providing engaging and accessible programs, resources, and spaces that meet evolving community needs to enhance lifelong learning and enrichment for all.

1 ENVIRONMENT

GOAL: Provide a welcoming and accessible environment for all to engage with the resources and offerings of the library.



2 EXPERIENCES

GOAL: Create and facilitate diverse and relevant experiences that engage and connect, educate, and inspire community members of all ages and backgrounds.

3 COLLECTIONS

GOAL: Provide a diverse, relevant, and thoughtful range of physical and digital resources, aimed at fostering lifelong learning and growth with opportunities to engage with new ideas and experiences.



4 CONNECTIONS

GOAL: To continue to work collaboratively with the Mad River Valley Libraries, the Town of Warren, and other local organizations to serve our community.



WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION BUDGET

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Proposed
Funds Received			
Town of Warren Approved/Requested	177,773	167,531	190,546
State Grants	870	936	950
Restricted Grants (WBL)	0	500	0
Reimbursements - Library Account	1,400	1,040	1,400
Reimbursements - Friends	7,975	7,492	8,660
Reimbursements - Other	0	0	0
TOTAL FUNDING	188,018	177,498	201,556
Expenditures			
Payroll			
Librarian	47,452	47,452	51,025
Staff	37,257	37,184	40,062
TOTAL PAYROLL	84,709	84,636	91,087
Benefits	74,719	65,397	80,459
SUBTOTAL SALARY & BENEFITS	159,428	150,032	171,546
Books - Town	7,400	7,184	7,700
Patron Request Books - Friends	1,000	616	1,000
Replacement Materials - Friends	500	414	500
Periodicals - Town	600	600	600
Periodicals - Friends	1,000	970	750
Digital Collection - Town	1,500	1,564	1,500
Digital Collection - Friends	550	661	600
Audiobooks - Town	730	470	730
Audiobooks & DVDs - Friends	2,630	1,944	1,530
Toys and Games	100	100	150
Programs - Library Account	1,400	1,040	1,400
Children's Programs and Supplies - Friends	1,350	976	1,350
Book Discussion Programs - Friends	400	230	400
Telephone	2,340	2,369	2,360
P.O. Box & Courier	1,270	1,269	1,450
Supplies	940	949	1,000
Technology - Equipment & Services	1,750	1,415	1,795
Repairs and Maintenance	600	0	600
Professional Development & Memberships - Town	815	848	815
Professional Development - Friends	300	149	1,000
Miscellaneous - Town	300	731	300
Miscellaneous - Friends	245	1,229	1,530
SUBTOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES - TOWN	18,345	17,499	19,000
SPECIAL PROJECTS EXPENSES (WBL)	500	500	0
SUBTOTAL GRANTS IN TOWN ACCOUNT	870	871	950
SUBTOTAL FRIENDS	7,975	7,189	8,660
SUBTOTAL LIBRARY ACCT	1,400	1,040	1,400
TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES	177,773	167,531	190,546
TOTAL LIBRARY BUDGET	188,518	177,131	201,556

WARREN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This year the Warren Historical Society has continued its dormancy due to lack of volunteers and members. The barn has been opened for those that have shown an interest in seeing the many artifacts contained there. As many of you, know the Blair Barn houses examples of Warren's history when it was a small hamlet formed along the Mad River with many bustling lumber mills and farms. In the early days, development focused on agriculture, timber cutting and small-powered industry. The Mad River Valley has several towns but Warren had the most developed mill economy. The Town was chartered in 1789 by John Throop and 67 associates.

The Warren Historical Society has several lockable display cases at the Warren Town Hall that can house articles on loan or gifted to the Warren Historical Society. We would love to share these with the community, if you have any.

We did lose a vital member to the Historical Society this year. Leon Bruno was such an asset to our community and played a pivotal role in reviving the Warren Historical Society. We would like to thank Leon and his wife Ellen for the many years of service they both contributed to the Historical Society.

We are, at this point, lacking members to pursue the projects that are lined up. If you have an interest in the history of Warren or just love to organize, you are needed. Please contact a town employee if you have this interest.

WARREN LISTERS REPORT

The real estate market remained strong and healthy in Warren as we continued to witness aggressive market conditions and excessive sales prices for home, condos and vacant land. Presently, inventory levels still remain at all-time lows across all three markets. 2023 also continued to be quite busy with regard to permits for new house construction and additions/renovations of existing homes.

Our CLA (common level of appraisal) which the state uses to equalize grand list differences between towns is 73.46 % which means that the average sale price last year was 26.54% higher than we had properties assessed for. The real estate market and low inventory continues to promote higher sales prices as demand for real estate has far exceeded supply. This past year the property tax rate for residents was \$1.9736 and \$1.8935 for non-residents. Our local rate was \$0.393 which pays for our roads and services. A town wide reappraisal will commence in July 2024 and will take approximately two years to complete. We have contracted with a third-party appraisal company to assist us with this task. The last appraisal for all Warren properties was in 2008.

Daily activity in our Lister's office this year was constant. Whether assisting real estate agents, appraisers or answering property owner's questions, our goal is to provide the best possible service that we can. We make every effort to return phone calls promptly as well as emails. Once again, this past summer, we continued our project whose purpose was to analyze market trends among the 40 condominium complexes located in Warren. We spent time at a number of complexes that had not been visited in years. We continue to update our in-house database that comprises each condo complex depicting current MLS listings assessed values, sales dates and 10 years of sales data by complex.

As always, we welcome everyone's questions and concerns. If you feel your assessment is incorrect, please contact us in the spring and not after you get your tax bill. By the time the bills are printed, our books have been closed for the year and there is very little we can do. Call or stop in when the weather starts to get good and we are happy to go over your cost card and visit your property if you wish so that there are no surprises when you get your tax bill. We thank you for your support and understanding.

Sandra Brodeur

Mike Kelley

Patti Begin

WARREN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

In 2023, the Warren Volunteer Fire Department responded to 127 calls.

The breakdown of the incidents are as follows:

Incident Type	#	% of Total
Fires (includes structure, trash, vehicle, brush)	20	15.7%
Motor Vehicle Accident	24	18.9%
Electrical/Power Line	12	9.4%
Gas/Carbon Monoxide	17	13.4%
Misc. (Public Serv Call, Good Intent, Water)	6	4.7%
Non-Malicious False Alarms	39	30.7%
Cancelled	9	7.1%
TOTAL	127	

The Warren Vol. Fire Department has seen a consistent increase in call volume over the past number of years. 2023 saw an increase of 22% over the previous year, which is the highest increase in the department history,

As a group we totaled over 1,550 hours of training both internally and externally. Two members completed Firefighter I, which is a 180-hour extensive course. Overall, Warren Vol. Fire Department members contributed over 3,200 incidents, training, meeting and administrative hours. We had many members who volunteered well over 400 hours individually in support of our community.

The department had one-member leave after five years, while gaining two new members, all of whom have already shown great dedication and drive to making our department better. The Warren Vol. Fire Department is always looking for new members who are interested in joining our great team and are actively accepting applications.

The Warren Vol. Fire Dept, Warren Dept of Public Safety, MRVAS, VSP and the Sheriff's Department urge everyone to put up 911 addresses, ensuring the sign can be readily seen and reflective from the road to assist 1st responders helping those in need.

The Warren Vol. Fire Department also encourages all homeowners, renters and business owners to check that they have both smoke and carbon monoxide ("CO") alarms that are properly functioning. These alarms are a very cost-effective way to protect your family and property from unexpected fire and CO emergency situations.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Campbell, Chief
Chad Koenig, Assistant Chief
Jared Alvord, Assistant Chief
Lucas Van Vught, Captain
Zac Putnam, Captain
Spencer King, Lieutenant
Siemen Smidt, Lieutenant

WARREN ARTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Annual Report of the Warren Arts Committee 2023

The Warren Arts Committee was established in 1987 when the Town of Warren voted to allocate funds to support the Arts. Warren is a caring town and supporting arts and music is a prime example of how the residents' care.

Each year fine musical or arts events are offered free or for a reasonable ticket price thanks to the funding that the Committee receives. We are proud to have carried out our mission for 36 years in Warren. As always, suggestions from our residents for future events are encouraged and welcomed. Email warrenarts@madriver.com.

Warren Arts Committee contributed funding for the following events in 2023:

MRV Arts Meriele Clapp Retrospective art exhibit	January 2023
Phantom Theater summer performances	Summer 2023
Warren 4 th of July Music performances	July 2023
Scragg Mountain Music	October 2023

Along with generous individual community donors, The Warren Arts Committee helped to fund the annual free concert at the Warren United Church on December 14, 2023. The VSO Brass Quintet and Counterpoint singers once again presented a well-received and spirited program to a full house.

The Committee is a member of the Vermont Arts Council. The Warren Arts Committee thanks the Select Board for its continued support. Volunteer workers allow the Committee to keep expenses at a minimum. There is no paid staff.

Many of those in the Warren Community are aware how important Virginia Roth was to our town. Her love for the music and arts showed with her dedication to the Warren Arts Committee. She helped initiate it and ran it seamlessly for 36 years. What joy she brought to many of us. She will be extremely missed.

Funds received: \$2500.00 Expenses: \$4800.00

Respectively submitted: Dayna Lisaius, Warren Arts Committee member

WARREN CEMETERY REPORT

Received from the Town of Warren

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Proposed
All totals	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000

Other Funds Used:

Burial Income	1,600
Grave Sites	2,520
Interest Income	3
Cap Gain Distributions	902
Dividend Income	2,140
Net gain on sales of securities	1,580
Total Income	33,745

Expenses:

Bank Fees	36
Corner Stones	890
Flags/Grave Markers	847
Flowers & bushes	296
Investment fees	1,144
Legal	1,765
Repairs	4,000
Subcontract Labor	25,000
Supplies	655
Net loss on sales of securities	6,433
Total Expense	41,066

Increase (Decrease) in Balances \$ (7,321)

	12/31/2023	12/31/2022
Assets		
TD Bank Checking	\$ 1,977	\$ 6,308
Passport Money Market	955	950
Investments (EJ) at cost	77,752	80,747
	\$ 80,684	\$ 88,005

Submitted by Michele A Eid, Treasurer,
Warren Cemetery Commission

WARREN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Jeff Campbell – jcampbell@warrenvt.org
emergency phone (911 or 229-9191)
non-emergency phone (496-2709 x7 or 802-793-6115)

The Warren Department of Public Safety is made up to include Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Town Health Officer and Dog Warden services, to provide a more unified group. Our law enforcement officer received over **60** hours of training. The state of Vermont requires every officer, full or part-time to receive a minimum of 36 hours of training. These trainings include firearms training, traffic enforcements, domestic violence, dealing with children of domestic violence, mental illness, incident command, active shooters in schools and the workplace, continued basic first aid & CPR, fair and bias free policing and more. Police education and training is essential to maintaining professional policing and is mandated by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council (VCJTC). It should be kept in mind that Constables are Certified Police Officers.

In the calendar year of 2023, the Officers had over **250** patrol and response hours. Officers responded to over **35** emergency and non-emergency situations such as; 911 hang-ups, back-up to the Vermont State Police and the Sheriff's Department, domestic violence, suicides, mental health issues, burglaries, DUI stops, traffic accidents, noise and dog complaints, wellness checks, wildlife complaints and parking issues at Warren Falls. Warren DPS responded to numerous incidents of people in mental crises. In some cases, I have had the lead in dealing with these individuals.

The Warren Department of Public Safety would like to thank everyone for doing their part to help keep themselves and the rest of the community safe during the pandemic.

The Emergency Management role stayed extremely busy during 2023 with the numerous flooding, potential flooding and wind events that occurred throughout the year. As always, residents are encouraged to sign up for VT Alerts. VT Alerts is the state's notification system for emergencies, Amber Alerts, weather and road conditions. The site has improved it's functionality with a new look, and a smartphone app. If you have signed up in the past, you will need to re-register within the new system as there have been numerous changes with the new platform.

The Warren Department of Public Safety, Warren Fire Department, MRVAS, VSP and the Sheriff's Department urge everyone to put up reflective 911 addresses and insure they can be readily seen from the road so that they can assist 1st responders get to friends and neighbors in need.

Vermont 2-1-1 is the number to dial to find out about hundreds of important community resources, like emergency food and shelter, disability services, counseling, senior services, health care, child care, drug and alcohol programs, legal assistance, transportation agencies, educational and volunteer opportunities, and much more.

Crime Statistics for Warren in 2023

Mental Health Assistance	5	Agency Assist	5	Burglary	4
Larceny, All	5	Service of APO	6	Missing Person	2
DUI (VSP Only)	1	Death Investigation	5	Suspicious	19
Motor Vehicle Complaint	16	Welfare Check	4	Family Disturbances	1
Motor Vehicle Crashes	38	Alarms	38	Citizen Disputes	6
Citizen Assist	17	Information Call Only	20	All other MISC.	42

TOTAL INCIDENTS: **234**

WARREN PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

The Planning Commission's primary mission under Vermont law is to review and update the Town Plan and the Zoning Bylaws (i.e., the Land Use and Development Regulations, AKA the LUDRs). The Planning Commission must periodically update the Town Plan and the LUDRS to ensure they are current and in conformity with Vermont statutes and regulations. This Commission makes recommendations for changes within these same documents, which are then passed on to the Town Board of Select People for their review and enactment. It is through this process that the Warren Planning Commission guides the vision of future development and community life in Warren.

The year 2023 started with lively discussion about the siting of cell towers. A group of concerned citizens presented a list of requested changes to the draft LUDRs related to cell towers. The Planning Commission, together with the Select Board spent considerable time reviewing and discussing cell tower siting and regulation with the public. A number of the requested changes are being considered for incorporation into the updated regulations.

Following the Selectboard vote to reject the initial draft of the LUDRS in April 2023, the Selectboard has continued to meet to review and suggest enhancements to the current draft of the LUDRS. The Planning Commission looks forward to resuming its project of updating the LUDRs in 2024.

In the meantime, the Planning Commission developed a list of its priorities for the coming year and created subcommittees to focus on each priority. The priorities identified by the Planning Commission comprise:

- adoption of the LUDRs
- relocating the town garage, when the opportunity exists to do so
- developing strategies for increasing the supply of workforce housing and, more generally, addressing the housing crisis in Warren
- understanding the impacts of short-term rentals on housing, quality of life, and health and safety, and recommending a short-term rental registration platform for the Town
- strategies for improving communications within Town government and, most importantly, with the public;
- and proactively describing an overall "vision" of the Village, the Town as a whole, and the Town's relationship to the Valley, leading to a upcoming town charrette to engage community members and gather public input.

These Subcommittees continue to gather and present information at PC meetings, meet quarterly with the Select Board and gather public input. Along with the priorities mentioned above, the PC was also very involved with the siting of a pavilion on the Town Green.

In June of 2023 the PC welcomed the addition of new member Adam Zawistowski. Adam's time is primarily dedicated to a design/build venture with his partner. Additionally, he DJs at our local radio station, WMRW, is part of a local bocce league, and coaches a Freestyle Ski Team at Sugarbush. We welcome his enthusiasm and creativity to the Planning Commission.

Anyone interested in being part of the Warren Planning Commission should contact us at planning@warrenvt.org. The Planning Commission meets at 7:30 p.m., on the second and fourth Monday of the month at the Municipal Building. We encourage people to attend any of our meetings or contact any of our members with your comments, ideas and concerns. The Warren Town Plan and the Warren Land Use and Development Regulations as well the meeting agendas and minutes are available on the town's web site at <http://www.warrenvt.org/>.

Dan Raddock, Chair

Camilla Behn, Vice Chair

Jim Sanford

J. Michael Bridgewater

Jennifer Faillace

Macon Phillips

Adam Zawistowski

WARREN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD & ZONING ADMIN REPORT

The Development Review Board [DRB] held 18 meetings this year and reviewed 16 applications. The Board considered and approved

- * 1 Subdivision (3-lot)
- * 1 Building Envelope amendment
- * 6 Steep Slope reviews
- * 1 Forest Reserve District review
- * 1 Setback waiver
- * 1 Resource Protection District review
- * 2 Change of Use
- * 1 Flood Hazard Area/Fluvial Erosion Overlay review
- * 1 Appeal of Landscaping plan
- * 2 Accessory Dwelling reviews

The Development Review Board meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month on an “as need” basis at the Warren Municipal Building. Fees acquired by the DRB totaled \$5,625.00. More information [minutes, agendas, decisions] can be found on the town webpage at: <http://www.warrenvt.org>.

DRB Members:

Peter Monte, Chair

Jeff Schoellkopf, Vice Chair

Chris Behn

Devin Corrigan

Virginia Roth

Robert Kaufmann (alternate)

Megan Moffroid (alternate)

Don Swain (alternate)

Chris Noone (alternate)

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

A total of 57 permits consisting of the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| * 14 new residential builds | * 5 residential additions |
| * 4 accessory dwellings | * 5 carports |
| * 12 porch additions/rebuilds | * 1 Agriculture structure |
| * 1 solar array | * 7 barn/garages |
| * 3 renovations | * 1 demolition |
| * 2 storage structures | * 2 renewals |

Zoning fees for 2023 totaled \$30,210.45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth V. Robbins

Zoning Administrator/Planning Coordinator/e911

Town of Warren

802-496-5291

planning@warrenvt.org

WARREN CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

Warren Conservation Commission was constituted to help identify and protect the Town's natural heritage. The Conservation Reserve Fund was established to help conserve parcels of land for their recreational, aesthetic, and wildlife values. The current focus of the Commission is to identify and protect sensitive wildlife habitat/corridors and key natural resource heritage areas. WCC has also worked toward reducing infestations of Knotweed, a highly successful invasive plant that has reduced biodiversity wherever it grows.

Like virtually all ecosystems on earth, the forests and waterways of Warren are experiencing significant stress primarily caused by Human created changes to the environment. Climate change, forest fragmentation, invasive species, pollutants including silt and salt runoff, plastics and other exotic hydrocarbons, and certain agricultural chemicals are the primary causes for ecosystem disruption. Even here, with all the protected lands, we have and a widely-supported conservation ethic, it is not an exaggeration to say Nature is in trouble. In one sense, we are failing Nature. We are not alone in this failure, but the failure is surely ours.

The WCC believes we all can be better stewards and, toward this end, we want to help the Town understand, manage and protect this valuable Town asset.

Supporting the Planning Commission

The Conservation Commission assisted the Planning Commission on an update of the Zoning Regulations and supports the vision embraced by the Revised Land Use Development Regulations. The Commission provided data and findings from the Town's natural heritage analyses to support the revised zoning regulations. That information is a valuable data set for zoning considerations, development plans and landowner understanding. This public information has been shared widely and in 2023 it will be more easily found on the new Conservation Commission website.  <https://conservation.warrenvt.org>

Conservation and Recreation Visioning (CRV)

The Mad River Valley has engaged in the Conservation and Recreation Visioning (CRV) program as part of the Vermont Outdoor Recreation and Economic Collaboration (VOREC) grant. The CRV is divided into two working groups, the Trails and Recreation Working Group (TRWG) and the Environmental Integrity Working Group (EIWG). These groups have been meeting about once a month for the past year. The WCC has two active representatives serving on the EIWG. The CRV sponsored several community meetings during 2023 to both inform and to hear from the public on how best to develop and enhance recreational trails in the MRV while safeguarding our natural heritage. A final report of recommendations will be made by the end of 2024. Recreational trails are an important part of our community's cultural and economic life, but have also been shown to be disruptive to wildlife. The work of the CRV is to make recommendations that balance these two competing goals.

MRV Bear Initiative

In 2023 the Mad River Valley Bear Initiative continued its goals of educating residents and visitors alike in improving the public's perception of our neighbors, the American black bear (*Ursus Americanus*) through speaking engagements, (Ben Kilham, a famous rehabilitator of injured, orphaned and abandoned black bear cubs in Lyme, New Hampshire), sponsoring the 'Mad River Valley Great Amazing Bear Story Contest', hosting

tables at the Waitsfield Farmers Markets and the Fall Fairs. Many articles on bears were written for the Valley Reporter and Front Porch Forum. The Bear Initiative continued its collaboration in helping host the "Living with Bears in the MRV" online information center.

Knotweed Control

In 2023 the Warren Conservation Commission continued with our work to control Japanese Knotweed in our Town. This was our 5th year in a row and we are clearly seeing the results of our efforts. The continued diligence is by far the most important aspect of our work. And we thank our friends and neighbors in the Town for their continuing support.

Our team of volunteers this year was supported by 8 interns from UVM Rubenstein School. The interns worked two days a week for Warren and the rest of the week for the Knotweed Control work in Waitsfield and Fayston. The tri-town cooperation and inherent watershed approach to knotweed acknowledges that regional cooperation is vital to long term success as Knotweed and other invasives know no political boundaries.

In 2023 we were also funded by the US Forest Service to work on Knotweed control on Forest Service lands within Warren. This contract funding will extend until the end of 2025. Warren, along with Waitsfield and Fayston, have won a two-year cost share grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Project for knotweed control and flood plain restoration which will begin this coming year.

Wildlife Corridor Protection and Enhancement

In 2023 the CC held three Bio-Diversity education events in cooperation with the Tri-Town Conservation Commissions (Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston). We also worked with local landowners on their wildlife management and conservation of the wildlife habitats and corridors on their lands.

Warren Conservation Fund

We would encourage the Town of Warren to continue to strengthen its commitment to the Warren Conservation Fund, which allows the Town from time to time to conserve land that merits protection and supports the Town Plan's conservation goals. We are proposing the Town maintain the annual contribution of \$50,000 this year. With increased pressure from new and pending development, it is important to be able to protect critical natural heritage assets, which are at risk.

We are currently supporting an effort to protect 52 acres south of Roxbury Gap by adding it to Roxbury State Forest. The permanent conservation of this property would connect two contiguous habitats, protects a riparian area and a known bear/general wildlife corridor, and is adjacent to a section of Roxbury Mountain Road that has high wildlife crossing value. Adding this property to Roxbury State Forest will keep this property as natural forest, help with flood resiliency, climate resiliency and carbon sequestration, and will secure permanent public access for hiking, backcountry skiing and hunting. The WCC is recommending that \$57,000 from the Warren Conservation Fund be used for the permanent protection of this land, which will be leveraged by a donation of \$343,000 in land value from the landowners. Associated costs will be covered by the federal Forest Legacy program.

Respectfully submitted, Kate Wanner, George Schenk, Carolyn Schipa, Jim Edgcomb, Rocky Bleier, Damon Reed, Amy Polaczyk, and Jito Coleman, Chairman

WARNING & MINUTES FROM 2023 TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Warren are hereby notified that Vermont now has same day voter registration. Eligible residents will be able to register to vote on any day up to and including Election Day during the hours the polls are open. Legal voters of the Town of Warren may request absentee ballots for Australian ballot at the Town Clerk's office until Monday March 6, 2023 until 4 PM. Any authorized person may apply for an absentee ballot on behalf of an absentee voter.

The residents of the Town of Warren who are legal voters in the town are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Warren Elementary School in the Town of Warren on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 4:00 PM in the afternoon to act upon the following matters:

Moderator, Doug Bergstein, called the meeting to order and released the floor to Vermont State Representative Kari Dolan. Ms. Dolan gave an overview of the current activities in the legislature.

Mr. Bergstein read the Town Report dedication to Laurie Jones. Laurie was the Warren Elementary School secretary and administrative assistant for 27 years as well as dedicating her time to many other community boards.

Article 1. Shall the Town vote a budget of \$4,128,677.00 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town including the capital expenditures and to authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?

Motion was made and seconded to move article 1. Robert Ackland of the Warren Selectboard moved to amend the budget amount to \$4,151,587.00. He stated that \$500 for Bear Awareness and \$600 for Public Meetings should be added to the Conservation Commission budget. The Photocopy budget shows a net amount of -\$500 and the correct amount should be \$3000. There was also a formula error in the Delinquent Tax collection interest. Motion to approve Article 1 as amended was made and seconded. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 2. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to borrow money to pay current expenses and debts of the Town in anticipation of the collection of taxes for that purpose?

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 2 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 3. Shall the Town vote its current taxes into the hands of the Town Treasurer?

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 3 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 4. Shall the Town have its taxes of real and personal property billed July 15, taxes due August 15, delinquent after November 15, with no discount?

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 4 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 5. Shall the Town vote its Green Mountain National Forest money go to the Warren PTO?

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 5 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 6. Shall the Town empower the Select Board to accept any land if given to the Town or to purchase any land within the Town?

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 6 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 7. Shall the Town vote to allocate \$30,000 to the Conservation Reserve Fund for the year 2023 to be used for land conservation projects as stated in the Town of Warren Conservation Commission and Reserve Fund Charter dated 24, April 2007?

Jito Coleman, Conservation Commission member, gave an overview of money spent in 2022. Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 7 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 8. To set the date, time and place of 2024 Town Meeting?

Andrew Cunningham of the Warren Selectboard moved that 2024 Town Meeting be held at the Warren Town Hall/Library at 3 PM on the first Tuesday in March 2024. Discussion of the pros and cons of holding meeting earlier or later in the day and the Australian Ballot voting were discussed. At the end of discussion Chris Behn moved to amend motion to 4 PM, more discussion ensued, Mr. Behn then changed his amendment to 5 PM. Motion was made and seconded to amend Mr. Cunningham's motion to 5 PM and the meeting is to be held at the Warren Elementary School. The 2024 Warren Town Meeting will be held at the Warren Elementary School, on the first Tuesday of March at 5 PM in the afternoon. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

Article 9. The following items will be voted on by Australian ballot between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Tuesday March 7, 2023.

The Election of all Town officers required by law.

Because there were no contested races on the ballot and no one received enough write in voted to be declared elected. The Warren Board of Civil Authority declared all candidates appearing on the 2023 ballot to be duly elected.

Doug Bergstein Moderator 1 Year, Luke Youmell Select Board 2 Year Term, Devin Klein Corrigan Select Board 3 Year Term, Camilla Behn Cemetery Commissioner 3 Year Term, Patricia Begin Lister 3 Year Term, Dayna Lisaius Town Treasurer 3 Year Term, David Ellison Library Commission 3 Year Term, Karen Cingiser Library Commission 3 Year Term, Dayna Lisaius Trustee of Public Money 3 Year Term.

Article 10. To transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

Robert Ackland presented slides detailing preliminary work done, and site planning for, a new town garage on its current site. Discussed were the history of this process and other locations investigated. Alternative properties were considered in an effort to free up the current site for affordable housing.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. So moved by a voice vote. 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted.
Reta K Goss
Warren Town Clerk

WARREN ENERGY COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 has been another busy year for energy work and resilience planning. I continue to work closely with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (also serving as the Warren Commissioner) as the State continues to roll out initiatives to meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan. I continue to work peripherally with the other Mad River Valley Energy Coordinators, specifically with the school district. I also am peripherally involved with the Mad River Climate Action group (MRCA). I am excited about a new collaboration with the Friends of the Mad River, as they have hired Luke Foley as their Climate and Engagement Manager. Luke is facilitating several working groups starting in 2024. I look forward to participating in these efforts with FMR.

This fall I spent over 25 hours writing the grant application for the Municipal Energy and Resilience Program. We applied for 5 town buildings: the Municipal Building, the Town Hall, the Fire House, the Sugarbush Fire House and the Old Schoolhouse that houses the East Warren Community Market. We were awarded Level 2 energy resilience assessments for two buildings: the Municipal Building and the Town Hall. These will be scheduled in early 2024, and then if the Town prioritizes meeting its responsibilities outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement, the Town will be eligible for the next phase of the grant, which could be up to \$250,000 for building improvements around decreasing fuel usage and increasing resilience.

This past summer I also applied for and received the Municipal Energy and Resilience Mini Grant, which is \$4,000 geared towards increasing the capacity of the Energy Committee. I would love to hear your ideas on how we can leverage this money to increase the Town's capacity for energy and resilience projects.

This was my third year as the Local Coordinator for WindowDressers, this time partnering with Lauri Scarf of the Middlesex Energy Committee. The program is really gaining momentum in our community, with the continued partnerships with the MRV Rotary, the Interfaith Council and the Waitsfield UCC. This year we limited the number of inserts we did, and we completed 145 inserts for 39 households. However, we realized that we could have done many more and will probably set our goal for 250 inserts for 2024. We have an excellent leadership team and 4 wonderful measuring teams that went into the homes for custom measurements. If you are curious about the program, you can get more information at www.windowdressers.org. We welcome involvement at all levels, whether you want inserts, want to volunteer at the Community Build, or would like to be part of the Leadership Team.

I attended The Empowering Municipal Solar event at the Renewable Energy Vermont Conference at Double Tree Hilton in South Burlington in October. I invited the members of the Planning Commission, but no one was available to attend. There were informative presentations by solar and storage system developers, the Vermont Bond Bank, which provides low-interest financing tools for municipalities, as well as time to meet representatives from other towns and hear about their projects and initiatives.

It is an exciting time to be involved in town energy and resilience planning and work, as there is a lot of money coming from the State to fund these efforts. As always, if you have any questions about my work or any interest in being involved moving forward, please reach out. Thank you.

Alexis Leacock

Warren Energy Coordinator

CVRPC Commissioner warrenenergycommittee@gmail.com

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

2023 was a very wet summer with lots of washouts and repairs to the roads. There was major storm damage to the following roads:

- Roxbury Mountain Road – mudslide behind one of the guardrails
- Dump Road was washed out and we replaced a culvert
- Airport Road washed out below Cold Springs Road.

The Cider Hill Road Grant and Aid Project:

- Ditched and stone lined, replaced a culvert and graveled the full length of the road, approximately 1 mile as well as completed 6 MRGP segments, which is intended to reduce significant reductions in stormwater related erosion, both paved and unpaved and is a state requirement.

West Hill Project:

- Ditch, stone line and graveled from West Hill to Retriever Run Road. Approximately 1 mile as well as completed 6 MRGP segments.

On the Lincoln Gap side of West Hill Road we ditched and stone lined 1 MRGP segment.

We graveled the following roads:

- Applewood Road
- Lincoln Gap Road
- Cider Hill Road
- Wabaneki Conservation Road
- West Hill Road (West Hill House to Retriever Run Road)
- Blueberry Lake Road

We shimmed and paved:

- Cider Hill Road
- Fuller Hill Road (Cross Road)
- West Hill Road from Sugar House to Inferno Road Intersection

All shoulders on new pavement were done with asphalt grindings.

WARREN SCHOOL PTO REPORT

Firstly, The Warren School PTO graciously thanks the Town for their generous vote to continue to appropriate the Town Forest Money for our school wide program of Educating Children Outdoors (ECO). This program provides all grade levels to participate in a weekly half day of outdoor learning with naturalists from North Branch Nature Center. The naturalists collaborate with classroom teachers to create standard-based lessons, help students develop a relationship with the natural world, and foster a sense of place and stewardship in our local forests.

The PTO welcome's back Troy Wonderle of Circus Smirkus this Spring for a two-week circus residency, culminating in an all school performance. Troy is both a one man circus act and skilled circus stunt teacher. All students and staff will get to see how their skills have improved and developed with his return and participate in this incredible opportunity.

The PTO continues funding the Winter Sports Program where all kids grades K-6th can ski and snowboard at Sugarbush or cross country ski at the Blueberry Lake Cross Country Center one day a week. We also fund scholarships to outfit any student in need to ensure all students can access this program without undue financial burden.

The PTO welcomes Dirt Road Theater back to run our growing theater program. This year, fifth and sixth graders will participate in an 8 week program culminating in a performance of The Wizard of Oz (youth) for the community. Students in grades 1-4 will meet with other local performance instructors to join in age appropriate acting/improv clubs as well.

The PTO has been closely working with Clark Brook Designs on plans to revamp and update the existing playground into an ADA compliant ageless playscape suitable for the entire community. Each year, the Brooks Field complex grows in popularity with both locals and visitors. We aim to use long lasting, easy to maintain quality materials that will uphold the natural aesthetic of our little mountain town. The Brooks Field Community Park would transform the currently outdated infrastructure into a space that will be highly inclusive and aims to seamlessly integrate the rest of the community hub, creating continuity within the entire field. The team continues to seek out avenues for funding this massive and necessary overhaul.

Major programming aside, our PTO contributes to this community in innumerable smaller ways. We pass out donated candy to the houses in town for trick-or-treating, help support families in need during the holidays through Project Elf, provide needed supplies to teachers when funding is available, host numerous community events, and provide scholarships for Girls on the Run, a wonderful program that supports the mental and physical health of girls throughout our country. We held the first annual Bike and Boat Sale at the school and hope this event will continue to grow and evolve over time to meet the needs of our greater community. We are beyond grateful for the continued outpouring of support we receive from our community members. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for continued updates!

WARREN SCHOOL PTO FINANCIALS

Operating Budget 2023-2024 (as of 9/11/23)				
	2022-2023	2023-2024	2023-2024	
	Final	Budget	Final	Notes
EXPENSES				
Unrestricted Funds				
Winter Sports Program (Grades K-6)	\$ 5,547	\$ 5,600		FY23: More volunteers lowered Sugarbush costs & bus costs were sent to HUUSD
Gardens & Grounds	\$ 1,474	\$ 3,000		FY23: picnic tables plus any other small projects
Artist-in-Residence (Grades PK-6)	\$ 7,650	\$ 8,000		FY24: Circus
ECO Nature Program Supplies	\$ 2,707	\$ 3,400		Amt in excess of grant funding, need to confirm ECO budget, '23 total was \$18,356
Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 1,000		skiing, band, GOTR
Theater Program (Grades 1-6)	\$ 5,960	\$ 7,500		
Original Artworks	\$ 2,430	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,340	
Community Building	\$ 2,740	\$ 2,800		Teacher appreciation, graduation, first day of school gifts & \$1000 Town Pavilion
Harvest Party	\$ 268	\$ 300	\$ 119	
Clothing Costs	\$ 4,033	\$ 4,200		Hats, Tshirts. 4th of July hat cost hit in FY23 but income will hit FY24
Miscellaneous	\$ 675	\$ 700	\$ 787	Mostly D&O Insurance, ski/skate bake sale expenses
Total Expenses Using Unrestricted Funds	\$ 33,484	\$ 39,000	\$ 3,245	
Expenses Using Restricted Funds				
Eco	\$ 15,649	\$ 15,000		
Wreaths	\$ 6,620	\$ 6,700		Upper Unit
Bike & Boat Sale (for Playground)	\$ 3,595	\$ 4,000		
Project Elf & Other	\$ 500	\$ 700		
Total Expenses Using Restricted Funds	\$ 26,365	\$ 26,400	\$ -	
Total Expenses	\$ 59,849	\$ 65,400	\$ 3,245	
INCOME				
Unrestricted Fundraising:				
Town Forest Funds received	\$ 21,124	\$ 20,621	\$ 24,304	
Harvest Dinner	\$ 5,894	\$ 5,000		
Original Artworks	\$ 3,713	\$ 3,500		
Clothing	\$ 2,168	\$ 4,000		4th of July hats, t-shirts, etc.
Other	\$ 3,473	\$ 3,000		Other Misc including Lawsons, individual donations, Red Hen, Ski&Skate Bake Sale
Subtotal Unrestricted	\$ 36,373	\$ 36,121	\$ 24,304	
Restricted Fundraising:				
Grant (for Eco)	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000		Eco Only
Bike & Boat (for Playground)	\$ 5,665	\$ 6,000		
Wreaths (Playground)	\$ 12,440	\$ 12,000		
Project Elf	\$ 739	\$ 700		from the upper unit dance donations
Subtotal Restricted	\$ 33,844	\$ 33,700		
Total Income	\$ 70,217	\$ 69,821	\$ 24,304	
Net carryforward	\$ 10,368	\$ 4,421		
Cash (net of outstanding checks)				
Checking - Restricted	\$ 27,781			
Checking - Unrestricted	\$ 47,675			
Total Checking	\$ 75,456			
CD - Restricted	\$ 10,526.78			.85% maturing 12.29.23
CD - Unrestricted	\$ 20,000.00			3.92% maturing 6.6.24
PayPal	535.86			
Petty Cash	100			
Total Cash	\$ 106,618.53			

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



Washington County Sheriff's Department

Marc P. Poulin, Sheriff

10 Elm St * PO Box 678

Montpelier, VT 05601-0678

802-223-3001

Annual Report 2023

For those of you who I have not met or spoken with please let me take a moment to give you a little background on me and my career. I began my career with the Montpelier Police Department in 2005. I worked as a Patrolman for the city for approx. 2 ½ years before leaving, taking a position as a State Deputy with the Washington County Sheriff's Department. I rose through the ranks serving as a Deputy, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. My primary focus was as supervisor of the court/detail/traffic control division within the department. I also was extremely active in our highway safety efforts, covering town shifts on occasion as well as our grant funded programs. After approx. 14 years I left the Sheriff's office, becoming a member of the Capitol Police Department, where I served as a patrolman, with my focus on intelligence and investigations of threats against our legislature. I returned to the Sheriff's Department on February 1 of this year upon my swearing in. I am a Field training Officer, NREMT, VT Certified Non-Lethal Use of Force Instructor, Taser, PR24, and Oleoresin Capsicum Instructor

I am an Eagle Scout who is still extremely active in the scouting program, serving as the head of security for national scouting events. I am a piano technician by training and still run a piano service business with my wife, who is also a piano technician. I have 3 children, and in my spare time have a bit of a LEGO obsession. Enough about me.

Law enforcement is a challenging profession to be in these days. Upon taking office we identified our priorities moving forward which included updating our equipment, increasing our community engagement, recruiting and retention improvements, and increasing our services to the towns.

Law Enforcement equipment is extremely expensive. Having to endure the rugged conditions of our job and to survive day to day, year to year use means it all becomes very costly.

In order for our department operations to be more transparent, we have upgraded our recording devices to Axon Body cameras combined with cloud storage. These systems are commonly regarded as the industry leader in this field, giving our deputies the most efficient way to record interactions with the public and store them securely and in an organized manner. These have replaced our cruiser cams (recording to DVD) which were reaching the end of their service life and unable to be repaired or replaced. We also deployed Taser devices (Taser 7), which give our Deputies another use of force option, increasing safety for all. All of cameras, tasers, and cruisers are tied together so if any of these devices are activated the camera activates as well. This ensures we are able to record as much of our interactions as possible without deputy input under stressful conditions.

We received a grant to replace all our mobile UHF/VHF mobile and portable radios, as our fleet was over 10 years old and losing their reliability. Our new system integrates a mobile repeater in each cruiser allowing our portable radios (deputy worn) to feed their signal into the larger mobile radios in each cruiser for rebroadcast. This greatly increases our communication and safety in our rural areas where before we could not communicate.

We have made updates to our uniforms as well, going with a more “tactical look” as some have called it. We began allowing external carrier vests to allow our staff to remove gear from their belts and put on the vests. This greatly increases comfort and the ability to take off the gear easily in down moments. Studies have shown a marked decrease in officer lower back injuries by agencies switching to this type of uniform. Our staff’s health is important if we wish to keep them happy, healthy, and here to serve our residents.

You may have noticed our cruiser markings changing as well. We are transitioning away from the white with red vehicle markings. Our new markings are green, black, and silver, continuing with a white vehicle. Please keep an eye out for the couple new ones in this design, we are very proud of how they turned out!

We have begun utilizing our department Facebook page (visit Washington County Sheriffs Dept Vermont) to see our latest goings on and updated information as we share. Check out a few local podcasts our staff make appearances on, and other public events we try to attend to interact with the public.

Captain Meyer and Sergeant Bent have recently joined as members of the Central Vermont Treatment court team. Treatment Court is a voluntary, post-plea program for defendants over 18 years old. They offer participants who complete the program the chance to have criminal charges dismissed or reduced. The program tries to reduce drug-related crime, make communities safer, and help people recover from drug dependence. This is a collaborative effort between prosecutors, defense attorneys, mental health and substance abuse treatment professionals, law enforcement and other emergency service providers, and the person needing help themselves.

We have recently hired 1 new full-time deputy, Collin Morin, who came to us from another local agency. He is already Level III certified (the highest certification in VT) with almost 3 years of experience. He is learning the ways of the Sheriff’s department in comparison to a town police department and I’m sure you will see him out and about. Collin is assigned as a float officer, serving in every capacity in this department as needed. Please make a point to welcome him if you see him.

We are in the hiring process for another new Deputy that will be assigned to our Supreme Court in Montpelier. As the next academy is scheduled in March this will be a slow process. We are continuing our hiring efforts for multiple positions to better serve the state and our local communities.

Our current primary patrol Deputy, Davis Hart, will be attending the Level III academy in Pittsford VT this coming fall. This may mean a slight interruption in our patrol activities as other staff cover for his 17-week absence. This does come with a benefit, upon his return, Deputy Hart will have the highest law enforcement certification to better serve our communities.

We have plans to send all our full-time staff to an Emergency Medical Responder course this coming year to become Vermont licensed medical responders. While we will be unable to provide a full medical response, our staff will be better able to respond and begin treatment prior to the arrival of an ambulance service. We are partnering with a local Ambulance Service to accomplish this goal, becoming part of a less than handful of agencies being both medical and law enforcement certified.

We have made tremendous efforts in our recruiting efforts without much success. Nationwide, law enforcement is struggling to recruit new hires based upon multiple issues. Vermont is no different. Our greatest challenge to employment is simply providing a competitive wage. A local police agency recently became the highest paid agency in the area, with a starting wage of \$34/hr. With our contract model, raising our rates to cover this kind of wage increase while continuing to fund department operations would be an impossible increase for our towns to afford. We are trying our best to find a balance in this effort.

Locally: County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2023 generated 2348 total incident reports, to include 1431 Traffic Stops, 564 Vermont Traffic Citations and 851 Traffic Warnings.

During our patrol efforts in Warren the following Vermont Traffic Complaints, Warning and Incidents were recorded by the Washington County Sheriff’s Department while on patrol:

Tickets/Warnings:

Ticket Violation	Ticket Violation	Ticket Type
DEF - Condition Of Vehicle	21	Warning
DLT - Driving On Roadways Laned For Traffic	1	Warning
DP - Failed To Display Front Registration Plate	1	Traffic
DP - Failed To Display Front Registration Plate	3	Warning
DP2 - Failed to Display Rear Registration Plate or Failed to Display Both Registration Plates	1	Warning
INC - Operating without proof of financial responsibility	4	Warning
INS - Operating Without Liability Insurance	2	Traffic
LBR - 11-20 MPH over speed limit - Local	1	Traffic
LBR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit-Local	1	Warning
LK - Lights	1	Warning
NL - Operating Without A License	2	Traffic
NR - Persons Required To Register	5	Traffic
NR - Persons Required To Register	2	Warning
OSC - Operating After Suspension/Revocation/Refusal	1	Traffic
PNA - Misuse Of Number Plates	1	Traffic
PNA - Misuse Of Number Plates	2	Warning
SIG - Signals Required	1	Warning
SL1 - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit	1	Warning
SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	9	Traffic
SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	36	Warning
SL3 - 21-30 MPH Over Speed Limit	3	Traffic
SL4 - 31 Or More MPH Over Speed Limit	3	Traffic
VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	9	Traffic
VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	16	Warning
VO - Regulations In Municipalities	1	Traffic

Incidents:

Call Type	Call Type
1	Crash - Non-Reportable
1	Suspicious Person/Circumstance
1	Attempting to Elude Police
2	Foot Patrol
3	Property Watch
1	Motorist Assist
6	Agency Assist
2	Alarm-Residence
3	Crash - Property Damage
4	Motor Vehicle Complaint
103	Traffic Stop
177	Directed Patrol

Through all the issues we all deal with in today’s world, we take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work, for all of us.

Professionally, Marc Poulin, Washington County Sheriff

MAD RIVER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 210, Waterbury Center VT 05677
(802) 244-7373 / fax (802) 244-7570

The Mad River Resource Management Alliance (MRRMA) includes the Towns of Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren and Waterbury. The Alliance was formed through an Interlocal Agreement that began in 1994. We changed our name in 2008 to reflect the fact that we are managing resources not wastes.

The MRRMA held a Spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day event at the Harwood Union High School in Duxbury on May 13, 2023. The Fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection was held at the Crossett Brook Middle School in Duxbury on October 14, 2023. A total of 526 households participated in these events. We collected 13.17 tons of household hazardous waste at the events. Residents within the Alliance communities were able to bring all their architectural paints, waste pesticides, alkaline batteries and up to 10 additional gallons of hazardous waste to each event for disposal at no charge. The Alliance will swap your mercury fever thermometer for a digital thermometer at no charge at these events. Bring your mercury thermostats to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection and you will receive a coupon that can be redeemed for a \$5.00 rebate by the Thermostat Recycling Corporation which will process the thermostats. We are planning two collection day events in 2024 at Crossett Brook Middle School. They are scheduled for May 18, 2024 and October 12, 2024. We are continuing to work with Republic Services, our hazardous waste contractor.

A total of 220 gallons of used crankcase oil was collected within the Alliance at our Used Oil Collection Tank during 2023. The tank is located in Waitsfield at the Earthwise Transfer Station.

In 2023 textiles were collected at Rodney's Rubbish Transfer Station and the Earthwise Transfer Station. The textiles are collected by Apparel Impact, a textile recycling company with facilities in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. They take clothing, footwear, linens, and accessories in any condition that are clean, dry and odorless at no charge. A total of 35.1 tons of textiles were collected in 2023, an increase of over 43% from 2022.

Casella/Grow Compost of Vermont collected food scraps and food processing residuals from the Washington West Supervisory Union waste streams and from other large generators in the MRRMA. A total of ~261 tons of food scraps were collected by Casella/Grow Compost of Vermont in 2023 in the MRRMA. Visit our web site at madriverrma.org. You will find information on solid waste issues on this web site.

We continue to promote the sale of compost bins. This year we distributed 29 compost bins and 2 Green Cones. It is estimated that each compost bin can compost 650 pounds of garden and kitchen waste annually. This means rich soil to add to your garden and less waste to go to the landfill. We held two composting workshops for Alliance residents this year and expect to hold two more in 2024. The Alliance held a car and pickup truck tire and metal collection event at the Earthwise Transfer Station with an additional collection at Rodney's Rubbish Transfer Station in conjunction with Green Up Day on May 6, 2023. A total of 9.49 tons of tires and ~1 ton of metal were collected during this event. We are planning to hold a spring tire and metal collection in conjunction with Green Up Day on May 4, 2024.

Alliance residents can bring their mixed paper, glass bottles and jars, metal cans and plastics #1 through #7, except for plastic film wrap, plastic bags, black plastic and beaded styrofoam for single stream recycling to

the Earthwise Transfer Station and Rodney's Rubbish Transfer Station and Redemption Center. There are also local haulers and Saturday Fast Trash Collections available in the Mad River Resource Management Alliance. Currently the recyclables are taken to the Chittenden County Materials Recovery Facility for processing.

There is a charge for collecting and processing recyclables. Computers, printers, monitors and televisions can be recycled at no charge at the Earthwise Transfer Station or the State Surplus Property Office on Route 2 in Waterbury. Other e-waste can be brought to the State Surplus Property facility in Waterbury and recycled at a small per pound fee. During 2023, a total of 13.37 tons of e-waste was collected. Additional information on this program is found on our web site. The Alliance is a member of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association which helps us market some recyclable commodities such as tires, propane cylinders other materials and assists with educational programs. The Alliance is also a member of the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI). As a stakeholder in the PSI, we work with other entities to reduce the environmental and health impacts of a variety of consumer products. This is accomplished by looking at the life cycle impacts of products and their packaging. Things like energy and materials consumption, emissions during manufacturing, toxicity, worker safety and waste disposal are among the issues reviewed. The objective of product stewardship is to rethink the way things are created in order to have more sustainable products in the future. We are also a member of the Vermont Product Stewardship Council which provides a local focus on legislative initiatives and other stewardship issues.

Our Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) is updated every five years. The update is available for review at our website, madriverrma.org.

Backyard burning of trash is illegal and causes air pollution problems. Be a good neighbor and don't burn trash. If you know of any illegal dumping sites within your town that would benefit from an Adopt a Site Program, give John Malter, Alliance Administrator, a call at 802-244-7373 and let's see what we can do to help eliminate these types of problems together. The FY24 assessment for the administration and programs remains at \$7.00 per capita.

The representatives of the Alliance include: Fayston, Chuck Martel; Moretown, Jonathan Siegel; Waitsfield, Sal Spinosa; Warren, Margo Wade; Waterbury, Alec Tuscany and John Malter from Waterbury is the Administrator for the Alliance.

MAD RIVER VALLEY PLANNING DISTRICT



The Mad River Valley Planning District (MRVPD) was created in 1985 by the towns of Fayston, Warren, & Waitsfield to carry out a program of planning for the MRV directed toward its physical, social, economic, fiscal, environmental, cultural, and aesthetic wellbeing. To this end, MRVPD provides professional planning, leadership, coordination, awareness, execution, and grant support to the MRV and its member towns. MRVPD focused on a broad range of activities during the past year, including, but not limited to, project management for Waitsfield's Wastewater Planning Project, publishing an overhauled *2023 Annual MRV Data Report*, securing funds to implement the first phase of the Sugarbush Access Road Shared-Use Path, and implementing the *Boyce Hill Town Forest Education Project*. MRVPD brought \$1.394 million in grants to the MRV in 2023, either through direct pursuit or guidance and support to town officials or local entities, totaling \$5.6 million since 2009. Additional detail on the organization's efforts can be found in *MRVPD's 2023 Year in Review* at mrvpd.org.

For FY25, MRVPD requests funding of \$53,962 from each of its four funders, Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren, and Sugarbush Resort.

MRVPD's activities are overseen by a 7-voting member Steering Committee, consisting of a representative from each member town's Selectboard and Planning Commission and a representative from the MRV Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, representatives from Sugarbush Resort and CVRPC serve as non-voting members. MRVPD Steering Committee meetings are open to the public and are usually held on the third Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m., at the Waitsfield Town Office. Meeting details are at mrvpd.org. Staffing consists of Joshua Schwartz, Executive Director & Sam Robinson, Community Planner.

Mad River Valley Planning District Steering Committee

Bob Ackland, Warren Selectboard (Chair)
Dan Raddock, Warren Planning Commission (Vice-Chair)
Jared Cadwell, Fayston Selectboard (Secretary & Treasurer)
Brian Shupe, Waitsfield Selectboard
Alice Peal, Waitsfield Planning Commission
Douglas Day, Fayston Planning Commission
Margo Wade, Sugarbush Resort
Eric Friedman, Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce
Christian Meyer, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua Schwartz,
Executive Director 802.496.7173 joshua@mrvpd.org | mrvpd.org

MAD RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE

The Mission of the Mad River Valley Ambulance Service, Inc. is to provide the Mad River Valley towns of Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield and Warren the highest quality of Emergency Medical Services utilizing dedicated volunteers, technology and community support.

The Mad River Valley Ambulance Service is an organization fully staffed by dedicated volunteers who train as dispatchers, drivers and highly trained medical personnel. We also have personnel trained in vehicle extrication, low- angle ropes rescue, slow water pond/lake rescue and backcountry search and/or rescue.

Drivers, medical and rescue personnel are called upon to leave their workplaces or homes in all kinds of weather and at all times of day and night to come to the aid of those in need. They are called away from family celebrations and events and they leave willingly to save lives. Their dedication cannot be overstated and we salute them. Medical personnel are also called upon to complete numerous additional off-duty hours on an annual basis in order to stay certified.

We are equipped with three ambulances and recent technology that enables us to provide the highest quality of emergency medical services. We strive to acquire and utilize the latest innovations as they become available in order to communicate well and increase our efficiency.

In 2023, we responded to the residents within our service area. We also responded to calls in Barre, Granville, Village of Morrisville and Waterbury when back-up support was needed. As we approach year end, we have responded to a total of 587 calls.

We are always happy to welcome new volunteers to become working members of MRVAS. We provide the training. If you feel that you would like to join our squad, please visit our website or contact us at (802) 496-8888 for further information. We also have an auxiliary organization for those who would like to offer their skills and services in other ways.

Even if you are unable to volunteer your time, you can help us by clearly marking your location so that we can find you when responding to emergencies. Give us a call if you want help in marking your home properly.

We find that visitors are often unaware of their E-911 address so it is important for you to share that information when renting out your property.

As always, we are grateful for the generous support we receive from the Valley community. It continues to be our honor to serve you.

Respectfully, Sheila M. Ware
Dispatcher & Head of Service

FRIENDS OF THE MAD RIVER



Healthy LAND. Clean WATER. Vibrant COMMUNITY.

2023 Report to Watershed Towns

*Friends of the Mad River is a nonprofit organization dedicated to stewarding the Mad River watershed's healthy **land** and clean **water** for our **community** and for future generations. Together, we **learn** about the health of the land and water; **conserve** our natural resources; and **celebrate** this special place.*

In 2023, with the help of municipal, agency, and non-profit partners, Friends of the Mad River sustained our commitment to the Mad River Valley community by:

- Hiring Ira Shadis as our new Executive Director, Luke Foley as the new Climate & Engagement Manager, and bringing on Onome Ofoman as the Watershed Engagement AmeriCorps Member.
- Continuing the long-standing Mad River Watch program that saw 20+ volunteers record data at 21 field sites across the watershed.
- Providing leadership to the Conservation and Recreation Visioning project aimed at finding a balance between our love for playing in the nature with our responsibility as stewards for the ecological well-being of the Mad River Valley.
- Installing a new, open-bottomed culvert on Lockwood Brook in Fayston that allows species like brook trout to move more freely and access cold water habitat needed to thrive in a changing climate.
- Hosted climate & ecology book clubs in partnership with Mad River Libraries, an Expert Series that brought watershed learning to diverse audiences, and engaged dozens of Valley students in direct watershed education.
- Invested in flood resilience and water quality by planting 150 native trees and shrubs to restore riparian buffers at three sites along the Mad River in Waitsfield.

This work would not be possible without town leaders and staff dedicated to making thoughtful decisions, committed and hearty volunteers, donors who believe in the value of our work, and a community committed to one another. Thank you!

Staff: *Ira Shadis, Executive Director; Lisa Koitzsch, Admin Manager; Luke Foley, Climate & Engagement Manager; Onome Ofoman, Watershed Engagement AmeriCorps Member, **Board of Directors:** Matt Williams, President • Katie Sullivan, Vice President • Sucosh Norton, Treasurer Kinny Perot, Secretary • Richard Czaplinski • Rebecca Diehl • Jeannie Nicklas • Grady O'Shaughnessy • Amy Polaczyk • Brian Shupe*

More information at: FriendsOfTheMadRiver.org

MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT



MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

Overarching Themes:

- **The Rec. District's responsibility for administering the VOREC grant is a measure of our increased capacity and will continue to be a focus of our work until year end 2024.**
- **As we look forward, a primary goal of the MRVRD is to work with our recreation partners to ensure a balance between recreation and stewardship of the environment.**

2023 Accomplishments

- Continued collaboration with our five partners to implement the \$408,019 MRV Recreation Hub grant from Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC). The route for connecting the Welcome Center to town was changed, but all permits were obtained and the grant was signed in August 2023. Work has begun on various components and the first reimbursement has been made.
- The irrigation system at Mad River Park is now operational and other enhancements were made like better signage and an additional port-o-let during peak months.
- MRVRD's website receives frequent updates with dedicated pages for Conservation Recreation Visioning (CRV) and the Rec Hub.
- Awarded \$45,400 in recreation grant funds to 11 groups in 2023. The grants serve youth and adult programs and sustain vital recreation facilities used by the community and visitors. Funding requests for 2024 were \$58,153 from 13 applicants with \$49,023 awarded, plus a \$5,000 contribution to support CRV.
- Continued support of stewardMRV, an initiative to increase the cleanliness and environmental quality of recreation sites. Our hope is to work with the Chamber to expand stewardMRV to thank landowners and launch programs regarding dogs on leash and proper disposal of waste.
- The MRV Trails Collaborative is shifting toward a broader Valley vision with an emphasis on balancing trails and environmental priorities, the CRV project. Keeping partners and the community up to date on Rec Hub developments and managing change is a focus.
- Conducted in-person meetings with more than 12 recreation partners to identify ways (beyond just grants) to help these partners. Answers helped inform the questions we posed to the community in a Rec Survey this fall where we have more than 230 responses so far.
- We worked with volunteers to successfully fundraise (more than \$50,000 total including a Better Places Grant) and build the MRV Dog Park in Warren. Many thanks to the town of Warren for the use of the land. A dog park was rated as an unmet need in surveys by the Planning District and The Path. The park is complete (minus one last structure) and volunteers are monitoring usage. There is approximately \$14,000 remaining to fund maintenance, insurance and any needed improvements moving forward. The MRV Dog Park has its own website with a Paypal button to facilitate on-going fundraising: mrvdogpark.com
- Navigated transition in Board of Directors. Thanked departing Board members Derek Bennett and Shevonne Travers and welcomed Corey Ayotte (Fayston) and Gina Gaidys (Waitsfield) to the Board.

MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

2024 Initiatives

The MRVRD will help lead the Community Recreation Visioning (CRV) project, a sub-component of the VOREC grant that will establish a path forward for balancing trails and environmental sustainability. CRV goes through December 2024 and has two main goals:

1. Engage the community in a visioning process to ensure that future initiatives reflect the Valley's dual interests in diverse, high quality outdoor recreation experiences and a thriving and intact natural environment.
2. Create a vision that is articulated both in writing and spatially in a map - for balancing environmental health and recreation in the MRV, safeguarding valuable natural resources, and planning for long-term stewardship opportunities. To this end we have engaged Arrowwood Environmental to help with research, mapping and other components of the project.

In addition to leading CRV, MRVRD will also:

- Manage and administer the 408K VOREC Grant. Outside bookkeeping help was hired. This grant will be a main focus of our 2024 work.
- Engage Moretown in considering a more robust participation in MRVRD moving forward.
- The well and irrigation system at MRP are operational. Next steps: determine staffing (most likely Kingsbury) in order to use the irrigation system when needed to protect the fields.
- Operate MRVRD annual recreation grant program, continue to streamline procedures to make it easy and inclusive for local organizations to apply. Decisions moved to December.
- Work with the Trails Collaborative to address concerns of the towns, conservation commissions and planning groups regarding Valley-wide planning for trails and balancing environmental issues.
- Host \$15 Bike Helmet opportunity as a bi-annual event (we skipped 2023 since we believe we had saturated the market.)
- MRVRD has earmarked funds to host a community safety event to get reflectors and lights onto bikes. Bikes on Route 100 remain a major safety concern.
- Consider working with LocalMotion on additional E-bike programs.
- Collate MRVRD survey results to chart MRVRD's future programs and activities.
- Continue to improve the MRVRD website through an annual review. We will check the accuracy of links (with all volunteer youth sports programs, links are prone to change), update photos, enhance updates on CRV and VOREC, as well as other important projects.

With a total annual budget of \$122,250 in 2023 (Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren at \$40,000 each and Moretown at \$2,250), we seek level funding for our three member towns and an increase from Moretown. Moretown typically pays for 25% of MRP expenses. Expenses at MRP have increased substantially, so we are asking Moretown to consider \$3,000 in 2024 and greater overall support moving forward. As a valley, we are closer to the benchmark of Waterbury and Bristol's recreation budgets at over \$300,000 each. Many thanks to our member towns for funding MRVRD.

MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT BUDGET

MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT 2024 BUDGET		MAD RIVER PARK 2024 BUDGET	
INCOME		INCOME	
Warren	\$40,000	Spring Soccer	\$1,000
Fayston	\$40,000	Spring LAX	\$1,000
Waitsfield	\$40,000	Summer Camps	\$1,000
Moretown	\$3,000	Fall Soccer	\$1,000
Total Income	\$123,000	MRVRD (includes Moretown)	\$12,000
Carry Over from 2023 (VOREC Reserv)	\$12,000	Total Income	\$16,000
Total Available for 2024	\$135,000	Carry Over from 2023 (Lawson's Grant)	\$12,134
EXPENSES		Total Available for 2024	\$28,134
Recreation Grants and Facilities	\$50,000		
Mad River Park	\$12,000	EXPENSES	
CRV	\$5,000	Port-o-lets	\$2,500
Executive Director Salary	\$42,432	Insurance	\$1,400
Soc. Sec/Medicare 7.65%	\$3,246	Plowing	\$300
Workers Compensation	\$775	Driveway Maintenance	\$1,400
Technology Stipend	\$960	Mowing	\$4,700
Travel Reimbursement	\$900	Field Maintenance	\$2,200
Payroll Service/Gusto (\$51/mo)	\$612	Irrigation Labor Costs	\$2,000
Unemployment Insurance 1%	\$425	Stormwater inspection	\$200
Professional Development	\$500	Signage/Security	\$300
Membership VRPA	\$100	Maintenance Equipment	\$1,300
Membership VLCT (Associate Level)	\$1,100	Miscellaneous	\$250
Website/Communications	\$750	Total Expenditures	\$16,550
Miscellaneous	\$200		
Reserve (VOREC cash flow)	\$16,000		
Total Expenditures	\$135,000		

MAD RIVER TELEVISION (MRVTV)

Mad River Valley TV 2023 HIGHLIGHTS: Post pandemic rebound continues as more meetings covered in person, while video meetings allow collection and archive of additional municipal activity.

Mad River Valley Television, the Valley's public access management organization (AMO), is charged with providing public, educational and governmental content (PEG) to the Mad River Valley. As a PEG channel, it receives support from Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom and is delivered on channels 44/244 and 45/245. Its mission is to keep the community informed about the actions by their towns, schools and elected officials, provide a connection to school and local activities, and enable local producers to express themselves through informational and education content. Its programming is available to all within the Waitsfield Cable service coverage area.

MRVTV's Channels 44/244 (Community) and 45/245 (Municipal) are included in Waitsfield Cable's basic tier of service. MRVTV also streams the channel in real-time from MRVTV.COM, enabling anyone with or without a cable subscription and anywhere in the world to watch the content as it appears on our cable channels. To stream, visit MRVTV.com and click the "watch live" link. This supports the station's goal of providing local programming to all the Mad River Valley, not only those who subscribe to cable television.

The station celebrated its 24rd year on the air during 2023 and covered nearly every meeting of the Warren Select Board, the Planning Commission and Conservation Commission meetings and many important Development Review Board meetings. In addition, it covers valley wide meetings of the Mad River Valley Planning District, the Mad River Valley Recreation District and most meetings of the Harwood Unified Union School District board and subcommittees. Recently, the station began coverage of the Harwood High School project public meetings.

In 2023, MRVTV completed the project to extend WIFI service at Harwood High School to reach the lower playing field. This enables the live streaming of sporting events on that field. Funding for the project is coming from MRVTV as well as town ARPA funds.

MRVTV is primarily funded by Waitsfield Cable as required by state and federal regulations with 5% of cable subscription fee collected to support local PEG stations. In addition, the towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren and Moretown and the HUUSD provided MRVTV monetary support to help defray the cost of municipal and school meetings, sporting events and activities.

In 2023, the station's leadership continued its work with the Vermont Access Network (VAN) to lobby the statehouse for a new funding model and to receive interim funding. Again, the state provided a grant to stations throughout Vermont, MRVTV included. MRVTV also raises funds through sponsorships, donations, production fees, duplication and fundraising.

MRVTV has equipment available to the community so the public can produce shows, capture events and get them on the broadcast. MRVTV also has a full studio available for taping shows and welcomes new users and producers for non-commercial community interest programs.

In 2023, MRVTV made use of many hours of statewide programming available on the Vermont Media Exchange (VMX). MRVTV showed hundreds of programs produced by other public access centers around the state such as GMALL lectures, Vermont Master Naturalist, Energy Week, candidate interviews and other programs highlight the vastness of Vermont in natural beauty and intellectual depth.

MRVTV is a leader in connecting through social media and has continued growth of its YouTube channel which now has over 15,000 subscribers, a jump of nearly 1500 since 2022. The Waitsfield Covered Bridge livecam has over 2 million views per year with viewers ranging from Vermont to Japan and beyond! Both flooding events drew new viewers of the bridgecam and the video was used by local and major newscasts to show the flooding in Vermont.

Station personnel remains unchanged in 2023 with Rob Perry serving as Executive Director and Tony Italiano keeping the station's programming going as Program/Media Director, a role he has ably filled for over 16 years. The board of directors changed slightly with the retirement of Dan Eckstein and John Daniell. Eugene Skip Whitman joined the board and brings considerable experience in TV broadcasting. Members of the MRVTV board are: Lisa Loomis, Rob Williams, Liz Levey, Ilse Sigmund, Ian Sweet, Ned Farquhar, Skip Whitman and Genevieve Knight. We meet three times a year and actively welcome public input to our meetings or to any board member.

To learn more how you can be involved with MRVTV, please contact us at 583-4488 (44TV) or by email at rob@mrvtv.com. You also can just stop by our studio offices at the north end of the Village Square Shopping Center. And you can find us, all local programs, our schedules, and lots of affiliated information on the web at <https://mrvtv.com>.

WMRW (94.5 FM) ANNUAL REPORT

WMRW-LP, (94.5 FM) is a 100-watt (low power) all-volunteer, noncommercial, community-access radio station broadcasting 24 hours/day over the airwaves to the Mad River Valley, and to the outside world via the internet at wmrw.org. WMRW is a project of the 501c3 non-profit Rootswork Inc., 'Making Space for Community to Happen'. Check out all that Rootswork does in our community at rootswork.org

As of 8 years ago (December 28th 2015), we have been transmitting on 94.5 fm from our 65 foot tower and transmitter at our new location 3 miles north of the East Warren Schoolhouse. We are eternally grateful to the many people and organizations whose donations of time and money made this huge improvement in reception throughout the Valley possible.

The support from the station's current underwriters is critical to the success of our radio station, and helps cover the ongoing costs of our operations. These underwriters have included **All Seasons Urethane Foam, Darrad Computers, Mad-Services, Mountain Side Ski Service, Katies Collars, Whippletree Designs, Souper Simple Soups**, and last but not least **Charlie (the dog)**.

In 2024 we will continue to support free speech, seek new local radio talent, and we are interested in working with local Valley schools to enhance their media / journalism/ theater curricula and sports coverage. To learn more about WMRW-LP programming, or for anyone interested in getting involved and on-the-air, visit www.wmrw.org or call 802-496-4951 and leave a message.

Presently we have around 37 local volunteer programmers ranging in age from 20 to 80 plus, offering a diverse mix of music, talk and local public service announcements. In addition, we air nationally syndicated alternative news and entertainment shows not available from most mainstream media sources. These shows include E-Town, Le Show, TUC Radio, and Letters and Politics. **For a current program schedule visit our website: WMRW.org.**

Our current \$13,750, 2024 annual base operating budget is funded entirely by contributions from our local listeners and local business underwriters. This frugal budget includes approximately \$2500 of operating and licensing expenses that enabled us to continue streaming over the internet. Our annual on-air fundraisers happen once or twice during each year and run until we have raised the funds to cover our annual operating expenses.

If you value this rare non-commercial public forum that provides opportunities for all citizens to freely communicate without censorship, please consider participating in, and/or, helping to fund WMRW's continuing operation. On-air acknowledgements (Underwriting) are available to businesses. See (wmrw.org for details).

Tax-deductible donations can be made at WMRW.org through Paypal and via credit card, and checks can be sent to WMRW, PO. Box 95, Warren Vt. 05674.

On behalf of all our volunteers, thank you to everyone, whose contributions of time and money continue to make this community resource a reality!

John Barkhausen, WMRW (volunteer) General Manager

ROOTSWORK ANNUAL REPORT

Rootswork is a 501c3 non-profit organization with over 480 current members, located in the historic East Warren Schoolhouse (EWS) right off the 4 corners on the East Warren Road at 42 Roxbury Mountain Road, in Warren VT. Our mission is embodied in our slogan “Making Space for Community to Happen”.

Rootswork rents the EWS from the Town of Warren for a low fee, and in return the Rootswork Board volunteers to manage, maintain and raise funds to continue to renovate the EWS for the benefit of our community and the furtherance of our mission.

From this beautiful location we host five community projects: **The Bulk Fuel Buying Group; WMRW Community Radio (94.5 fm); The EWS Community Meeting Space; and our Electric Vehicle Charging Station.** Our fifth project is **The Rootswork Community Gardens**, which are organic gardening plots located immediately behind the EWS and available to rent at very reasonable rates.

Rootswork founder and longtime Warren resident Anne Burling passed away 2 years ago. Anne founded Rootswork with Mason Wade in the late 90s, and was the previous owner of the community garden plot and surrounding land behind the schoolhouse. In keeping with her lifelong concern for sustainable agriculture, she recently transferred her land to organic farmer Zeb Swick. Zeb has generously agreed to continue Anne’s vision of nurturing future farmers by making the land behind the schoolhouse available to Rootswork for community garden use.

Additionally, we provide a viable home for our wonderful tenant, the **East Warren Community Market.**

Progress on the **renovation of the historic East Warren Schoolhouse building and grounds continues.** This has included extensive rewiring, building wide insulating, new 2nd floor hardwood floor and new ceiling and lighting, new commercial kitchen expansion, new fire code hall doors and front door, new boiler, rebuilt boiler room floor, all new historically accurate efficient thermopane window replacements for all windows, installation of a Warren Tiny Library on the front deck, a replacement septic system, installation of an emergency generator; entry deck renovation; and reconstruction of the storage wing of the building for use by the Market. Renovations included siding replacement and painting prep of the south exterior wall, and entry deck repairs. During the past 10 years, Rootswork has invested around \$61,000 in repairs and maintenance of the building. In 2024 we intend to do more clapboard repair in preparation for painting the entire outside of the building. We continue to maintain a Capital Reserve Building Fund of \$20,000.00 to finance any eventual major and/or emergency repairs.

Our annual fuel buying group and membership fee is \$45.00 and the term runs from July 1st to June 31st and coincides with the renewal of our participating Fuel Group contracts with our fuel suppliers. Suppliers of both propane and fuel oil include Suburban Propane, Irving Energy, Ward Energy and Bournes Energy. All our suppliers offer substantial savings through Rootswork’s program for your fuel buying needs.

If you are interested in learning more about Rootswork and our projects, the availability of the community meeting space and community garden plots, and why you might want to be involved, we invite you to visit the East Warren Schoolhouse and rootswork.org. Members and the general public are welcome to attend our annual Meeting, usually held in December.

We are very grateful to all our members for participating and helping Rootswork make our mission a reality.

Sincerely,

The 2024 Rootswork Board Directors - Don Swain (co-Chair), John Barkhausen (co-Chair), Kelly O’Hearn, Marco Propato, Eric Sigsbey (Sec.), Kirstin Reilly, Quayle Rewinski, Noah Riskin, Dorothy Tod

MAD RIVER VALLEY SENIOR CITIZENS

The Mad River Valley Senior Citizens Board of Directors sincerely appreciates the continued support of the Town of Warren. With that support, we have been successful in our mission to provide nutritional meals, opportunities for social connections, and access to health and wellness resources for Seniors in our community for over 35 years. In addition to three part-time staff, we are fortunate to have so many caring volunteers who are central to this success.

In FY2023 we served over 13,000 meals at the senior center dining room in Evergreen Place in Waitsfield and to our Meals On Wheels (MOW) clients in the four towns within our Valley. We serve two community meals for seniors each week, and deliver daily dietician-approved lunches for MOW clients five days a week, plus two frozen meals for weekends. All meals are by donation except for our Monday breakfast, which is a fundraiser.

Our MOW program continues to be important to those seniors living alone. In addition to providing nutritious meals, our drivers check on client well-being and also often serve as a valuable social connection for their clients.

Our Wellness activities support seniors' health, fitness, creativity, emotional wellness, and lifelong learning. These activities include exercise and yoga classes, art workshops, technology trainings, trips, live musical performances, and guest speakers on topics of senior interest.

We also provide administrative and significant financial support to the Valley's Free Wheelin' program that provides free rides to medical and other essential appointments for those who do not have access to a car.

In addition to donations from patrons and clients, MRVSC receives financial support from the Central Vermont Council On Aging, the four Valley towns, the Vermont Center for Independent Living, the Mad River Valley Community Fund, the Warren United Church, the Mad River Valley Rotary, Mehuron's, Lawson's Finest Liquids, Green Rabbit Bakery, the Village Grocery, Northfield Savings Bank, Waitsfield Telecom, and other local businesses and individuals that provide us with generous donations, participation in our fundraisers, and coin collection cans at area retailers. We thank you all for your support.

Respectfully Submitted:

MRVSC Board of Directors

Gretchen Hernandez, President; Bill Zekas, Treasurer; Joanne Fitzgerald, Secretary; Sue Stoehr, Lisa Jenisen, David Goldstein, Donna Mackie and Jennifer Grant, members-at-large.

MAD RIVER VALLEY HEALTH CENTER REPORT

The Mad River Valley Health Center (MRVHC) is a non-profit corporation managed by a Board of Directors for the purpose of insuring high quality, local health care services in the MRV. The Mad River Valley Health Center was incorporated in 1981. In 2004, with the support of many Valley residents, the Health Center moved into its current two story building at the intersection of VT Route 100 and Old County Road in Waitsfield.

In accordance with its mission, space in the Health Center is fully leased by a variety of health care related providers. The majority of the space is occupied by the Mad River Family Practice (CVMC). The remainder of the space is utilized by organizations and individuals providing individual and family mental health support and oriental medicine treatments. These include Hannah's House (mental health services), Three Moon's Wellness (alternative medicine), and Dr. Richard Davis (psychologist).

The Health Center is governed by an all-volunteer board of directors. The current board includes Don Murray, President; Polly Bednash, Vice President; Bill Zekas, Treasurer; Steve Fried, Secretary; Mike Kelley, Danielle Hampton, Judy Phelon, Mike Curtin, and Rosemarie White.

In the fall of 2023, the Mad River Valley Health Center worked with the Shaw's Pharmacy in Waterbury to run a vaccination clinic which was a big success. Well over 200 people signed up for the clinic where COVID, flu (including the quadrivalent for adults over age 64), and RSV vaccines were offered. The clinic was a success in large part due to the pharmacists and staff at the Waterbury Shaw's Osco Pharmacy who contributed their time and services by hosting this clinic and providing the vaccinations.

The Board in 2023 also continued with its scholarship awarded to a high school senior or current college student who is or will be enrolled in an accredited program leading to a degree in health care. Typical majors are nursing, physical therapy or occupational therapy. Other health related programs will be considered.

Normal maintenance activity has been undertaken during the year. Additionally, the replacement of the four existing HVAC condensers (which were nearing the end of their projected life expectancy) was begun and mostly completed by the end of the year.

Regrettably, in late December after significant rains in the Valley and a significant warm up in temperatures causing a severe snow melt, the basement of the building was partially flooded. Multiple pumps were brought in to try and keep up with the flow of water coming into the building and ultimately pump trucks were called in to pump out the basement. Ultimately, a new pump was installed in a shaft dug outside the building (to complement the pump in the elevator shaft that had to be replaced) and the water has been drained away from the building. Luckily, the damage inside the building was kept to a minimum, but, at this time, the exact costs of the repairs and the cause of the water infiltration remain uncertain.

With the exception of the water damage issue, the facility remains in excellent condition. However, given that the building is now 20 years old, we can expect increased maintenance in future years. Overall, the financial situation remains solid with few surprises. Barring unusual expenses from the water damage issue, sufficient reserves are available to fund most reasonably expected repairs.

Respectfully Submitted,

MRVHC Board of Directors

CENTRAL VERMONT HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

WARREN

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (CVHHH) is a full-service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association that provides intermittent, short-term medical care, education, and support at home to help Central Vermonters recover from an illness, surgery, or hospital stay and manage their chronic disease. We serve 23 communities in Washington and Orange Counties and care for people of all ages. Our services include home care, hospice, and maternal-child health care. We also offer public foot-care clinics and flu vaccinations. In addition, we offer long-term care and private care services and free grief support groups.

CVHHH is guided by a mission to care for all Central Vermonters regardless of a person's ability to pay, their geographic remoteness, or the complexity of their care needs. CVHHH embraces new technology and collaborates with other local providers to ensure that central Vermonters' care needs are met. To learn more, visit www.cvhhh.org.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of Warren Jan 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 *

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	495
Hospice Care	336
Long Term Care	111
Maternal Child Health	3
Palliative Care Consultative Service**	9
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	954
TOTAL PATIENTS	47
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	59

**Audited figures are not available at the time of report submission. These preliminary figures are annualized based on the number of visits from January 1, 2023 – August 31, 2023, and are not expected to vary significantly. **New service line as of April 1, 2023. Town funding is imperative in ensuring that CVHHH will provide services in Warren through 2024 and beyond. For more information, contact Sandy Rouse, President & CEO, or Kelly Finnegan, Community Relations & Development at 223-1878.*

MAD RIVER PATH

At the beginning of 2023, the Mad River Path went through a successful hiring process, resulting in attracting and retaining a new Executive Director. Following the leadership transition, we began the future visioning process resulting in the VT-100 Multi-Use Path Vision. We've been articulating our vision and have applied for the VTrans Scoping Funding to study the proposed Path from Warren to Moretown.

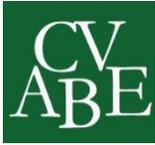
Last spring, as part of a coalition with the town of Warren, Sugarbush, and the Planning District, we applied and received a grant to construct a Multi-Use Path that will extend from Sugarbush resort at Lincoln Peak to the Golf Course Road, providing, amongst many other benefits, a safe route to work to the resort's seasonal workforce. We are currently hiring a Municipal Project Manager to begin the construction.

We continued to develop the Fiddlers Walk downtown connector, extending from the new Welcome Center and Rec Hub to the Irasville Center. This work required many landowner and state highway permissions and will be completed in the spring of 2024. In addition to the regular path maintenance and bridge repairs, we also supported the completion of the Dog Park and helped to create a Bundy Road Connector for the newly opened Mad Bush Falls. Last year's floods have damaged several of the Path's bridges and eroded the trails. We are preparing to do the repairs as soon as the spring arrives!

Early on in 2023, we formed a partnership with other valley organizations to re-envision and bring back a Mad River Triathlon, now scheduled for April 14, 2024. We also created Mad River Path Adventures with a debut Hut-to-Hut Ski Trip in February, followed by six weeks of summer adventure camps for kids and teens.

By the end of 2023, the Path had completed a successful annual giving campaign and was able to add three part-time positions: a finance director, communications specialist, and data manager. We have created an advisory committee and attracted two new board members in their thirties. We have enjoyed rich collaborations and are starting a new year with a sense of gratitude to all of our non-profit, municipal, and business partners, the goodwill of the path landowners, and the generosity of the valley residents who support the Mad River Path.

CENTRAL VERMONT ADULT BASIC EDUCATION



Local Partnerships in Learning

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc. (CVABE), a community-based nonprofit organization has served the adult education and literacy needs of Warren residents for fifty-eight years.

CVABE serves as central Vermont's resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for individuals (ages 16 - 90+) in:

- Basic skills programs: reading, writing, math, computer and financial literacy
- English Language Learning and preparation for U.S. citizenship
- High school diploma and GED credential programs
- Academic skill readiness for work, career training and/or college

Warren is served by our learning center in Waterbury. The site has welcoming learning rooms with computers, laptops and internet access to support instruction. CVABE staff and volunteers also teach students at the library or other local sites as needed.

Last year, 1 resident of Warren enrolled in CVABE's free programs, with a yearly average of 5. One Warren resident volunteered and provided literacy instruction. Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups. Each student has a personalized education plan to address his/her learning goals. These goals might include: getting or improving a job, earning a high school credential, helping one's children with homework, budgeting and paying bills, reading important information, obtaining a driving license, preparing for college, gaining citizenship, and more.

Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72% chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves, and 70% of adult welfare recipients have low literacy levels.

By helping to end the cycle of poverty, your support changes the lives of Warren residents for generations to come.

CVABE provided free instruction to 380 people last year in the overall service area of Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties. It currently costs CVABE \$4,435 per student to provide a full year of instruction. Nearly all students are low income. Over 70 community volunteers work with CVABE's professional staff to meet the large need for these services while keeping overhead low.

We deeply appreciate Warren's voter-approved past support. This year, your level support is again critical to CVABE's free, local education services. Only a portion of CVABE's budget is comprised of state and federal support. Funding is needed each year from the private sector and from the towns and cities we serve, to ensure we can help the neighbors who need education for a better life.

For more information regarding CVABE's adult education and literacy instruction for students, or volunteer opportunities, contact:

Waterbury Learning Center
31 North Main Street – Suite 1
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 244-8765
www.cvabe.org

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING



Supporting Central Vermonterers to Age with Dignity and Choice **CVCOA Helpline: 1-802-477-1364**

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) 2023 Report for Town of Warren:

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is dedicated to the mission of supporting older Vermonterers to age with dignity and choice. CVCOA services are available to those age 60 and up, caregivers, and families. For more than 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonterers to remain independent for as long as possible. CVCOA serves 54 towns throughout the Central Vermont region.

CVCOA makes a difference in the lives of older Vermonterers by connecting them to the network of benefit programs and services that they need to thrive, free of charge. CVCOA utilizes town funding to provide individualized support to Warren residents through case management, information and assistance, options counseling, resource and benefit enrollment (nutrition, transportation, mental health counseling, legal services, etc.), long-term care planning, health insurance counseling, family caregiver support, connection to wellness and social activities, and more.

CVCOA supported 35 residents of Warren. CVCOA case managers worked together to serve older adults in Warren.

CVCOA served 4,040 unduplicated clients from 07/01/2022 through 06/30/2023. CVCOA mobilized 497 volunteers through our AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP and general volunteer programs. These volunteers served over 40,000 hours, providing direct service, delivering meals on wheels, supporting nutrition sites, leading wellness classes, offering companionship and creative encouragement, and more.

All of us at CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of **Warren for their ongoing commitment to the health, well-being, independence, and dignity of older Vermonterers in the Warren community.**

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

TOWN OF WARREN

SUMMARY REPORT

Request Amount: \$480.00

For over 44 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'23 (10/2022-9/2023) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **140** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **4** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **178** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **115** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **73** individuals with information on assistive technology; **41** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **379** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served **17** people and provided **7** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is in downtown Montpelier (although we are working from home as our office, along with so many others) was devastated in the July flood. We have four branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY'23, **2** residents of **Warren** received services from the following programs:

- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at:

1-800-639-1522, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) provides planning, development, and project implementation services to its 23 municipalities in Washington and western Orange Counties. Municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners. CVRPC has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource – please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

Warren Activities Through June 30, 2023 (Fiscal Year 2023)

- Prepared and submitted Emergency Relief Assistance Fund information to town to facilitate elevated disaster relief aid.
- Provided letter of support for Sugarbush Access Path Bike and Pedestrian grant.
- Conducted traffic counts on West Hill Road and speed and volume counts along the Access Road.
- Prepared zoning adoption process information for Warren Planning Commission.
- Provided technical analysis, coordinated with utility, industry, school and public on fuel-switching and on-site generation and storage project development.
- Supported successful applications for investment grade energy assessments for the Town Hall, Municipal Building, Sugarbush Firehouse, Firehouse, and Old East Warren Schoolhouse making them eligible to apply for \$500k MERP implementation funds and State Energy Program Revolving Funds; \$4,000 MERP mini-grants for energy community outreach, engagement, and education.
- Supported efforts of Harwood Union High School Youth Group on their efforts to propose a Clean School Bus pilot.
- Supported WindowDressers campaign by facilitating connections with Capstone and other regional partners resulting in storm window inserts for 21 households.

**During and following the July Flood, CVRPC staff provided outreach and guidance on recovery efforts and tracking of damages to aid response and maximize FEMA reimbursements for town and individual damages (*Fiscal Year 2024)*

CVRPC Projects & Programs

- ❖ *Municipal Plan and Bylaw Updates that focus on predictable and effective local permitting*
- ❖ *Brownfields environmental site assessments to facilitate redevelopment and economic growth*
- ❖ *Transportation planning, studies, data collection, traffic counts, and coordination of local involvement through the regional Transportation Advisory Committee*
- ❖ *Emergency planning for natural disasters and coordination with local volunteers and the State*
- ❖ *Climate and energy planning to support projects to reduce municipal and residential energy burdens and build resilience*
- ❖ *Natural resource planning to protect water resources, preserve forest blocks, enhance recreational opportunities and support agricultural and forest industries*
- ❖ *Regional Planning to coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth*
- ❖ *Geographic Information System Services to support to municipalities*
- ❖ *Clean Water Service Provider to identify and fund water quality projects to achieve phosphorous reduction targets*
- ❖ *Special Projects such as recreation paths, farmland preservation, and affordable housing*
- ❖ *Grant support through project identification, scoping, and applications*

Regional Commissioner
Alexis Leacock
**Transportation Advisory
Committee**
Michael Bridgewater

SKATIUM ANNUAL REPORT

SKATIUM is an outdoor community recreation facility located in Irasville Center. SKATIUM, INC. is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under section 501.c.3 of the Internal Revenue Service code, which allows donations to Skatium to be tax deductible.

The purpose of our organization is to promote, develop, construct, operate, manage and administer community recreation facilities and programs within the Mad River Valley. Skatium, Inc. wholly owns 5.4 acres of land and an open-air ice rink in the Irasville commercial district of Waitsfield. It has been open every winter season since 1993, offering public skating, stick time and group and party rentals, and donates ice time to people and organizations for people with physical and cognitive disabilities, such as Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports and the Vermont Pioneers Sled Hockey Team. Skatium offers ice time to elementary school recreation programs free of charge.

Over the years a variety of instructional and spectator programs have been offered, such as youth hockey programs, figure skating instruction by certified figure skating instructors, professional figure skating exhibitions, exhibition hockey games featuring NHL Alumni Players, and broomball tournaments, etc..

As a community resource, we try to charge as little as possible just to cover our facility operation costs, such as town water, electricity, heat, insurance, property taxes and part time labor. The major portion of our labor requirements are satisfied by volunteers.

Due to the open nature of the current facility and the fact that we do not have a refrigerated ice surface, the facility is used primarily during the winter months. However our goal and long term plan is to construct a multi-functional year round recreational facility that will have a covered refrigerated concrete ice surface that will allow us to operate an ice skating facility uninterrupted from November to March, but will also provide a suitable covered surface for the remainder of the year for a variety of sports and community activities such as Harwood Union High School Spring and Fall sports training programs, concerts, shows, parties, etc.. Design plans for such a facility are in the making and will be available to view on our website in the near future.

SKATIUM typically operates with a \$25,000.00 - \$30,000.00 annual budget. Approximately half of the budget expenses are for payroll. As mentioned, a very significant amount of the labor requirement is provided by volunteers, at no charge. Major expenses in addition to payroll include electricity, propane, property taxes, insurance, municipal water, and snow removal. SKATIUM currently derives its income from revenues from ice use, skate rentals, board advertising and grants from the Mad River Valley Recreation District. However, donations will likely be the major source of funding for its multi-million dollar plans for the future. Donations can be made by visiting our website: skatiumvt.org and are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support.

Skatium Board of Directors

Jim Bellanca, Jeff Brauer, Mike Eramo, Alex Harvey, Andrew Merrill, Bill Moore, Ben Service & Don Swain

FAMILY CENTER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY



FAMILY CENTER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

....serving families in Warren

The Family Center provides services and resources to all children and families in our region. In FY'23 we offered services for children, youth and families, including: Early Care and Education, Children's Integrated Services-Early Intervention, Family Support Home Visiting, Child Care Financial Assistance, Child Care Referral, Welcome Baby Outreach, Family Supportive Housing Services, Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project, Specialized Child Care Supports, Reach Up Job Development, Food Pantry, Diaper Bank, Parent Education, and Playgroups for children from birth to five. We are grateful for the support shown by the voters of Warren. For more information about Family Center programs and services, please visit: www.fcwcvt.org.

Among the 17 individuals in Warren who benefited from the Family Center's programs and services from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 were:

- *1 **family** who received **Information & Referral**, including consulting our **Child Care Referral services**, receiving assistance in finding child care to meet their needs, answering questions related to child care and child development, and receiving information about other community resources available.
- *9 families **who received** Child Care Financial Assistance.
- *3 individuals **who were served by one of our Home Visiting services, providing parent and family education and support or Early Intervention with a child aged birth to 3.**
- *4 children **who received diapers from our** Diaper Bank.

Thank you for your continued support.

Building resourceful families and healthy children to create a strong community.

ELEVATE YOUTH SERVICES

(formerly the Washington County Youth Service Bureau)

Is an Important Resource to the Residents of Warren

During the past year (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), Elevate Youth Services (formerly Washington County Youth Service Bureau) provided the following services to **379 young people and families** in Central Vermont (21% of youth were engaged in multiple services and 76% of youth received intensive services). **3 youth from Warren were served.**

- **87 Teens** participated in the **Basement Teen Center** in Montpelier that provides regular, supervised drop-in time, a variety of positive activities, and opportunities for youth leadership that support positive skill development between the hours of 2pm and 6pm, when teens are at greatest risk to engage in harmful behaviors. **3712 direct service hours were provided to teens.**
- **137 Youths and their Families** were assisted by the **Country Roads Program** that provides 24-hour crisis intervention, short-term counseling, and temporary emergency shelter for youth who have runaway, are homeless, or are in crisis. **14 nights of shelter; 1382 direct service hours provided.**
- **110 Youth** were provided with **Substance Abuse Treatment** through the **Healthy Youth Program**. This includes substance abuse education, intervention, assessments, treatment, positive life skills coaching, and wellness opportunities. Support is also available for families. **524 direct service hours provided.**
- **32 Youth** were supported by the **Transitional Living Program** that helps homeless youth ages 16-24 establish stable housing and build independent living skills. This program teaches life skills and budgeting; assists with employment and education goals; and provides direct housing support. **329 direct service hours; *1003 nights of direct housing; and \$16,960 of direct rental assistance provided.**
- **6 Young men** were served by **Return House** that provides transitional assistance (housing and/or case management) to young men who are returning to Barre City from jail. Return House is staffed 24/7. ***515 nights of supervised housing provided.**
- **48 Youth** were served through the **Youth Development Program** which provides voluntary case management services to youth ages 15-22, who are, or have been, in the custody of the State through the Department for Children and Families. ***187 direct service hours provided.**

For close to 30 years, Elevate Youth Services has requested \$250 from the Town of Warren. This funding request represents a small fraction of the total revenue (.8 %) EYS receives from all Washington County town appropriation requests and is only a small fraction of the cost of the services provided by EYS. Most of the services provided to Warren residents have involved multiple sessions, counseling services were provided by certified or licensed counselors, and emergency temporary shelter included 24-hour supervision, meals, and transportation. Warren residents are eligible to participate in any of our community-based programs as outlined on our website: www.elevateyouthvt.org. EYS is a private, non-profit, social service agency. All programs and services are funded by foundations, state government, federal government, private donations, area towns, Medicaid, private insurance, and fundraising activities. **For more information, call 802-229- 9151.**



About Us:

The mission of Good Beginnings is to bring community to families and their babies. Founded in 1991 by three mothers in Northfield, we offer the following programs free-of-charge to any Central Vermont family with a new baby.

- **Postpartum Angel Family Support Program:** Trained community volunteers visit families weekly - for up to 12 weeks - to provide respite, community connections, and hands-on help during the postpartum period. Anyone caring for an infant in Central Vermont is eligible, regardless of income or circumstance. Through our **In Loving Arms** service (a program that will be starting again in 2024), specially-trained volunteers provide “in-arms care” to babies boarding at Central Vermont Medical Center due to health issues.
- **The Nest Parent Drop-In Space:** Our cozy community space in Montpelier is Thursdays and Fridays from 9 till 1 to browse our resource library, get babywearing tips, or just get out of the house with your little one. We also host Caregiver Meet-ups both onsite at the Nest, as well as throughout the community, based on weather, space and interest!
- **Early Parenting Workshops/Winter Wellness Workshops:** Free workshops are available for expectant parents on what happens **after** bringing baby home. Topics include newborn and infant care, babywearing and other soothing techniques, caring for yourself, attachment parenting. These and other educational workshops we offer are also helpful for grandparents, child care providers, and other caregivers!
- **Assistance with Basic Needs:** Our **Childbirth Education Scholarships** help low income families cover the cost of childbirth education classes. Our **Perinatal Support Fund** provides financial assistance to low-income families to help with basic or critical needs such as respite child care, birth support, transportation, stable housing, or connectivity. We have seen an increase in need for all these types of support during and since the pandemic.

How We've Helped Families in Central Vermont:

- 204 families served (totalling 317 adults and 253 children and 105 infants) in FY23
- Our 47 Postpartum Angel volunteers provided nearly 1020 hours of respite, support, and community connections to 78 families
- **We continue to see increased need for financial support from our Perinatal Support Fund.** This year, 16 families received a total of \$7,025 in financial assistance and 14 low-income parents received high-quality infant carriers through our Free Carrier Program.
- 30 families received hands-on support with babywearing, an important attachment strategy and coping technique for caregivers.
- 28 families attended one or more workshop in our Winter Wellness series of self-care offerings for parents and caregivers
- 30 families attended early parenting workshops

Contact Us: Good Beginnings of Central Vermont, 174 River Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
info@goodbeginningscentralvt.org * www.goodbeginningscentralvt.org * 802.595.7953

MAD RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY FUND

Since 1989, the Mad River Valley Community Fund has been helping to provide resources and financial assistance to community members in need. We have been able to help individuals and families with housing, transportation, heating, food security, and medical care costs. We work with partner organizations in the Mad River Valley to offer programs that enables us to help as many members of our community as possible.

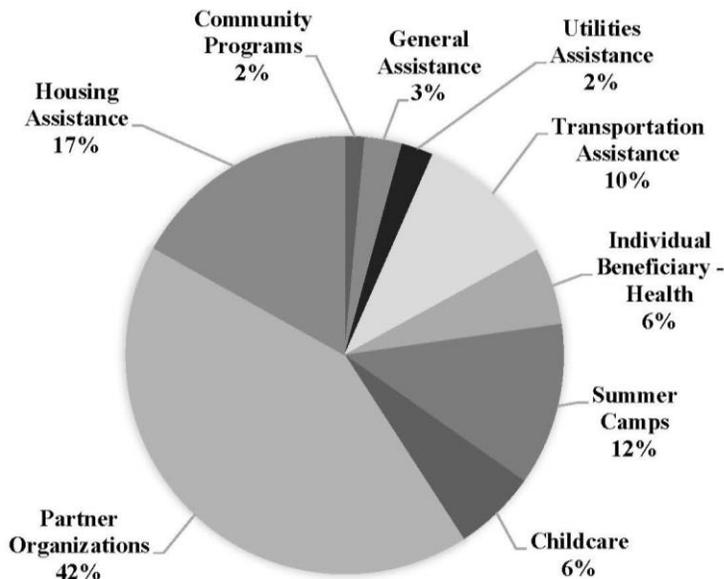
In 2023 the Mad River Valley Community Fund assisted 121 local households with \$249,556 direct payments to help with childcare, housing, utilities, transportation, and medical care costs.

Board of Directors:

Ashley Woods, *President*
Tom Mehuron, *Treasurer*
John Williams, *Secretary*
Whitney Doenges

Alison Hobart
Catherine Kalkstein
Troy Kingsbury
Charlotte Robinson

Grant Allocations 2023



Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

Barre Local Health Office | 5 Perry Street, Suite 250, Barre VT
802-479-4200 | AHS.VDHBarre@Vermont.gov

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. **The Barre Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Washington and northeast Orange counties.** Some highlights of our work in 2023 are below. For more information, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/barre



Central Vermont Flood Response

The historic flooding of 2023 devastated many of our central Vermont communities. We disseminated hundreds of free water test kits for central Vermont homeowners, critical health and safety information and protective equipment for cleanup. We collaborated with community partners including Montpelier Alive, Rainbow Bridge Community Center, Central Vermont Medical Center and People's Health and Wellness Center to provide tetanus and wound care clinics and participated in multiple local initiatives to address the public health concerns of immediate flood response and long-term flood recovery.



Nutrition Support for Families

The Barre Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program serves pregnant Vermonters, parents, and caregivers with children under 5 with healthy food benefits, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and counseling. In 2023, we were given a Premiere Level Breastfeeding Award of Excellence by the Federal Food and Nutrition Service. Notably, 83% of pregnant WIC participants breastfed, with 63% continuing beyond 6 months—surpassing the 25% national rate.



Protecting Central Vermonters

Our team of epidemiologists, public health nurses and public health specialists act every day to prevent the spread of disease. In 2023, we conducted nearly 200 reportable disease case investigations. With the help of community partners, we organized 23 vaccine clinics in locations such as farms, community events and flood recovery centers. In total, we provided 311 vaccines including COVID-19, flu, tetanus and Mpox.



CAPSTONE COMMUNITY ACTION

Fall 2023 Report to the Citizens of Warren

Since 1965, Capstone Community Action has served low-income residents of Lamoille, Orange, and Washington Counties and nine communities in Windsor, Addison, and Rutland Counties. We help people build better lives for themselves, their families and their communities. This year, Capstone Community Action served 11,492 people in 6,334 Vermont households through Head Start and Early Head Start, business development, financial education, food and nutrition resources, housing counseling, tax preparation, teen parent education, emergency heating assistance, home weatherization, workforce training, transportation and more.

Programs and services accessed by 39 Warren households representing 68 individuals this past year included:

- 5 individuals in 3 households accessed nutritious meals and/or meal equivalents at the food shelf.
- 12 households with 24 family members were able to keep heating their homes with help from our Crisis & Supplemental fuel programs as well as other utility costs.
- 6 individuals in 2 households worked with housing counselors to find and retain affordable, safe, secure housing.
- 7 households were weatherized at no charge, making them warmer and more energy efficient for 18 residents, including seniors and residents with disabilities.
- 2 entrepreneurs received counseling and technical assistance on starting or growing a business.
- 13 residents had their taxes prepared at no charge by Capstone's IRS certified volunteers ensuring them all the refunds and credits they were due.

Capstone thanks the residents of Warren for their generous support this year!



Since the COVID pandemic, Circle has seen a rise in both the number of and the severity of domestic and sexual violence incidences in Washington County. Circle Staff and Volunteer Advocates have continued to meet these increased needs in our community by responding to a higher number of hotline calls - 76 more calls than last year; by providing more nights in our emergency shelter- 620 more bed nights than last year; and working with more individuals than last year - 3,251 this year compared to 2,200 individuals last year.

In addition to these essential services, Circle staff and volunteer advocates have provided the following services during FY23 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023):

- ▶ Staff and volunteer advocates responded to 4,053 hot line calls.
- ▶ Shelter services were provided to 13 women and 15 children for a total of 3,364 bed nights.
- ▶ Our prevention based programs in schools reached a total of 35 students through 6 presentations.
- ▶ Circle provided community presentations to 346 individuals through the 16 trainings and workshops offered throughout Washington County.
- ▶ Advocates provided support to 89 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 86 individuals file for temporary orders.
- ▶ Our Court Hour Program, which offers one-on-one support to plaintiffs as they prepare for their final hearings, was offered to 94 individuals.
- ▶ We assisted 260 individuals with other civil legal matters; 70 people received support from an attorney through our legal clinic referral program.
- ▶ Advocates supported 92 individuals whose (ex) partners were facing criminal charges.
- ▶ Circle held 90 support group sessions, which 41 unduplicated women attended.
- ▶ 3,251 people, of which, 515 were unduplicated, received direct services from Circle, which are maintained by trained staff and volunteer advocates.
- ▶ Our organization continues to rely heavily on the vast support of its many dedicated volunteers; Board Members, Hotline Advocates, and Shelter Support have all contributed 8,668 hours to the work of Circle.

DOWNSTREET

Downstreet strengthens the communities of Central Vermont by creating permanently affordable homes, promoting equity and inclusion, and connecting people to the resources and services they need to thrive. Since 1987, we have served Washington, Lamoille, and Orange counties. We currently serve more than 2,400 people with low- and moderate-incomes each year through affordable rentals, homeownership programs, and supportive services including the nationally recognized SASH (Supports and Services at Home) program.

We currently provide homes to more than 900 people through our affordable apartments and mobile home lot rentals. This includes Wheeler Brook Apartments – home to 30 Warren residents. We currently have 39 new units of housing in development in Berlin and Barre, and are exploring opportunities to create new housing in Waterbury, Waitsfield, and Montpelier.

Our NeighborWorks HomeOwnership Center offers a wide range of services and resources to support individuals and families in their journey toward homeownership. Downstreet's comprehensive programs include homebuyer education, financial counseling, and down payment assistance – all designed to empower prospective homeowners with the knowledge and tools they need to navigate the complexities of the housing market. Through workshops, one-on-one counseling, and access to various resources, the HomeOwnership Center strives to make the dream of owning a home a reality for those in Vermont. Downstreet currently stewards one Warren home in our shared equity homeownership program, with a total of 162 homes across central Vermont. In addition to these homeownership programs, our HomeOwnership Center team administers several financing programs, including the Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) and the Green Mountain Home Repair (GMHR) Program.

SASH® Support and Services at Home is an innovative housing and care-coordination model for Medicare recipients who live at home. SASH brings together nonprofit housing providers, social service agencies, hospitals, and community health providers to coordinate care and provide individualized support to older Vermonters and people with disabilities, enabling them to age in place. SASH has been available statewide since 2011 and is implemented locally by designated regional housing organizations (DRHOs) throughout Vermont. The development of the model was led by Cathedral Square in 2009, with Downstreet as an early adopter, acting as the DRHO for Central Vermont since the piloting phase of 2009. The SASH program serves more than 600 older people and people with disabilities in Washington, Orange and Lamoille counties, with 4 participants in Warren.

For more information, visit our website at www.downstreet.org or call 802-476-4493
22 Keith Avenue, Suite 100 Barre, Vermont 05641

GREEN UP DAY



GREEN UP VERMONT

www.greenupvermont.org



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.

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow on Instagram (greenupvermont).
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