



**LEICESTER, VERMONT**  
**2025 TOWN REPORT**  
**January 2025 – December 2025**

**TOWN INFORMATIONAL HEARING:**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 02, 2026 7PM**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU

**TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTING:**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 03, 2026 10AM – 7PM**



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## DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 25, 2026 OUVUSD INFORMATIONAL MEETING - *CONTACT RNESU FOR INFO*  
MARCH 2, 2026 TOWN MEETING INFORMATIONAL HEARING - *MEETING HOUSE 7PM*  
MARCH 3, 2026 TOWN MEETING BALLOT VOTE - *TOWN OFFICE 10AM - 7PM*  
MARCH 17, 2026 RABIES CLINIC DOGS \$20 - *TOWN OFFICE 5PM - 6:30PM*  
MARCH 17, 2026 RABIES CLINIC CATS \$20 - *TOWN OFFICE 6:30PM - 7PM*  
APRIL 1, 2026 DOG LICENSES DUE (SEE PAGE 20)  
MAY 2, 2026 GREEN UP DAY  
NOVEMBER 15, 2026 TAXES DUE

**FRONT COVER:** Leicester, VT Photo by Julie Delphia



**Town of Leicester**  
44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733  
[WWW.LEICESTERTV.ORG](http://WWW.LEICESTERTV.ORG)

**TOWN INFORMATION**  
**OFFICE HOURS**

**Julie Delphia**  
**TOWN CLERK & TREASURER**  
(802) 247-5961  
[TOWNCLERK@LEICESTERTV.GOV](mailto:TOWNCLERK@LEICESTERTV.GOV)

By Appointment  
Monday 9:00am - 2:00pm  
Tuesday 9:00am - 2:00pm  
Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm

**A Drop Box** is located under the bulletin board on the front of the Town Office. Payments and correspondence may be placed in the **Drop Box** at any time.

**Dianne Harvey**  
**ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**  
(802) 465-4079  
[LISTER@LEICESTERTV.GOV](mailto:LISTER@LEICESTERTV.GOV)  
Tuesday 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Keith Arlund**  
**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**  
(802) 465-4079 (OFFICE)  
(802) 465-8098  
[ZONING@LEICESTERTV.GOV](mailto:ZONING@LEICESTERTV.GOV)  
By Appointment

**RECYCLING:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month 9:00am - 12:00pm at Town Hall

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

Held at Town Office

**SELECTBOARD**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month at 6:30pm

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

2<sup>nd</sup> & Last Tuesday of month at 6:00pm  
As required

**ZONING BOARD**

2<sup>nd</sup> & Last Tuesday of month at 6:00pm  
As required

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE** (Apr - Oct)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month at 6:30pm

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

(AS OF 1/1/2026)

Diane Benware  
**Selectboard Chair**  
(802) 247-3786

Arlan Pidgeon  
**Road Foreman**  
(802) 247-6361

Ricky Nicklaw  
**Fire Warden**  
(802) 247-8357

Tom Barker  
**Selectboard Member**  
(802) 247-3160

Brad Lawes  
**Road Commissioner**  
(802) 465-8065

Chree Perkins  
**Health Officer**  
(802) 465-8335

Brad Lawes  
**Selectboard Member**  
(802) 465-8065

Beth Ripley  
**Del. Tax Collector**  
(802) 247-0075

Robbie Devoid  
**Animal Control**  
(802) 349-6163

John Rouse  
**Selectboard Member**  
(802) 247-3135

Jeff McDonough  
**1<sup>st</sup> Constable**  
(802) 343-0788

Diane Randall  
**Selectboard Member**  
(802) 558-8885

Mike Rakowitz  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Constable**  
(802) 247-3281

## LEICESTER TOWN OFFICIALS

### ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

#### **Auditors**

Lyndsay D'Avignon	March 2026
Deb Miner	March 2027
Donna Pidgeon	March 2028

#### **Delinquent Tax Collector**

Elizabeth Ripley	March 2026
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#### **Justices of the Peace**

Cheryl Morrison	February 2027
Diane Benware	February 2027
Hilary Hatch	February 2027
Thomas Barker	February 2027
Greg Bernhardt	February 2027

#### **Moderator**

Richard Reed	March 2026
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#### **Town Clerk**

Julie Delphia	March 2026
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#### **Town Treasurer**

Julie Delphia	March 2026
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#### **Selectboard**

Diane Benware, Chair (3)	March 2028
Diane Randall (2)	March 2026
Brad Lawes (3)	March 2027
John Rouse (3)	March 2026
Thomas Barker (2)	March 2027

#### **Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Jay Michael (3)	November 2026
Donna Swington (3)	November 2028
Lyndsay D'Avignon (3)	November 2027
Jeff McDonough (3)	November 2026
Bill Shouldice (3)	November 2028

#### **Planning Commission**

Jay Michael (3)	November 2026
Donna Swington - Chair (3)	November 2028
Suki Fredricks (3)	November 2027
Jeff McDonough (3)	November 2026
Bill Shouldice (3)	November 2028
Lyndsay D'Avignon - Alternate	

#### **Otter Creek Watershed Mosquito District**

Doug Perkins
Adam Fasoli
Brad Lawes - Alternate

### HIRED TOWN OFFICIALS

#### **Administrative Assistant to the Assessor**

Dianne Harvey	Hired
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#### **Road Foreman**

Arlan Pidgeon	Hired
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#### **Zoning Administrator**

Keith Arlund	Hired
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#### **Animal Control Officer**

Robbie Devoid	Hired
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### APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS    Term Expires

#### **Cemetery Sexton**

Donna Pidgeon	March 2026
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#### **Emergency Management Coordinator**

John Rouse	May 2026
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#### **Energy Coordinator**

Jeremy Gildrien	May 2026
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#### **First Constable**

Jeff McDonough	March 2026
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#### **Forest Fire Warden**

Richard C. Nicklaw	June 2026
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#### **Regional Planning Representative**

Diane Benware	June 2026
Tom Barker	June 2026

#### **Road Commissioner**

Brad Lawes	March 2026
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#### **Second Constable**

Mike Rakowitz	March 2026
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#### **Solid Waste Representative**

Richard Reed	March 2026
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#### **Tree Warden**

Arlan Pidgeon	March 2026
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#### **Health Officer**

Chree Perkins (3)	August 2028
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**LEICESTER TOWN INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOTICE**

The Selectboard for the Leicester will hold a public informational hearing at the Leicester Meeting House on March 2, 2026, at 7:00pm to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2026 Town Meeting Warning.

**AGENDA**

*Times are approximate*

- Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance (5 minutes)
- Additions or deletions to the agenda (5 minutes)
- Review and discuss articles to be voted by Australian Ballot (20 minutes)
- To do any other business that is proper to be done when met (5 minutes)
- Adjourn hearing

**LEICESTER TOWN MEETING WARNING**

The legal voters of the Town of Leicester, Vermont are warned and notified to meet at the **Leicester Town Office** in said Town on **March 3, 2026**, between the hours of **10 AM and 7 PM** when the polls will be open to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles:

**Article I:** To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year:

- A Moderator for a one (1) year term
- A Selectboard Member for a three (3) year term
- A Selectboard Member for a two (2) year term
- An Auditor for a three (3) year term
- A Delinquent Tax Collector for a one (1) year term
- A Town Clerk for a three (3) year term
- A Town Treasurer for a three (3) year term

**Article II:** Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of **\$830,200.04** to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year, divided as follows:

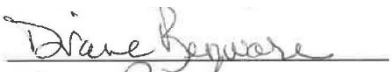
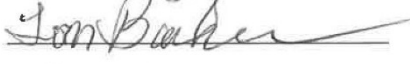
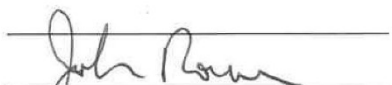
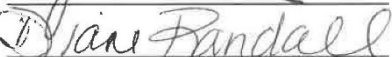
<b>General Town Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 359,335.04</b>	<b>Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 346,556.80</b>
<b>Highway Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 470,865.00</b>	<b>Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 350,957.64</b>

Note: The amount to be raised will increase by the amounts voted on Australian ballot. Selectboard will set the tax rate at a later date.

**Article III:** Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester appropriate \$1,000 to **Charter House Coalition**, for program related costs associated with operations of its emergency shelter, food program and social services in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

**Article IV:** Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester approve an additional \$20,000 for ~25 additional hours of Sheriff patrols focusing on traffic enforcement?

Leicester Selectboard:  
January 22, 2026

## NOTICE TO VOTERS

### **BEFORE ELECTION DAY:**

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by **February 1, 2026** (30 days before election). If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. SAMPLE BALLOTS will be posted by **February 21, 2026** (10 days before election).

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

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at [mvp.sec.state.vt.us](http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us). The latest you can request ballots for the Town Meeting Election is the close of the Town Clerk's office on **March 2, 2026**. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

### WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the town clerk's office before the deadline.
- Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the clerk's office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If you are sick or disabled before Election Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

### **ON ELECTION DAY:**

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

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

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

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

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

If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.

### NO PERSON SHALL:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

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

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633. If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office. If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots**

CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS: Go to the entrance checklist table. Give name and, if asked, street address to the election official in a loud voice. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official. An election official will give you a ballot. Enter within the guardrail and go to a vacant voting booth.

MARK YOUR BALLOT: For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc." To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for. WRITE-IN candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

CHECK OUT: Go to the exit checklist table and state your name in an audible voice. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

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

LEAVE the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.

**LEICESTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

**TOWN RECEIPTS**

Balance, Jan. 1, 2025		28,705.90
Allocated Funds Education		500,000.00
Transfers	259,853.05	
Grant Income	54,648.45	
Fines, Fees, & License Income	5,639.47	
Property Taxes	3,721,191.00	
Zoning Income	1,975.00	
Other Income	<u>1,476.20</u>	
Total Income	4,044,783.17	<u>4,044,783.17</u>
<b>TOTAL TOWN RECEIPTS</b>		<u>4,573,489.07</u>

**TOWN DISBURSEMENTS**

Allocated Funds Education		680,000.00
Transfers to Restricted Funds	229,430.50	
Payments covered by Restricted Funds	59,853.05	
Selectboard Orders	263,848.90	
Assessments & Appropriations	110,062.28	
Education Taxes	<u>3,238,027.10</u>	
Total Expense	3,901,221.83	<u>3,901,221.83</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<u>4,581,221.83</u>

**Ending Balance Dec 31, 2025** **-7,732.76**

**LEICESTER HIGHWAY SUMMARY**

**HIGHWAY RECEIPTS**

Balance Jan 1, 2025		99,814.29
Highway Tax Receipts	340,400.71	
Highway Grant	6,398.68	
Highway Aid	38,582.11	
Weight Permits	605.00	
Reimbursement Income	0.00	
Transfers from Restricted	<u>5,500.00</u>	
Total Income	391,486.50	<u>391,486.50</u>
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY RECEIPTS</b>		<u>491,300.79</u>

**HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS**

Transfer to Restricted Funds	40,000.00	
Payments covered by Restricted Funds	5,500.00	
Selectboard Orders	<u>396,493.43</u>	
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS</b>	441,993.43	<u>441,993.43</u>

**Ending Balance Dec 31, 2025** **49,307.36**

**STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED**

<b>Tax Rate:</b>	<b>Homestead</b>		<b>Non-residential</b>	
Town	0.1618		0.1618	
Town Highway	0.1833		0.1833	
Veteran Exemption	0.0023		0.0023	
Education	1.9262		2.0865	
<b>Total Tax Rate</b>	<b>2.2736</b>		<b>2.4339</b>	
<b>Grand List</b>	1,858,026.00			
<b>Taxes billed:</b>				
Town	1,858,026.00	x	0.1618	300,628.43
Highway	1,858,026.00	x	0.1833	340,576.28
				641,204.71
Education Taxes:				
Veteran's Exemp.	1,858,026.00	x	0.0023	4,273.55
Homestead	835,612.00	x	1.9262	1,609,555.85
Non-Residential	1,025,081.66	x	2.0865	2,138,833.08
				3,752,662.48
Late Filer Penalty				1,990.46
Total Taxes Billed				4,395,857.65
Less State Rebates				331,052.85
<b>Balance to be collected</b>				<b>4,064,804.80</b>
<b>Taxes Accounted for as Follows:</b>				
2025 Current Taxes				3,908,110.92
2025 Payments from Previous Year				663.85
2025 Delinquents Collected				47,825.61
2025 Delinquents Outstanding				108,204.42
<b>Total</b>				<b>4,064,804.80</b>

**% of Property Tax Town vs. Education  
Homestead Property Tax Bill**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Town & Highway	15.2%	15.5%	17.4%	19.1%
Education Homestead	84.8%	83.9%	82.6%	80.9%

**% of Property Tax Town vs. Education  
Non-Residential Property Tax Bill**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Town & Highway	14.2%	14.2%	15.5%	17.0%
Education Non-Residential	85.8%	85.3%	84.5%	83.0%

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD TOWN RECEIPTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Balance in General Fund	52,823.04	28,705.90	28,705.90	-7,732.76	After receivables/payables
<b>Loans and Transfers:</b>					
Transfer from Restricted Funds	215,119.50		259,853.05		See Funds Page 15
Tax Account Allocation Refund	519,000.00		500,000.00		Allocated for State Ed pmt
<b>Grants &amp; State Direct Deposits</b>					
Grant Income	21,884.51		47,907.95		See Grant Info Page 15
State DD Reappraisal Fund	6,732.00		6,740.50		See Funds Page 15
<b>TOTAL LOANS AND TRANSFERS</b>	<b>762,736.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>814,501.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Fines, Fees &amp; Licenses:</b>					
Civil Fines from Sheriff Patrol	1,280.21		2,701.47		<b>Register your dog by April 1st See report page 20</b>
Dog Licenses / Fines	2,923.00	2,200.00	2,618.00		
License - Liquor / Junkyard/ Cannibus	130.00	65.00	320.00	130.00	
<b>TOTAL FINES, FEES, &amp; LICENSES</b>	<b>4,333.21</b>	<b>2,265.00</b>	<b>5,639.47</b>	<b>130.00</b>	
<b>Taxes:</b>					
Current Taxes - Town	281,057.68		300,579.78		
Education Tax True-Up/Municipal Adj	7,807.00		5,507.11		
Current Taxes - Education	3,026,099.02		3,267,130.43		
Delinquent Taxes, Interest, Penalties, Tax Sale Principal & Penalty Revenue	93,579.85		117,966.12		Penalty pays DTC, Tax Sale Principal & Penalty Included
Tax prepayments	663.85		7,125.68		
Current Use	11,561.00	10,000.00	12,794.00	11,000.00	
Fed Bureau Land Mgt - PILOT	9,288.17	7,500.00	9,706.27	9,000.00	
Railroad Tax	381.61	350.00	381.61	381.00	
<b>TOTAL TAXES</b>	<b>3,430,438.18</b>	<b>17,850.00</b>	<b>3,721,191.00</b>	<b>20,381.00</b>	
<b>Zoning:</b>					
Zoning Permit Fees	1,425.00		1,975.00		Fees offset Zoning expense
<b>TOTAL ZONING</b>	<b>1,425.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,975.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Other Income:</b>					
Reimbursement	106.00				
Maple Broadband Easement	4,500.00				
Interest on Checking	1,400.87		1,336.20		
Rental of Town Hall/Meeting House	35.00		140.00		
Other					
<b>TOTAL OTHER</b>	<b>6,041.87</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,476.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL TOWN RECEIPTS</b>	<b>4,257,797.31</b>	<b>48,820.90</b>	<b>4,573,489.07</b>	<b>12,778.24</b>	

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS
<b>Town Meeting Vote:</b>					
Brandon Library Restoration Fund	25,000.00				Voted at Town Meeting '24
<b>Transfers:</b>					
Transfer to Building Repair Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Cemetery Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Clerk Education/Software	920.00	965.00	690.00	965.00	See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Municipal Expense Fund	192,049.50		200,000.00		See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Professional Audit Fund	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Reappraisal Fund	11,732.00	5,000.00	11,740.50	5,000.00	See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Records Restoration	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 15
<b>Allocated Funds:</b>					
Transfer to Tax Account	500,000.00		680,000.00		State Education Tax Pmt
<b>Payments covered by Restricted Fund Transfers:</b>					
Reappraisal	21,150.00		42,478.76		See Funds Page 15
Building Expenses			13,651.79		See Funds Page 15
Records Restoration	1,920.00		3,722.50		See Funds Page 15
<b>LOANS AND TRANSFERS TOTAL</b>	<b>769,771.50</b>	<b>22,965.00</b>	<b>969,283.55</b>	<b>22,965.00</b>	

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS
<b>Auditing:</b>					
Salaries	723.75	1,000.00	393.75	750.00	
<b>AUDITING TOTAL</b>	<b>723.75</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>393.75</b>	<b>750.00</b>	
<b>Selectboard:</b>					
		4,000.00		4,000.00	Rate set by Auditors
Diane Benware, Chair	1,000.00		1,000.00		
Brad Lawes	750.00		750.00		
Diane Randall	750.00		750.00		
John Rouse	750.00		750.00		
Tom Barker	750.00		750.00		
Selectboard Secretary	1,710.00	2,200.00	2,070.00	2,200.00	
<b>SELECTBOARD TOTAL</b>	<b>5,710.00</b>	<b>6,200.00</b>	<b>6,070.00</b>	<b>6,200.00</b>	
<b>Listing:</b>					
Consulting	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,120.00	6,240.00	Contract with NEMRC
Salaries	2,043.75	2,500.00	2,021.25	2,500.00	
Software	235.00	300.00	311.60	323.00	
Tax Map Update	1,800.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,150.00	Update & Maintain Maps
<b>LISTING TOTAL</b>	<b>10,078.75</b>	<b>10,800.00</b>	<b>10,452.85</b>	<b>11,213.00</b>	
<b>Recycling:</b>					
Solid Waste	15,862.56	16,510.44	16,510.44	17,501.04	1st & 3rd Sat 9am-12pm
<b>RECYCLING TOTAL</b>	<b>15,862.56</b>	<b>16,510.44</b>	<b>16,510.44</b>	<b>17,501.04</b>	
<b>Buildings Expenses:</b>					
Meeting House	18.00		205.59		
Town Hall	510.00		594.50		
Town Office	4,951.71		949.76		
<b>Fuel:</b>					
Meeting House	2,041.12	4,400.00	3,301.52	4,000.00	
Town Hall	901.66	1,100.00	1,524.82	1,500.00	
<b>Grounds Care:</b>					
Cemetery	5,700.00	6,000.00	4,250.00	6,000.00	
Office ,Town Green, Fern Lake Access	4,940.00	6,000.00	4,976.99	5,000.00	
<b>TOTAL BLDGS &amp; GRNDS EXPENSES</b>	<b>19,062.49</b>	<b>27,500.00</b>	<b>15,803.18</b>	<b>22,500.00</b>	
<p><i>Note: Clerk fees for recording, vault usage, and licenses are set by State Statute. Depending upon the types of transactions, total fees collected can vary greatly year to year. These fees are paid by individuals or firms based on the statute fee schedule posted at the Town Office. Fees collected not otherwise identified in this report, were \$14,455.</i></p>					
<b>Town Clerk / Treasurer / Assistant:</b>					
Clerk / Treasurer Training	80.00	35.00	310.00	35.00	See Funds Page 15
Office Assistant	2,013.75	4,000.00	2,358.75	3,000.00	
Town Clerk, Julie Delphia	11,000.00	11,750.00	11,750.00	11,750.00	
Treasurer, Julie Delphia	12,000.00	12,750.00	12,750.00	12,750.00	
<b>CLERK / TREAS / ASSIST TOTAL</b>	<b>25,093.75</b>	<b>28,535.00</b>	<b>27,168.75</b>	<b>27,535.00</b>	
<b>Office Expenses:</b>					
Cleaning Services	599.00	600.00	599.00	600.00	
Cleaning Supplies	98.78	200.00	216.17	200.00	
Office Supplies	2,994.85	3,000.00	2,545.04	3,000.00	
Postage	2,901.26	3,900.00	3,978.27	3,900.00	Bulk Postage Permit Req'd
Printing	2,728.50	2,800.00	2,641.00	2,800.00	
<b>Technology Expense:</b>					
Copier	2,347.32	2,347.32	2,347.32	2,347.32	
Computer Tech Support / License	2,586.68	2,600.00	3,525.31	3,600.00	
Town Web Page	641.09	800.00	1,000.00	1,060.00	
<b>Disaster Recovery / Maintenance:</b>					
NEMRC Annual Support	5,642.00	5,700.00	5,811.26	5,900.00	NEMRC Contract
NEMRC Disaster Recovery Contract	1,439.62	1,500.00	1,482.80	1,600.00	NEMRC Contract
Monthly IT Maintenance & Security	3,300.00	3,300.00	4,318.70	3,700.00	Annual IT Contract
<b>TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES</b>	<b>25,279.10</b>	<b>26,747.32</b>	<b>28,464.87</b>	<b>28,707.32</b>	

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS**

<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>Insurance:</b>					
Property & Casualty	11,525.75	<b>12,365.36</b>	10,372.42	<b>12,270.88</b>	Figures are actuals for 2026
Workman's Comp	5,886.25	<b>5,365.28</b>	4,250.38	<b>5,879.00</b>	Figures are actuals for 2026
<b>INSURANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>17,412.00</b>	<b>17,730.64</b>	<b>14,622.80</b>	<b>18,149.88</b>	
<b>Zoning:</b>					
Recording Fees	435.00		360.00		Paid by Zoning Permit Fees
Zoning Administrator/Secretary	2,050.00	<b>2,000.00</b>	2,000.00	<b>2,000.00</b>	
Printing	304.10	<b>500.00</b>	328.80	<b>500.00</b>	
<b>ZONING TOTAL</b>	<b>2,789.10</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,688.80</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	
<b>Utilities:</b>					
Electricity	3,781.99	<b>4,000.00</b>	4,721.83	<b>4,800.00</b>	
Telephone	3,751.24	<b>4,000.00</b>	3,605.74	<b>4,000.00</b>	
<b>UTILITIES TOTAL</b>	<b>7,533.23</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>	<b>8,327.57</b>	<b>8,800.00</b>	
<b>Public Safety:</b>					
Addison County Humane Society	600.00	<b>600.00</b>	500.00	<b>600.00</b>	Annual Contract
Animal Control					Covered by Dog Income
<i>Dog Licenses - Tags</i>	166.33		175.97		Covered by Dog Income
<i>Dog Licenses - Clerk Fees</i>	432.00		418.00		Covered by Dog Income
<i>Dog Licenses - State Fees</i>	1,080.00		1,456.00		Covered by Dog Income
Fire Protection Contract - BFD	48,000.00	<b>48,000.00</b>	48,000.00	<b>48,000.00</b>	
Fire Warden	200.00	<b>200.00</b>	200.00	<b>200.00</b>	
Health Officer	250.00	<b>250.00</b>	250.00	<b>250.00</b>	
Law Enforcement Expenses	7,823.44	<b>6,000.00</b>	12,526.75	<b>10,000.00</b>	Partial pd by Ticket Income
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>58,551.77</b>	<b>55,050.00</b>	<b>63,526.72</b>	<b>59,050.00</b>	
<b>Other Expenses:</b>					
Trash Removal - Bullock Rd	40.00	<b>150.00</b>	37.00	<b>150.00</b>	
<i>Delinquent Tax Collector - Beth Ripley</i>	6,739.95		7,373.11		Covered by DTC penalty
Elections / Payroll & Supplies	2,078.13	<b>600.00</b>	436.56	<b>2,000.00</b>	Three elections 2026
<b>Grants:</b> Milfoil Grant to LDFLA			35,772.00		See Grant Info Page 15
CTCL Grant	5,013.29				
Planning Grant LHMP	3,832.98	<b>1,500.00</b>			
MERP Grant	4,000.00		12,135.95		See Grant Info Page 15
Grant Administration	500.00	<b>500.00</b>	500.00	<b>500.00</b>	
Legal Fees	1,420.67	<b>3,000.00</b>	1,733.28	<b>3,000.00</b>	
Miscellaneous	511.05	<b>200.00</b>	1,265.25	<b>600.00</b>	Memoriums & Porta Potty
Town Moderator	150.00	<b>150.00</b>	150.00	<b>150.00</b>	
<b>Payroll Liability:</b>					
Payroll Tax Liability - FICA / Medicare	9,645.02	<b>10,500.00</b>	9,996.43	<b>10,500.00</b>	
Tax Sales Legal & Recording Fees					
Abatements			419.59		
Workshops / Training - Town Officers	10.00	<b>200.00</b>	0.00	<b>200.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>33,941.09</b>	<b>16,800.00</b>	<b>69,819.17</b>	<b>17,100.00</b>	
<b>Assessments:</b>					
Addison County Humane Society	1,000.00	<b>1,000.00</b>	1,000.00	<b>1,000.00</b>	Animal Holding Facility
Addison County Regional Planning	1,336.50	<b>1,366.20</b>	1,366.20	<b>1,405.80</b>	On per capita basis
Addison County Tax	12,434.00	<b>15,834.00</b>	15,834.00	<b>17,861.00</b>	County tax
American Red Cross	500.00	<b>500.00</b>	500.00	<b>500.00</b>	
Brandon Area Rescue Squad	19,800.00	<b>19,800.00</b>	19,800.00	<b>19,800.00</b>	
Brandon Library	2,500.00	<b>2,500.00</b>	2,500.00	<b>2,500.00</b>	
Green - Up Vermont	100.00	<b>100.00</b>	100.00	<b>100.00</b>	Reports can be found starting on page 25.
Lake Dunmore / Fern Lake Assoc	25,000.00	<b>25,000.00</b>	25,000.00	<b>25,000.00</b>	
Otter Creek Watershed Insect CD	25,997.00	<b>25,975.00</b>	25,975.00	<b>30,248.00</b>	
Vermont League of Cities & Towns	2,476.00	<b>2,531.00</b>	2,531.00	<b>2,606.00</b>	Municipal Assistance Center
<b>TOTAL ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>91,143.50</b>	<b>94,606.20</b>	<b>94,606.20</b>	<b>101,020.80</b>	

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS	
<b>Appropriations</b>					Requests on file at TC	
Addison County Economic Development	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	Reports can be found starting on page 24.	
Addison County Home Health Care	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00		
Addison County Parent/Child Center	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00		
Addison County Readers	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00		
Addison County Restorative Justice	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		
Age Well	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00		
Atria Collective formerly WomenSafe	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Counseling Service of Addison County	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00		
Elderly Services Inc.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00		
HOPE	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00		
John W. Graham Housing & Services	725.00	725.00	725.00	725.00		
Open Door Clinic	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		
Otter Creek Natural Resources	113.08	113.08	113.08	0.00		No request submitted
RSVP of Addison County	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00		Reports can be found starting on page 24.
Rutland County Parent/Child Center	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		
Tri-Valley Transit	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00		
Turning Point Center	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Vermont Adult Learning	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00		
Vermont CARES - Aids Research	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00		
VT Center for Independent Living	145.00	145.00	145.00	145.00		
Whiting Community Food Shelf		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00		
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>14,456.08</b>	<b>15,456.08</b>	<b>15,456.08</b>	<b>15,343.00</b>		
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>327,637.17</b>	<b>327,435.68</b>	<b>373,911.18</b>	<b>336,370.04</b>		
<b>OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SD</b>	<b>2,107,516.00</b>		<b>2,026,153.00</b>		Education Tax	
<b>STATE EDUCATION TAX</b>	<b>1,024,166.74</b>		<b>1,211,874.10</b>		Education Tax	
<b>TOTAL TOWN DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>4,229,091.41</b>	<b>350,400.68</b>	<b>4,581,221.83</b>	<b>359,335.04</b>		

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY RECEIPTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Balance in Highway Fund	70,681.72	99,814.29	99,814.29	49,307.36	
<b>Transfers and Loans</b>					
Transfer from Bridge/Culvert Fund	1,319.49				See Funds Page 15
Transfer From Equipment Fund			5,500.00		See Funds Page 15
Transfer from Highway Fund					See Funds Page 15
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS AND LOANS</b>	<b>1,319.49</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
Agency of Transportation Highway Aid	74,987.96	35,000.00	38,582.11	70,000.00	
State Highway Grant	10,000.00		6,398.68		
Current Taxes to Highway Fund	361,908.28		340,400.71		
Reimbursement - Highway	2,739.00				
Road Permits	645.00	600.00	605.00	600.00	
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY RECEIPTS</b>	<b>522,281.45</b>	<b>135,414.29</b>	<b>491,300.79</b>	<b>119,907.36</b>	

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS
<b>Loans and Transfers:</b>					
Transfer to Highway Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	See Funds Page 15
Transfer to Equipment Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	See Funds Page 15
<b>Payments covered by Restricted Fund Transfers:</b>					
Equipment			5,500.00		See Funds Page 15
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>	<b>45,500.00</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>	

**TOWN OF LEICESTER**

**SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS**

ACCOUNT	2024 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	COMMENTS
<b>Equipment Repairs:</b>		<b>10,000.00</b>		<b>10,000.00</b>	
Chains & Miscellaneous Parts			39.40		
Loader	379.32		2,718.41		
Plow & Wing - Shoes/Blades/Parts			9,765.01		
Sander	104.60				
Truck			338.38		
<b>TOTAL EQUIPMENT REPAIRS</b>	<b>483.92</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>12,861.20</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	
<b>Highway Grants:</b>					
OJR Bridge/Culvert Match	1,319.49				
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY GRANTS</b>	<b>1,319.49</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Equipment Rental:</b>		<b>115,000.00</b>		<b>105,000.00</b>	
Other					
Arlan Pidgeon	99,209.00		89,458.00		
<b>TOTAL EQUIPMENT RENTAL</b>	<b>99,209.00</b>	<b>115,000.00</b>	<b>89,458.00</b>	<b>105,000.00</b>	
<b>Materials:</b>		<b>105,000.00</b>		<b>115,000.00</b>	
Chloride	11,210.00		9,600.00		
Sand, Stone & Gravel	31,519.54		40,239.54		
Salt	40,720.25		41,823.60		
Winter Sand	19,449.32		21,908.99		
<b>TOTAL MATERIALS</b>	<b>102,899.11</b>	<b>105,000.00</b>	<b>113,572.13</b>	<b>115,000.00</b>	
<b>General Highway Expenses:</b>					
Bridge Drain Cleaning	600.00	<b>300.00</b>	0.00	<b>300.00</b>	
Culverts	1,783.60	<b>2,500.00</b>	0.00	<b>2,500.00</b>	
Town Shed Repair / Electricity	475.81	<b>1,000.00</b>	789.95	<b>1,000.00</b>	
Fuels, Oil, Antifreeze - Loader	2,961.05	<b>3,000.00</b>	1,970.77	<b>3,000.00</b>	
Miscellaneous	1,384.04	<b>2,500.00</b>	662.06	<b>2,500.00</b>	beavers, mulch, etc.
Fuel Surcharge	983.60	<b>1,500.00</b>			
MRPG Annual Fee	1,350.00	<b>1,590.00</b>	1,350.00	<b>1,590.00</b>	Annual Fees
Resurfacing	93,241.74	<b>100,000.00</b>	97,039.37	<b>100,000.00</b>	
Green-up Removal	677.00	<b>675.00</b>	675.00	<b>675.00</b>	
Roadside Mowing	8,959.00	<b>9,000.00</b>	8,992.00	<b>9,000.00</b>	
Signs	796.04	<b>1,000.00</b>	870.07	<b>1,000.00</b>	
Town Shed Furnace Fuel	1,968.70	<b>2,500.00</b>	3,768.10	<b>3,800.00</b>	
Town Shed Repair	251.06	<b>250.00</b>	2,467.78	<b>500.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>115,431.64</b>	<b>125,815.00</b>	<b>118,585.10</b>	<b>125,865.00</b>	
<b>Payroll:</b>		<b>80,000.00</b>		<b>75,000.00</b>	
Arlan Pidgeon	26,790.00		27,510.00		
Scott Pidgeon	23,145.00		21,000.00		
Steven Morrison	9,029.00		6,831.00		
Terry Muzzy	495.00		4,796.00		
Cameron New	2,489.00				
Richard LaPorte			44.00		
Robert Charbonneau			66.00		
Tom Barker	1,176.00		1,770.00		
<b>TOTAL PAYROLL</b>	<b>63,124.00</b>	<b>80,000.00</b>	<b>62,017.00</b>	<b>75,000.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>422,467.16</b>	<b>475,815.00</b>	<b>441,993.43</b>	<b>470,865.00</b>	
BALANCE	99,814.29	<b>-340,400.71</b>	49,307.36	<b>-350,957.64</b>	

	2025	2026	Difference
Town	350,400.68	359,335.04	<b>8,934.36</b>
Highway	475,815.00	470,865.00	<b>-4,950.00</b>
	<b>826,215.68</b>	<b>830,200.04</b>	<b>3,984.36</b>
			<b>0.48%</b>

**COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

	<b>TOWN</b>		<b>HIGHWAY</b>	
	<b>1/1/2025</b>	<b>12/31/2025</b>	<b>1/1/2025</b>	<b>12/31/2025</b>
<b>ASSETS:</b>				
Checking	28,705.90	-7,732.76	99,814.29	49,307.36
Total Delinquent Taxes	113,868.21	108,204.42		
Restricted Funds	636,043.13	606,686.64	411,256.29	446,589.20
Allocated Funds	500,000.00	680,000.00		
Equipment			237,005.00	242,505.00
Buildings & Improvements	94,402.00	94,402.00	51,975.00	51,975.00
Land & Improvements				
Highway/Culverts/Bridges			5,005,410.00	5,102,449.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,373,019.24</b>	<b>1,481,560.30</b>	<b>5,805,460.58</b>	<b>5,892,825.56</b>

**ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATIONS**

Equipment			167,518.00	190,311.00
Buildings	38,132.00	40,476.00	33,775.00	34,331.00
Highways/Culverts/Bridges			3,848,233.00	4,109,690.00
	<u>38,132.00</u>	<u>40,476.00</u>	<u>4,049,526.00</u>	<u>4,334,332.00</u>

Assets less Depreciation	1,334,887.24	1,441,084.30	1,755,934.58	1,558,493.56
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**LIABILITIES:**

Loans, short term	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loans, long term	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	6,570.88	7,044.64	0.00	0.00
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>6,570.88</b>	<b>7,044.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,336,830.06</b>	<b>1,434,039.66</b>	<b>1,873,660.17</b>	<b>1,558,493.56</b>
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**AUDITORS' REPORT**

We, the elected Auditors for the Town of Leicester, in accordance with VSA 24 § 1681, have examined the accounts and records of the Town for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. To the best of our knowledge and belief, these records present a fair and accurate accounting of Leicester's financial activities.

As in previous years, the Auditors wish to express our appreciation to Julie Delphia for her assistance in making this examination possible and for the energy she puts into compiling nearly all the information that you see in this Town Report. The detailed and accurate manner in which the Town's financial records are kept makes our job much easier.

Deb Miner  
Donna Pidgeon  
Lyndsay D'Avignon

## DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

The State of Vermont has recently enacted new requirements regarding delinquent taxes and tax sales. Here are a few of the most important changes:

A taxpayer must be made aware they may be able to receive a reduction of charges, penalties, or interest through municipal abatement.

A tax sale warrant cannot be extended until a delinquent taxpayer is given an opportunity to enter a written reasonable repayment plan.

A property must be delinquent for a period longer than one year before it can go to tax sale.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about abatement or to make a payment plan at (802) 247-0075.

Respectfully submitted, *Beth Swinington Ripley*, Delinquent Tax Collector

### DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S POLICY TOWN OF LEICESTER

1. All payments made on or before November 15 will be timely. After November 15, they will be considered delinquent and subject to interest and fees.
2. It is requested that all back taxes be paid before current taxes are paid.
3. **Partial payments will be taken. Payments will be applied to interest and fees first, and the remainder on the tax.**
4. Bills will be sent out on a monthly basis.
5. No post-dated checks will be accepted.
6. All bad checks will be prosecuted, if not made good in ten (10) days.
7. **Accounts 12 months delinquent can be sold at a tax sale at the discretion of the delinquent tax collector.**
8. All payments must be paid to the delinquent tax collector or the treasurer.
9. All taxpayers must notify the town of a change of address, in state or out of state, in a timely manner.
10. No mobile home can be sold or moved unless all taxes are paid and a transfer filed at the town office. The owner and mover can be fined.

#### COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TAXES

Year	Interest	Penalty	Tax	Total
2018	\$824.10	\$80.42	\$1,005.25	\$1,909.77
2019	\$733.60	\$83.87	\$1,048.35	\$1,865.82
2020	\$620.46	\$79.46	\$1,099.06	\$1,798.98
2021	\$983.48	\$169.14	\$2,114.22	\$3,266.84
2022	\$2,315.14	\$408.55	\$4,951.39	\$7,675.08
2023	\$3,019.81	\$1,177.63	\$16,039.80	\$20,237.24
2024	\$2,267.75	\$2,015.86	\$25,183.56	\$29,467.17
2025	\$561.43	\$3,358.18	\$47,825.61	\$51,745.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,325.77</b>	<b>\$7,373.11</b>	<b>\$99,267.24</b>	<b>\$117,966.12</b>

#### DELINQUENT TAXES DUE

<b>Total Delinquent Taxes:</b>	<b>\$170,631.00</b>
<b>Total Delinquent Interest:</b>	<b>\$19,011.75</b>
<b>Total Delinquent Penalty:</b>	<b>\$14,109.35</b>
<b>Total Delinquent Due:</b>	<b>\$203,752.10</b>

## RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01/01/25	Deposits 2025	Interest 2025	Withdrawn 2025	Balance 12/31/25
<b>TOWN</b>					
<b>Savings:</b>					
Building Repair Fund (1)(3)	22,257.20	5,000.00	41.12	13,651.79	<b>13,646.53</b>
Cemetery Fund (1)	56,966.39	5,000.00	115.24	0.00	<b>62,081.63</b>
Clerk Training & Software (1)	18,191.09	690.00	36.42	0.00	<b>18,917.51</b>
Glebe Land Fund	6,465.53	0.00	12.95	0.00	<b>6,478.48</b>
Honor Roll Fund	116.12	0.00	0.23	0.00	<b>116.35</b>
Municipal Expense Fund (5)	328,986.23	200,000.00	458.44	200,000.00	<b>329,444.67</b>
Professional Audit Fund (1)	8,851.35	2,000.00	18.20	0.00	<b>10,869.55</b>
Reappraisal Account (1)(2)(6)	144,875.23	11,740.50	284.38	42,478.76	<b>114,421.35</b>
Record Rest/Maint Fund (1)(4)	49,333.99	5,000.00	99.08	3,722.50	<b>50,710.57</b>
<b>Town Total</b>	<b>636,043.13</b>	<b>229,430.50</b>	<b>1,066.06</b>	<b>259,853.05</b>	<b>606,686.64</b>
<b>HIGHWAY</b>					
<b>Savings:</b>					
Equipment Fund (1)(7)	163,656.07	20,000.00	332.44	5,500.00	<b>178,488.51</b>
Land/building Acq - Garage	58,785.49	0.00	117.68	0.00	<b>58,903.17</b>
Road/Highway Fund (1)	110,971.72	20,000.00	382.79	0.00	<b>131,354.51</b>
- Bridge/Culvert Reserve	77,843.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>77,843.01</b>
<b>Highway Total</b>	<b>411,256.29</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>	<b>832.91</b>	<b>5,500.00</b>	<b>446,589.20</b>

### Explanation of changes to Restricted Funds:

- 1 Transfer budget/budget balance from GF
- 2 Transfer State reappraisal payment
- 3 Generator installation at Town Office
- 4 Offset RecordHub cost, Land Record supplies
- 5 Funds from the Municipal Expense Fund were used in lieu of a tax anticipation note
- 6 Transfer for reappraisal costs
- 7 Chloride truck

## GRANT ACTIVITY

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation awarded \$34,884.00 for a Milfoil grant (2025). The money will be directed to the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association.

The Vermont Tax Department issued the following grants funds to the Town: Equalization - \$793; Hold Harmless - \$12,794.00; Reappraisal - \$6,740.50.

The Municipal Energy Resilience Grant was awarded for \$200,805.25 to use toward energy improvements for the Leicester Meeting House. Reimbursed expenditures in 2025 were \$12,135.95.

The Town received \$6,398.68 from the State of Vermont for repair of Hydrologically Connected Road Segments.

## SELECTBOARD REPORT

Over the past year, the Selectboard has taken an especially careful and deliberate approach to developing the municipal budget. Each line item was reviewed to identify opportunities to control costs while continuing to provide the level of service and responsiveness residents expect. Budget preparation remains challenging due to factors beyond local control, including policy decisions at the state level and rising material costs. For example, the price of road salt increased from \$78 per ton last year to \$98 per ton this year. Where possible, costs have been contained, though some increases are unavoidable.

Public safety has been a significant topic of discussion following concerns raised by residents regarding speeding on town roads. Rather than making a unilateral decision, the Selectboard has placed an article on the Town Meeting Warning asking voters whether they support an additional \$20,000 to fund approximately 25 more hours of Sheriff's patrols per month. In addition, the budget has been adjusted to more accurately reflect the cost of maintaining the current level of patrol coverage.

**Town Plan:** Since May, the Planning Commission, Selectboard Chair Diane Benware, and Town Clerk Julie Delphia have been working collaboratively to update the Town Plan. Although the town was not awarded a Municipal Planning Grant for this effort, the group continues to work closely with staff from ACRPC to complete the plan by March 31, 2026. The Town Plan, which is updated every eight years, is a required document for maintaining eligibility for many grants and for remaining in good standing with the state. It serves as a long-term planning tool, reflecting current conditions while setting goals and priorities for the coming years.

Two public hearings will be held to provide residents with opportunities to review the proposed plan and share their perspectives.

Developing a Town Plan presents challenges, particularly as state statutes require strong protections for wetlands, forests, and wildlife corridors while also encouraging ambitious housing targets. Balancing these mandates with local priorities requires thoughtful consideration. The Selectboard remains committed to a plan that is realistic, responsible, and reflective of the community's values. We are grateful to the Planning Commission for the dedication and energy they have brought to this important work.

**Municipal Energy Reduction Plan (MERP):** Significant improvements to the Meeting House will begin in 2026, funded by a \$200,000 Municipal Energy Reduction Plan (MERP) grant awarded last year. This grant requires no local match and will support upgrades to the building envelope and heating system, including window stabilization, insulation, and roof repairs. Construction is expected to be underway by the time this report is published and completed by December 2026.

The Selectboard is also considering a fall celebration to mark the 200th anniversary of the Meeting House. Residents interested in assisting or offering ideas are encouraged to contact Chair Diane Benware at 802-247-3786.

**Town-Wide Reappraisal:** The town-wide reappraisal process is nearing completion. By early May, residents will receive a booklet outlining appraisal changes for all properties in town. While property values may increase, this does not directly result in a proportional increase in taxes. Please refer to the Town Clerk's Report on page 18 for additional information about how reappraisals affect tax rates.

As we look ahead, we encourage residents to stay informed about the evolving landscape of public education in Vermont. The OVUUD School Board meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, and community participation is welcome.

**Green Up:** Green Up Day will be held on May 2, 2026. Thanks to the dedication of volunteers, 100% of town roads have been cleaned for the past three years, and we hope to continue that success. New volunteers are always welcome; those interested may contact Diane Benware at 802-247-3786.

As in past years, volunteers are invited to enjoy a free lunch at the Four Corners and participate in a raffle. The Leicester Historical Society and Lawes Ag generously underwrite the costs of this event.

Town office staff work collaboratively to provide timely and helpful responses to residents. The Selectboard extends sincere appreciation to Town Clerk and Treasurer Julie Delphia for her continued support. Dianne Harvey and Lyndsay D'Avignon help keep the office running efficiently. Sandy Trombley, Selectboard Clerk, keeping meetings organized and on track and Keith Arlund handles all things zoning.

Animal Control Officer Rob Devoid and Town Health Officer Chree Perkins continue to serve the community by promoting safety and well-being.

Our road crew—Arlan, Scott, and their team—maintains town roads with diligence and responsiveness. We are also grateful to Lem Palmer and Gus Letourneau for their hard work maintaining roadsides, the town green, and the cemetery.

Staffing changes within the town have been minimal. We thank longtime Delinquent Tax Collector Beth Ripley for her many years of dedicated service to the community and Lynne Peck for her service to the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District.

A reminder to pet owners: Dogs must be registered by April 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid penalties. Please make arrangements promptly. A rabies clinic is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2026 from 5-7pm.

The Selectboard meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, except July and August, when one meeting is held monthly. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m., and public participation is always welcome.

Respectfully submitted: Diane Benware (C), Tom Barker, John Rouse, Brad Lawes, Diane Randall

### **ROADS MAINTENANCE POLICY**

The Town of Leicester attempts to keep town roads safe and clear for traffic all year. Winter road maintenance can be a challenge. The practice is to keep roads passable and clear if at all possible. One challenge involves the placement of objects within the Town's Right of Way. In most cases, the road in front of a property is a public highway in which the town owns an easement, a right to use the land for highway purposes. This easement is a public Right of Way (ROW) that is typically 3 rods wide (49.5 feet). The town has a Right of Way that extends 24 feet 9 inches on either side of the center line of the highway. In the Town of Leicester, road Rights of Way can vary in width from 2 to 5 rods, (33 to 82.5 feet). The Selectboard ultimately controls this ROW.

Within this Right of Way, the Town may do work without having to ask landowner permission. Work may include, but not be limited to, trimming or removing trees or brush, repairing and expanding road shoulders, grading lawn edges to maintain road width, work on the shoulder of the road.

Legally, a resident must receive permission from the Town if one plans to build or place something in the ROW. Title 19, chapter 11, section 1111 of the Vermont Statutes "prohibits the encroachment of the Town ROW without prior approval from the Selectboard."

The Leicester Selectboard warns that objects in the ROW are placed there at the owner's risk and the Town assumes no responsibility for damage to objects placed in the Town's Right of Way. This may include, but is not limited to trees, fences, flower boxes/pots/beds, mailboxes, etc. Further, the Town will pursue recovery of damage to Town equipment that may occur during road maintenance practices due to the placement of objects in the ROW.

Warned Dec. 3, 2012 Initial Adoption Dec. 17, 2012 Formally Adopted with Revisions Jan. 7, 2013

## CLERK & TREASURER REPORT

2025 has been a wonderful year. While some of the challenges from 2024 have not completely faded, this year has truly felt like a breath of fresh air. As we continue moving forward, we remain hopeful and look ahead with optimism to all that 2026 will bring.

### REAPPRAISAL

We are quickly approaching the conclusion of the state-mandated reappraisal process. By early May, reappraisal reports will be mailed to property owners. The purpose of this reappraisal is to adjust property assessments so they more accurately reflect current market values.

Over the past several years, properties have been consistently selling two or more times their assessed value. As a result, some assessments may increase significantly. While this can be surprising, there is no need for alarm.

An increase in assessment does **not** automatically mean your taxes will increase by the same amount. Higher assessments raise the Town's overall grand list value. When the municipal tax rate is calculated, the amount to be raised is divided by the grand list. A higher grand list generally results in a lower tax rate, which is then applied to your new assessment.

Education taxes work a little differently than municipal taxes. The State compares each town's property assessments to actual market values to make sure taxpayers across Vermont are paying a fair share. When a town's assessments are lower than market value—as ours have been—the State adjusts the education tax rate upward so the town contributes its share.

A reappraisal brings property values up to current market levels. When assessments more accurately reflect what properties are actually worth, the State no longer needs to raise the education tax rate to compensate.

Please note that the state education tax rate is not determined by the Town. Questions regarding education taxes, rates, reform, or legislation should be directed to your state legislators:

**Representative  
Peter Conlon**  
(802) 828-2228  
[pconlon@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:pconlon@leg.state.vt.us)

**Senator  
Ruth Hardy**  
(802) 989-5278  
[rhardy@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:rhardy@leg.state.vt.us)

**Senator  
Steven Heffernan**  
(802) 828-2228  
(802) 349-6874  
[sheffernan@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:sheffernan@leg.state.vt.us)

For information about the Otter Valley Unified Union School District budget, proposed bond initiatives, or local educational programs, please contact the OVUUSD Board by visiting <https://www.rnesu.org/page/reach-out> and clicking on "OV Unified Union Board" to leave a comment.

### LAND RECORDS

We continue to expand online access to our land records—an ongoing and substantial project. Many records are now available on our website at **[www.leicestervt.org](http://www.leicestervt.org)**. Clicking "HERE" under the yellow highlighted line will take you to our research page, where you can access tax bills, lister cards, indexes, daybooks, and more. We also provide a link to RecordHub, which allows online access to land records.

If you are unable to find what you need—or if technology simply isn't your preference—please feel free to call me. I would be happy to schedule an appointment for you to research records in person at the office.

## **TAXES**

Tax bills are typically mailed in mid to late August. Please note that the reappraisal process may delay mailing by a few weeks. Taxes become delinquent at midnight on **November 15th**. Postmarks are not accepted, so please allow adequate time for USPS delivery when mailing payments.

Once taxes become delinquent, they are turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector, who assesses an 8% penalty and 1% interest. An additional 1% interest is added to the base amount on the 15th of each month the taxes remain unpaid. For further details, please contact the Delinquent Tax Collector directly.

## **VAULT SPACE**

We continue to make meaningful progress in managing our limited vault space by incorporating two “new to us” stand-alone safes. Many thanks to Scott for giving them a like-new makeover! With vault space at a premium, relocating select items has allowed us to extend the life of our existing space for a few more years.

## **THANK YOU**

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Addison County Sheriff Michael Elmore and his deputies for their continued support this year. Their efforts have helped maintain safety during elections, address ordinance violations, improve road safety, and provide office security coverage when needed.

I am also grateful for the dedication of Dianne Harvey, Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer, who is an invaluable resource, and Lyndsay D’Avignon, who—along with her roles as Auditor and DRB member—has generously assisted with clerical and organizational projects.

It is truly an honor to serve this remarkable Town and its wonderful residents. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

***WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2026!***

**Julie Delphia,**  
Town Clerk & Treasurer  
**[townclerk@leicestervt.gov](mailto:townclerk@leicestervt.gov)**

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday by appointment 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

## **VITAL STATISTICS**

Upon the advice of Vermont Vital Records, we will no longer be printing names for vital records. We understand that this change is a sign of the times, but it does sadden us not to celebrate our new residents, cherish our lost residents, and congratulate our new unions.

Births **8**      Deaths **14**      Marriages **2**

## DOG SUMMARY

Female	\$252.00
Female Spayed	\$926.00
Male Neutered	\$927.00
Male	\$513.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$2,618.00</u></b>

ALL dogs must be registered by  
**April 1, 2026**  
 Spayed/Neutered \$11  
 Unspayed/Unneutered \$15

ACHS Contract	\$500.00
Dog tags/Paper	\$175.97
Clerk Fees	\$418.00
State Fees	\$1,456.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b><u>\$2,549.97</u></b>



### ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

If you have questions or concerns regarding animal control, please contact Animal Control Officer Robbie Devoid at (802) 349-6163 or [rdevoid@msn.com](mailto:rdevoid@msn.com).

### NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

**Please be a responsible dog owner.** Fines and consequences for non-compliant dogs can be severe. Failing to comply with State registration requirements can lead to fines of up to \$500.00 per violation or result in the unregistered dogs being destroyed. Failure to comply with the Dog Ordinance can incur significant fines and/or result in the dogs being removed and/or destroyed.

To avoid the potential of fines or consequences, please register your dog(s) by April 1<sup>st</sup> and comply with the dog ordinance. For a copy of the dog ordinance, please contact the Town Office. Dog licenses may be obtained at the Town Office during office hours or by placing an envelope containing a copy of the rabies certificate and a check for the appropriate fee (see above) in the Town Office Drop Box or mailing the information to: Leicester Town Office, 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733

### VSNIP

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), a statewide program, is currently administered by VT Economic Services. Income challenged Vermonters can print an application from their website (VSNIP) or call for an application: 802-241-0589

In October 2025, the state began a wait list for vouchers, lacking funds. Vouchers issued for VSNIP is now determined according to the funds appropriated for the program for that fiscal year. Vermonters called Governor Scott asking for \$300,000.00. As one senator said, "that was a pittance amount". When our (VT Volunteer Services for Animals; VVSA) statewide program was moved to the state to assure viability, a \$4.00 fee added to the registration of dogs funded VSNIP. Currently, if there are no available VSNIP vouchers at the time the Department receives an application, the applicant is placed on a waitlist. However, our animals can't wait.

PLEASE CONSIDER: LOW COST SPAY NEUTER CLINICS IN VT & NH

- Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793: Schedule on FFFVT.org
- Community Pet Clinic: Humane Society of Chittenden County 802-923-9028
- Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793 Schedule on FFFVT.org
- Homeward Bound: Addison County Humane Society "Taxi Cat" 802-388-1100
- Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society: in West Windsor: 802-484-5829
- Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter Orleans: 802-754-2228 Cats only
- Riverside Rescue, Lunenburg: 802-524-9550
- Rutland CTY Humane Society: 802-483-6700; Spay the "Mom" for free, kittens adopted.

Second Chance Animal Center: Shaftsbury 802-375-2898  
Second Chance Animal Rescue Inc: Littleton, NH 603-259-3244  
Springfield Humane Society: Springfield 802-885-3997  
Sullivan CTY Humane Society: Claremont, NH 603-542-3277  
Upper Valley Humane Society: Enfield NH 603-448-6888  
Windham CTY Humane Society: Brattleboro 802-254-2232  
VT-CAN: Middlesex 802-223-0034

N.E. Kingdom Spay Neuter Program: Orleans Essex CTY 802-334-7393

\*\* Community Animal Aid Wellness Clinic: (No surgeries) Exams, vaccinations, parasite treatment, minor illnesses, wounds & injuries. 1X monthly: E. Barre Fire Station 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month. 10 AM – Noon  
[animalaidvt@gmail.com](mailto:animalaidvt@gmail.com) 802-734-025

VVSA drafted modifications to help serve VSNIP applicants: adding rabbits, slightly increasing the co-payment and the dog registration fee to VSNIP running. We now know there was never any intention of passing this bill. One senator said, very frankly, “no one was going to support this bill, that they were telling us to your face they would, but would not”.

Economic Services Commissioner: Miranda Gray, VT-CAN: Pamela Krauz, owner, and Dept of Agriculture spoke to the Committee objecting to these changes, supported by applicants and VSNIP veterinarians. Senators Alison Clarkson, Joe Major and Becca White knew the bill Clarkson “sponsored” was pre-determined to die. Politics at its worst. Hopefully VSNIP will survive. VVSA Humane Society, former administrator and originator, thanks to Lynn Murrell, DVM and the 80 initial participating offices that changed the euthanasia “solution” to the overpopulation in our state. You are the backbone of this program. Thank you all, sincerely.

### **GREEN UP REPORT**

Thank you all for your support in cleaning up 100% of Leicester’s roadsides in 2025!

In 2026, Green Up Day is Saturday, May 2. We hope we can clean 100% of the roadside for the third year in a row. As usual, there will be a free lunch for volunteers, 11:30 to 1:00, at the Four Corners that day. Lunch tickets will double as raffle tickets.

Bags and gloves will be available at the Town Office all week before Green Up Day. Given the unpredictability of the weather, you can clean up through the week, and bags will be collected over Green Up Day weekend.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact Diane Benware at 802-247-3786.

### **ASSESSOR’S REPORT**

We are in the process of our Town-wide reappraisal. To examine your record(s) for accuracy before the completion of the reappraisal, please go to [nemrc.info/Leicester](http://nemrc.info/Leicester) and enter your code. If you do not know your code, please contact the Town Clerk at 802-247-5961. Reappraisal reports are expected to be mailed out by early May.

Lister Cards are available online for easy access. See instructions on page 18 under “Land Records”.

Respectfully submitted, Dianne Harvey, Admin Asst to the Assessor

### **CEMETERY REPORT**

The Cemetery Committee works to maintain and improve Leicester’s Brookside Cemetery. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30pm from April to October.

Respectfully submitted: Thomas Barker, Donna Pidgeon, Donna Swington, Pam Gates

## **BRANDON FIRE DISTRICT**

I am proud to report that the members of the Brandon Fire Department continue to be prepared and ready to respond to the emergency needs of the three towns that we cover, Brandon, Goshen, and Leicester.

I would like to acknowledge our working relationship with the Brandon Area Rescue Squad and the Brandon Police Department, along with our mutual aid departments from Pittsford, Salisbury, and Whiting. Thank you to the Town of Brandon, which has graciously allowed the fire department to utilize the properties that have been acquired through FEMA buyouts, for us to use for training. I also want to thank the Prudential Board, the district treasurer, and the Water Superintendent.

Not everyone is capable of going into a dangerous situation to aid others, it takes a whole team. From the firefighters entering a burning building, to the operators of the apparatus pumping them water, the support staff working on the outside, and the officers making the plan and decisions, it is a team effort for every different call. The Brandon Fire Department is looking for new members willing to join this team. We currently are accepting applications from residents of Brandon, Goshen, and Leicester.

Please stop by the fire station to discuss becoming a member. We are normally here on the second and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You also can contact me via email at [chief@dunmorehose.org](mailto:chief@dunmorehose.org) or by leaving a message on the non-emergency line 802-247-3400.

A huge THANK YOU goes to our firefighters, who respond at any hour of the day or night, to aid those in need in our community, and their families that support them with this.

Respectfully submitted. Thomas Kilpeck, Brandon Fire Chief

## **HELP WANTED**

The Town of Leicester is seeking a volunteer to serve as Town Energy Coordinator. This position is ideal for an individual with an interest in energy-related issues who is willing to establish and chair an Energy Committee consisting of at least three residents. The Energy Committee will advise the Selectboard and/or the Planning Commission on energy matters.

The Town Energy Coordinator will also collaborate with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission and other relevant agencies to support the implementation of the Town Energy Plan. Opportunities may include engaging the community in energy education and conservation initiatives.

If you are interested in serving as Energy Coordinator or on the Energy Committee, please contact Selectboard Chair Diane Benware at 802-247-3786.

## **TOWN HEALTH OFFICER**

The Town Health Officer is responsible for investigating and addressing public health concerns in town. In consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, the officer is to take steps necessary to enforce orders issued pursuant to 18 VSA Chapter 3. For water testing kits and info, call 1-800-660-9997. For Rental Housing concerns, issues call 1-802-864-0099.

The Town Health Officer is Chree Perkins. She can be reached at 802-465-8335 or 802-377-1991.

## **LEICESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Leicester Historical Society seeks old photos and related information that could be used to create an on-line resource for community members and others interested in town history. If you have old

photos/documents we could borrow to scan, they would be promptly returned to you. Contact Diane at 802-247-3786 for more information.

Members of Leicester Historical Society look forward to once again sponsoring Prize Bingo at the Senior Center the second Saturday of each month, Sept to Dec and April to June. Refreshments are served. All are welcome and we appreciate your support.

### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Leicester Unified Zoning Regulations were updated and approved in February 2017 and are posted on the town website: [leicestervt.org](http://leicestervt.org). You will also find a downloadable application form there.

Please remember that if you plan any kind of development within 250' from shoreline, you will need to consult with the Shoreland Protection Division of the Vermont Environmental Commission. (See full definition of "development" in the Regulations online).

The administrator for Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake is Laura Dlugolecki. Her email address is: [laura.dlugolecki@vermont.gov](mailto:laura.dlugolecki@vermont.gov). She can answer any questions you have about shoreland development.

Applications which require action by the Development Review Board (DRB) may take several months before final approval is given and the time for appeals has passed. A complete application must be submitted three weeks before a hearing in order to allow for warning periods.

As another reminder, almost all land development in Vermont requires town and/or state permits. It is the responsibility of the landowner, **not the contractor**, to apply for them. Please contact the Zoning Administrator before beginning any project.

The Zoning Administrator is Keith Arlund. He can be reached at 802-465-8098 or at [zoning@leicestervt.gov](mailto:zoning@leicestervt.gov). Zoning hours are by appointment.

### TOWN MEETING RESULTS 2025

#### FLOOR VOTE

**Article 2:** Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of \$825,215.68 to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year. **Passed by voice vote.**

#### BALLOT VOTE

**Article I:** To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year  
A Moderator for a one (1) year term RICHARD REED  
A Selectboard Member for a three (3) year term DIANE BENWARE  
A Selectboard Member for a two (2) year term TOM BARKER  
An Auditor for a three (3) year term DONNA PIDGEON  
A Delinquent Tax Collector for a one (1) year term BETH RIPLEY

**Article 2:** Shall the Town of Leicester vote to appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Whiting Community Food Shelf (serving Leicester and Addison Country) for the purpose of supporting its continuing mission to serve individuals and families with food insecurity? **Passed by voice vote.**

**Article 3:** Shall the Town of Leicester adopt all budget articles by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680(c)(1) beginning 2026? **Passed by voice vote.**

## ADDISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (ACEDC)

Executive Director: Alex Armani-Munn • aarmani-munn@addisoncountyedc.org  
802.388.7953 • addisoncountyedc.org

The Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) is Leicester's economic development resource, serving the community for over 25 years. Your confidence in our work is greatly appreciated. ACEDC respectfully requests that continued support in the amount of \$1,000 be included on the ballot for the Town of Leicester for fiscal year 2027.

We offer expertise and resources to businesses throughout Addison County. We not only serve businesses located in your community; we also serve the businesses in neighboring communities where your citizens work or may own a business. Our mission is to create an entrepreneurial and innovative environment, nurturing businesses to launch, grow, and thrive. We do this through direct assistance and through our networks of partners and collaborators locally and at the state and federal levels. To view our Impact Map, please visit here.

ACEDC also provides services to municipalities to advance economic and community development. These services include information and application assistance for state and federal grant programs and convening action groups to address issues such as housing, workforce development and childcare. In addition, we are constantly working with the entrepreneurs of Addison County in our efforts to increase the number and quality of available jobs.

## ADDISON COUNTY HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

254 Ethan Allen Highway, New Haven, VT 05472  
PO Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753 • 802.388.7259 • www.achhh.org

Addison County Home Health and Hospice (ACHHH) is a community-focused non-profit home health care and hospice care agency that has been providing care for Addison County residents for more than fifty years. We provide an array of services that help our neighbors receive care in their own homes where they are most comfortable and where they often experience the best quality of life. Our services are offered to all Addison County residents who need them, regardless of their ability to pay. To ensure the future of these vital programs, we turn to our community for support.

Our clinicians provide skilled nursing; medical social work; rehabilitative therapies including occupational and physical therapy; hospice and palliative care; maternal-child health care; IV therapy; Telemonitoring; Chronic Care Management and care of complicated wounds. We have opened two Outpatient Therapy Practices, providing physical therapy and occupational therapy services for our community members close to their homes. Our Personal Care Attendants and Homemakers help patients with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing and cooking.

ACHHH serves many patients who are coping with chronic illnesses such as congestive heart failure, COPD and diabetes. Some patients face life-limiting illnesses including cancer, ALS and Alzheimer's.

ACHHH strives to help patients and families enjoy the best quality of life possible, in all life stages. We serve patients from birth to end-of-life. We appreciate the long-time support from the towns of Addison County. Your financial support makes it possible for our expert team to provide high-quality compassionate care to ALL of our patients and families.  
Best Regards, Maureen Conrad, Director of Development

Number of Vermont towns served: 25  
Total number of people served: 2648  
Total number of Leicester residents served: **43 individuals/701 visits**

## ADDISON COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

126 Monroe St, Middlebury, VT 05753 • 802.388.3171  
Director: Donna Bailey

The support the Addison County Parent Child Center (the "PCC") receives from local communities is a critical part of our budget in that it allows us the flexibility to provide services to all families with young children who request assistance. Last year your financial support helped us to provide services to **22 residents of Leicester**. We hope to offer the same services to residents of Leicester next year and kindly request an amount of \$1,200.

While the PCC is probably best known for its work with adolescent families and young children, our services are intended for any family who needs and wants them.

The PCC helps families to assess their children's physical and cognitive development and provides support services if needed. We also offer consultation and support to families and childcare providers around young children's social, emotional, and behavioral development. Playgroups are offered around the county to promote social interactions for children and parents. All families with newborns are offered Welcome Baby bags and visits to introduce them to available services in the county. Follow-up supports are available for those who request it.

Learning Together, our intensive in-house training program builds parenting and job readiness skills and serves as an alternative education site for Addison County high schools. The program focuses on young parents and other teens at risk of parenting too young. To complement our programs the Center also provides high-quality childcare to infants and toddlers. The Center has renovated a nine-resident boarding house in Middlebury which is the cornerstone of a "First Time Renters" program for youth to learn and practice the skills necessary to be successful tenants in our community.

All of these services are free and can be accessed by calling the Center at 802-388-3171

## **ADDISON COUNTY READERS, INC.**

Contact Karen Straim, karenstraim@gmail.com

Addison County Readers, Inc. is again requesting \$250.00 from the Town of Leicester to help fund the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program in 2026. Preschoolers who participate in the Imagination Library receive a free book that is mailed to their home each month. The cost of the books, approximately \$30 per child per year, is paid for by funds raised from local organizations and businesses, through grants and individual donations, and by the generous contributions of towns in Addison County.

Currently more than **860 Addison County children**, birth to five years of age, receive free Imagination Library books each month. According to the most recent US Census data, the Town of Leicester had **46** children under the age of 5 who could benefit from this valuable literacy program. In November 2025, **28** Leicester preschoolers were enrolled in the Imagination Library and receiving free, monthly books. A total of **335** books were sent to Leicester children in the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Studies show that reading is an essential gateway for children on the path to success in school and later in the workplace. It is the mechanism through which many other vital life skills are acquired and improved. Reading to children even before they can hold a book on their own is one of the smartest choices parents and caregivers can make. Our Books at Birth program, in cooperation with Porter Birthing Center, gives parents of newborns a free book and information about the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program. This has been very successful in registering children as early as possible across Addison County. Our new small grants program reinforces these efforts by helping local early childhood providers increase access to quality books and literacy related professional development.

Addison County Readers, Inc. is a not-for-profit, entirely volunteer organization that supports early literacy in Addison County children.

## **ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (ACRPC)**

14 Seminary St, Middlebury, VT, 05753 • Phone: 802.388.3141 • Fax: 802.388.0038 •  
www.acrpc.org

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following services during FY2025:

### **Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping**

- Began its work under Act 181 rewriting the entire Addison County Regional Plan
- Worked with Addison, Waltham, Ferrisburgh, Panton, and Weybridge, on Municipal Planning Grants
- Worked with Monkton and Salisbury on Bylaw Modernization projects focused on housing.
- Assisted municipalities with Town Plan updates: New Haven, Goshen, Shoreham, Lincoln, Leicester, Middlebury, Bridport, Addison, and Ferrisburgh
- Supported Middlebury, Vergennes, and Ferrisburgh in the Transit Oriented Design (TOD) master plan process.

### **Educational Meetings and Grants**

- Hosted educational workshops on housing, planning essentials, agriculture, and flood resiliency
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to secure grant funding

### **Emergency Planning**

- Worked with Addison County's Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) and Vermont Emergency Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning and training.
- Completed 6 municipal Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMPs) and initiated 3 additional plans
- Updated Mutual Aid agreements for municipal Public Works Departments.
- Completed two Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF) grants.
- Assisted Vermont Emergency Management and FEMA with summer flooding response and assistance

### **Energy Planning:**

- Helped administer 10 capacity grants through the Municipal Energy Resilience Program.
- Worked with Efficiency Vermont, local organizations like CEAC's Energy Navigators, and municipalities to implement active enhanced energy plans
- Completed rewrite of the Regional Enhanced Energy Plan with the Energy Committee
- Began implementing two grants that will develop at least 8 new municipal enhanced energy plans
- Conducted energy data analysis updating the profiles of the Region's municipalities
- Organized and hosted a Regional Energy Fair with the City of Vergennes and towns of Bristol and Ferrisburgh

### **Transportation Planning**

- Convened five meetings of the Addison County Road Foremen
- Provided leadership and technical support to Tri-Valley Transit
- Worked with municipalities to reduce road erosion from local roads.
- Assisted Towns with bike and pedestrian, Better Roads and stormwater grants.
- Served as a Municipal Project Manager for projects in Bristol, Weybridge, Bridport, and Ferrisburgh.
- Conducted traffic and pedestrian studies and hosted the regional Walk/bike council meetings.
- Completed a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for Vergennes and surrounding communities

### **Natural Resources Planning**

- Actively supported the efforts of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative.
- Worked with municipalities to support conservation commissions
- Served as the Clean Water Service Provider for the Otter Creek Basin, overseeing 15 active projects
- Provided educational outreach supporting the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan update
- Assisted in stormwater planning projects and Ecosystem Restoration Program grants

**Brownfields Planning**

- Administered EPA-funded brownfield grant assessing 12 projects
- Conducted three Community Wide Assessments for potential brownfield sites in Middlebury, Vergennes and Ferrisburgh at the site of proposed Transportation Oriented Development projects.

**ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

Executive Director: Jean A Lachat B.A. • www.acrjs.org

Addison County Restorative Justice Services is requesting \$300.00.00 in support from the Town of Leicester in the 2026 budget.

ACRJS provides community restorative justice responses focusing on the " balanced approach" in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the program participant, The goal is to help the program participant develop empathy and accept responsibility while providing compensation of loss for the victims and compensation of resources for the community. Anyone given the opportunity to participate in our programs is supported to take responsibility for their actions, connect with the community in a positive way, and learn from their experience so as not to reoffend and cause harm to yet another person.

<b>Residents of Leicester Served in FY24-25</b>	
Court Diversion Adult	2
Court Diversion Youth	
Youth Substance Abuse Safety Programs	
Reparative Restorative Panels	
COSA	
Driving with License Suspended	1
Re-Entry Navigation	
Pre-Trial Services	4
Tamarack	
Safe Driving	2

We have expanded our programs beyond Court Diversion and the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program to include the Driving with License Suspended Program, Safe Driving Program, Reparative Restorative Panels, Reentry Navigation and Circles of Support and Accountability for those reentering the community from incarceration, Pretrial Monitoring and Tamarack for those community members who have committed a crime and have a mental illness or substance use problem . All programs have the goal for the participant of instilling a sense of belonging and commitment to contribute to the Addison County Community as positive, proactive member and to not create any more victims, essentially decrease crime in the county.

**ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (ACSWMD)**

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 21 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors (Board) comprised of one representative and one alternate appointed by each of the member municipalities. The Board holds hybrid meetings on the 3d Thursday of the month at 7 PM, and the Executive Board meets monthly 8 days prior to the Board at 4:30 PM. All meetings are open to the public.

**District Mission:** To seek environmentally sound & cost effective solutions for: (1) Promoting waste reduction; (2) Promoting pollution prevention; (3) Maximizing diversion of waste through reuse, recycling and composting; and (4) Providing for disposal of remaining wastes.

District Office and Transfer Station

**Telephone:** (802) 388-2333 **Fax:** (802) 388-0271 **Website:** [www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org)  
**E-mail:** [acswmd@acswmd.org](mailto:acswmd@acswmd.org) **Transfer Station Hours:** M-F, 7 AM–3 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM  
**Office Hours:** M-F, 8 AM–4 PM **HazWaste Center Hours:** M-F, 8 AM–2 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM  
**New Haven Transfer Station Hours:** Fri 7 AM–2 PM & Sat, 7 AM–12 PM Noon

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are co-located at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and single stream recyclables for transfer to out-of-District facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off various other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. A complete list of acceptable items and prices can be found on the District’s website. The ACSWMD Regional Residential Transfer Station is located at 100 Kings Way off of 65 Campground Road in New Haven. This facility accepts residential bagged waste and single stream recyclables, as well as food scraps and leaf & yard waste.

**2025 Highlights**

**HHW Extended Producer Responsibility.** Extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs shift financial and management responsibility for difficult-to-manage products away from local governments and back to the manufacturers. Vermont’s first-in-the-nation Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) EPR Law requires producers of hazardous household products to safely collect and dispose of them. This year, Vermont passed Act 59, which amended the HHW EPR law to allow producers additional time to develop a stewardship plan but added the contingencies that if an approvable plan is not submitted within the allotted time, the Agency of Natural Resources will issue its own plan and charge producers for the full cost of implementation plus a penalty. Act 59 also includes provisions that provide additional compensation for disposal of pesticides, and an expansion of Vermont’s paint product stewardship law to include additional types of coatings, such as aerosols, coating-related products, and additional types of nonindustrial coatings.

**New Mattress Recycling Program.** Mattresses and boxsprings take up valuable space in VT’s remaining landfill. Their lightweight composition makes them difficult to bury and the metal coils often tangle in equipment. Recycling markets exist for the wood, metal, textiles, and foam that comprise most of the materials in a standard mattress. This year, the District was

informed that the landfill would begin assessing an extra \$45 fee, in addition to the landfill tip fee, for each mattress or boxspring received. Although mattresses are not banned from landfill disposal, the District created a recycling program in 2025 to provide residents and businesses with a disposal alternative. The District expects a significant increase in its overall waste diversion percentage because of this new program.

**Solid Waste Management Plan Revision.** Last year, the VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) adopted its new Materials Management Plan, which guides waste management and diversion in Vermont for the next five years and includes objectives and deliverables for solid waste districts to incorporate into their planning. This year, the District revised its Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) to address these new objectives and completed its required public participation process for final SWIP approval. The Board of Supervisors adopted the draft SWIP on October 16, and the District received a letter of final approval from the ANR on October 22.

**2026 Annual Budget:** The ACSWMD Board of Supervisors adopted its 2026 Annual Budget, including the Rate Schedule for CY2026, on Nov. 20, 2025. The new rates will take effect on Jan. 1, 2026. As with prior years, the 2026 Annual Budget will be funded by a combination of: (1) tip fees collected at the Transfer Station; (2) a per-ton District Fee on all waste generated within the District and destined for disposal; (3) donations or fees at special events sponsored by the District; (4) the sale of items such as compost bins; (5) grants, if available; (6) profit sharing of scrap metal; and (7) manufacturer EPR reimbursements. There will be no assessments to member municipalities in CY2026. The new tip fee for Municipal Solid Waste & Construction/Demo Debris at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury will be \$171/ton, a \$15.00/ton increase primarily due to cost increases on disposing of waste at the landfill, recycling processing, vendor prices, insurance, and salary/wage cost-of-living adjustments. Rates on a few other items will have nominal changes. For a copy of the 2025 Annual Report and/or adopted CY2026 Rate Sheet, please call the District at 802-388-2333, or e-mail the office at [acswmd@acswmd.org](mailto:acswmd@acswmd.org). Both documents are also available on the District's website at [www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org](http://www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org).

### AGE WELL

875 Roosevelt Hwy, Ste 210, Colchester, VT 05446 • Phone: 802.865.0360 • Fax: 802.865.0363 •  
HELPLINE: 1.800.642.5119  
Emma Kaplan, Development & Communications Associate • [ekaplan@agewellvt.org](mailto:ekaplan@agewellvt.org)

Since 1974, Age Well has provided the compassion, support, and services to Leicester's aging population that helps them stay independent in the community they love. Whether it's Meals on Wheels, in-home care coordination, caregiver support, or wellness programs, we know that health can happen at home. Age Well is here to enhance and improve the quality of life for Leicester's residents.

As a rapidly aging population turns to us for services we must continue to meet increased needs and forge ahead with confidence in an ever-changing landscape. Between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025, we provided services valued at over **\$24,232 to 27 Leicester residents**. As a nonprofit, these services are provided at no charge, and with your support, we will continue to ensure that our aging neighbors receive the support they have come to rely upon.

As such, we are writing to request continued support from the Town of Leicester in the amount of \$1,100. Last year, you were able to allocate \$1,100 to Age Well. Your partnership ensures that our vast array of supports, including; care & service coordination, Meals on Wheels, community meals, wellness programs, social activities, transportation services, expertise on Medicare, long and short-term care options, and the Helpline will continue to be available to residents in need.

If there are any questions regarding our programs or services, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration and past support.

### AMERICAN RED CROSS

32 N Prospect St, Burlington, VT 05401 • Phone: 802.497.5995 •  
[www.redcross.org/nne](http://www.redcross.org/nne) • Regional Executive: Stephanie Couturier

On behalf of the American Red Cross, I am writing to respectfully request your municipality's support for delivery of our humanitarian mission - preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of life's emergencies.

Each year, the Red Cross responds to more than 60,000 disasters across the country-ranging from home fires to storms and floods-providing shelter, food, emotional support, and recovery assistance to those affected. In Northern New England, more than 1,800 trained volunteers work tirelessly to support local families, train residents in lifesaving skills, and ensure a safe and adequate blood supply for hospitals. In our most recent fiscal year, we supported **Addison County**:

- Responded to **5 disasters**, the majority of which were home fires, assisting **16 people**.
- Trained more than **461 people** in first aid, CPR, and water safety skills.
- Collected over **1,177 pints** of blood at **54 blood drives**.
- Made **3 homes** safer by helping families develop emergency evacuation plans.
- Proudly assisted **14 Addison County Service Members, Veterans, and their families** by providing emergency communications and other services, including counseling and financial assistance.

Your partnership is vital. This year, we respectfully request consideration for a contribution of \$500.00. With your support, we can continue to prepare local residents for life's emergencies, and when emergencies do happen, ensure that help is available at no cost to those impacted.

For more information about the work we've been doing in your area, please refer to the attached service delivery summary. If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-464-6692 or [supportnne@redcross.org](mailto:supportnne@redcross.org).

## ATRIA COLLECTIVE

Formerly WOMENSAFE •  
PO Box 67, Middlebury, VT 05753 •  
Phone: 802.388.9180 • Website: atriavt.org • Email: info@atriavt.org  
24-hour Hotline: 802-388-4205

**Mission:** Advocacy, education, & social change to end gender-based violence

Atria Collective is a nonprofit serving people across the gender spectrum who have experienced dating, domestic, sexual violence, and stalking. We are dedicated to empowering and safeguarding communities through our advocacy services, education and prevention work, and social change.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, Atria Collective staff and volunteers provided advocacy services to at least **28** Leicester residents, adults and children, affected by violence.

\*PLEASE NOTE: For safety reasons, some individuals do not share their town of residence.

In Addison County:

- **644** total adults and children were provided services through **12,843** total direct contacts.
- Worked with the parents/caregivers of a total of **452** children exposed to violence.
- Provided **549** presentations and outreach events as part of our Education & Prevention programming, reaching over **13,145** individual youth and adults.

## BRANDON AREA RESCUE SQUAD, INC.

1338 Franklin St, Brandon, VT 05733 • Ph 802-247-3231 • Fax 802-247-3916  
Chief of Operations: Andrew Jackson • andy@brandonrescue.org



Brandon Rescue responded to a total of **876** calls in 2025. Behind each of those calls are our volunteers, who collectively donated more than 25,000 hours of their time this year. Their commitment saves our community approximately \$300,000 annually in labor costs that would otherwise fall on taxpayers.

However, the realities of providing 24/7 emergency medical coverage are changing. As volunteer availability has shifted, we've supplemented our roster with paid staff to ensure we can always respond when you call 911.

We've worked hard to absorb these increased costs while keeping our funding request to the town stable at \$19,800 - the same as last year and representing just 3.5% of our \$600,000 operating budget.

This year, we were able to replace our 2008 ambulance at a cost of \$285,000 - more than \$100,000 higher than our last vehicle purchase in 2017. Meanwhile, reimbursement rates haven't kept pace. Federal analysis shows the true cost of an ambulance transport is \$2,500, yet we charge half that amount or less, and we're fortunate to collect even 50% of what we bill. Despite these financial pressures, we remain committed to accessible, affordable emergency medical care for everyone in Leicester.

Looking ahead, we're expanding our community education programs. In addition to ongoing CPR and First Aid training, we'll soon offer Vermont Emergency First Responder, Emergency Medical Responder, and EMT courses for anyone interested in making a difference and joining our team.

Thank you for your continued support. Your allocation allows us to be there when you need us most.

## BRANDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

At the corner of Franklin and Park Streets, Brandon, VT  
Phone: 802-247-8230 • Website: brandonpubliclibrary.org

### *Year in Review*

This year was one of renewed energy and steady growth at the Brandon Free Public Library. With our historic 1830s building fully reopened after last year's ADA renovation, we have been able to focus on expanding services, strengthening partnerships, and meeting people where they are - whether in the Library, at community events, online, or at home. Every day, we see how access to books, technology, support, and connection enriches the lives of our neighbors.

We are proud to provide not only the traditional library services our patrons love, but also the modern, practical, and community-centered resources that respond to today's needs. From digital literacy help to afterschool support, from home visits to Toolship e-lending, from food access to cultural passes, the Library continues to act as a hub for learning, creativity, and care. With strong support from our towns, we look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.

### *Budget Overview*

Under half of the Library's annual operating budget comes from voter-approved appropriations from our service towns: Brandon (including Forest Dale), Goshen, Leicester, and Sudbury. The remaining funds are raised each year through grants, fundraisers, apartment rentals, support from the Friends of the Library, and generous donations from our patrons.

Town appropriations form the foundation of our budget and make it possible for us to maintain the level of service our community expects and uses daily.

At the 2026 Town Meetings, voters will again be asked to approve their town's appropriation for the Library. Your support is essential to keeping these services strong, accessible, and available to all.

The Brandon Free Public Library is more than a place to borrow books. It is a community center, a gathering place, a support network, and a resource hub for all. Continued support from voters in Brandon, Sudbury, Leicester, and Goshen ensures that these essential services can continue to grow and adapt to community needs.

Thank you! Librarians: Molly Kennedy, Joni Osterhaut, Eric Drzewianowski, Eva Fillion, Carey Bunker, & Dan Fox

BFPL Board of Trustees: David Roberts, President; Cristy Harding, Treasurer; John Peterson, Recording Secretary; Jeff Haylon; Nancy Iwanicki; Beate Jensen; Gary Meffe; Bruce Ness; Cecil Reniche-Smith; and Courtney Satz

<p><b>General Services</b> Books, DVDs, magazines, newspapers, audiobooks Interlibrary loan Programs and events Book discussions Drop-in tech help Indoor Kid League Tax forms</p>	<p><b>Children's &amp; Teen Services</b> Books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines Dedicated teen area Summer Reading Program Story hours and Toddler Time Teen Advisory Group Board games Safe afterschool space</p>	<p><b>Computer &amp; Digital Services</b> Public laptops, tablets, robots Help with job applications and essential tasks Vermont Online Library, Udemy, Libby Printing, copying, scanning, faxing 3-D printing Digital literacy workshops Free Wi-Fi</p>
<p><b>Library of Things</b> Snowshoes, projectors, power supply Sewing machine, serger, Cricut Board games, puzzles, ukuleles Lawn games, E-bikes Toolship and weatherization supplies</p>	<p><b>Building as a Community Resource</b> Hosts tutoring, markets, caucuses, meet-ups, crafting, private meeting space, and grief groups</p>	<p><b>Non-Traditional Services</b> Seed Library Volunteer opportunities Museum and park passes Food pantry and free bread Harm-reduction bags Gun locks</p>
<p><b>Community Partnerships</b> Recreation Department Neshobe School Brandon Energy Committee ReBHS</p>	<p><b>Outreach Services</b> Community event tables Home visits for homebound patrons</p>	<p><b>Services for Older Adults</b> Large Print collection Home delivery Programs for older adults Rides to polls Digital literacy</p>

### CHARTER HOUSE COALITION

27 North Pleasant St, Middlebury, VT, 05753 • chcv.org • 802.989.8621

Charter House Coalition (CHC) continues to be a cornerstone of compassion and stability in Addison County. Each year, our team provides year-round emergency shelter, daily community meals, and individualized support to hundreds of neighbors in crisis. This past year, CHC served more than 28,000 meals, provided shelter to 188 individuals, and helped 42 people secure permanent housing and 30 find employment within their first month of stay.

Our services extend beyond shelter walls. Through street outreach across 26 towns, we connect people living unsheltered with food, healthcare, and pathways to housing. We answered over 1,700 calls beyond normal business hours, ensuring that help is always within reach. It is estimated that we have served more than 600 individuals during this past fiscal year. This number is expected to rise again in 2026.

Between 2024 & 2025, CHC's leadership was instrumental in establishing the Town of Middlebury's Encampment Policy, a humane framework that balances community safety with dignity for those living without homes. Working collaboratively with the Selectboard, local agencies, and residents, CHC helped transform a divisive issue into a compassionate local model for public health and partnership.

Every meal served, bed offered, and hand extended reflects our mission: to build a community where no one is left outside. With ongoing town support, CHC continues to improve the lives of all community members—housed and unhoused alike—through collaboration, empathy, and action.

### COUNSELING SERVICE OF ADDISON COUNTY

89 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753  
Phone: 802.388.6751 • Website: www.csac-vt.org  
Executive Director: Rachel Lee

The Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) is dedicated to enhancing the mental health and well-being of individuals and families in our community. We provide a comprehensive array of services in mental health, substance use, and developmental support. Our core values include honoring client choice, safety, collaboration, innovation, equity, and belonging.

Our recent Community Needs Assessment showed what many already know: the need for our services in Addison County is significant. More than 10,000 residents experience mental illness each year, and substance use challenges affect over 7,000 adults. While these numbers are sobering, they also highlight the importance of CSAC's role. By expanding rapid access appointments, enhancing peer support, and deepening partnerships with schools and hospitals, we are building capacity to meet these needs. Continued local support will allow us to reduce wait times, expand youth services, and develop more in-county options so families don't have to travel far for help.

Even in this strained system, CSAC is reaching those most in need. Nearly 2,400 people received care last year—most on Medicaid—placing CSAC's reach for adults with serious mental illness three times higher than the national average. Parents describe our youth services as "life-saving," and our crisis team is praised by partners for strong collaboration in emergencies.

Your town's support makes this possible. Local dollars help us respond when a child is in crisis at school, when a neighbor seeks same-day counseling, or when an elder struggles with isolation. Together, we can continue to build a healthier, more resilient Addison County.

CSAC envisions a compassionate and resilient community that recognizes and nurtures everyone's potential. In FY2025, CSAC served **1,864 individuals**, totaling **854,430 service hours** (including 24/7 residential services). The Town of Leicester accrued **30,335 service hours**. CSAC's FY2025 Annual Impact report is available on our website.

Requests for mental health services in both adults and children as well as developmental, substance use, and 24/7 emergency services continue to be high. CSAC's commitment to Addison County is not just important but vital. We respectfully request the continued support of the residents of Leicester by accepting our request for \$1,050 in town funding, an amount which has not increased since 2007.

## **ELDERLY SERVICES**

### ***Project Independence***

The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elderly Services • 112 Exchange Street, PO Box 581, Middlebury, Vermont 05753  
Phone: (802) 388-3983 • Fax (802) 388-0427 • mail@elderlyservices.org • www.elderlyservices.org  
Communications Coordinator: Ronald G Hallman

The Board and staff of Elderly Services would like to thank you and the citizens of Leicester for your generosity in supporting our programs over the last 40 years, and request your renewed support in the amount of \$500.

For more than 40 years, Elderly Services has been caring for some of the most vulnerable members of our community through our nationally-recognized adult day program (Project Independence) with nursing oversight, social work support, care coordination, transportation to our center, delicious homemade hot meals, and therapeutic activities in a beautiful home away from home on Exchange Street in Middlebury. In this joyful setting, participants feel like themselves again.

Social isolation and loneliness have a devastating impact on mental and physical health, as we learned during the pandemic. People feel happier when they are with other people and their health improves in a positive social setting. Over and over, we see our elders' health stabilize in this positive community setting and moods of the elders and their family members improve. We provide daytime respite for families and other caregivers so that they may return to work, have time to themselves, and get a break from the daily challenges of caregiving. We also care for the caregiver - providing caregiver support one-on-one and in groups so that they feel more successful in handling the challenges of caregiving.

This past year, we completed a "transformational renovation" project-a \$3 million initiative to address several significant facilities issues in our 20-year-old building, improve our efficiency via geothermal heat and 193 solar panels, replace insulation, doors and windows. We are already seeing monthly financial savings from this investment and appreciate the tremendous support of our community in 2025 to make this effort possible.

## **ENERGY NAVIGATORS**

[www.energynavigators.org/](http://www.energynavigators.org/) • [energynavigator.ceac@gmail.com](mailto:energynavigator.ceac@gmail.com) • 802.587.2550

Do you have comfort issues in your home like cold drafts or cold spots? Do you worry about high energy bills? Are you constantly running a dehumidifier in your basement? It doesn't matter what your motivation is, we are here to assist.

Energy Navigators is a locally based organization that works with homeowners and renters in Addison County. Schedule a free home visit with one of our knowledgeable Navigators to discuss your home, comfort goals and energy priorities. Improving the efficiency of your home can range from simple changes to larger projects.

After our conversation, we follow up with a home energy plan and next steps that are do-able for your budget. Incentives are available at all income levels. We connect you with rebates, tax credits, and financing options to get the work done.

We have some openings in February and are scheduling for March. Contact us through our website at [www.energynavigators.org/](http://www.energynavigators.org/) or email [energynavigator.ceac@gmail.com](mailto:energynavigator.ceac@gmail.com) or call (802)587-2550

Energy Navigators is funded by Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity and Municipal Energy Resilience Program mini-grants, as well as some generous private donations. That is why we can offer you this service at no charge.

## **FRONT PORCH FORUM**

Neighbors are talking on Front Porch Forum • [frontporchforum.com](http://frontporchforum.com)

Have you joined our local Front Porch Forum? FPF helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting a statewide network of online local forums. One-third of Vermont households participate with thousands more joining every month. People use their FPF to find lost animals, offer assistance to neighbors in need, organize local projects, draw crowds to events, highlight small businesses, share crime reports, seek contractor recommendations, and much more. Started 10 years ago, FPF is a free service and it's based in Vermont.

## **GREEN UP VERMONT**

P.O. Box 1191 Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191  
(802)229-4586 • 1-800-974-3259 • [greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org) • [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

Green Up Day was a resounding success because your community joined the statewide clean-up effort. As you can see by the stats graphic the entire State got a wonderful spring cleaning with nearly all our city and town roads covered. Businesses are more successful with clean streetscapes, our real estate more valued, and our healthy way of life cherished. 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, and keep residents civically engaged.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives. We've been able to rally thousands of volunteers for special projects and flood clean-up across the State.



Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, educational resources, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are also incorporating an innovation challenge fair called greenSTEM in 2026 for students in grades 7-12. Our goal is to engage more students in finding environmental solutions and connect them to community service.

97.5% OF ALL ROADS CLEANED

We are requesting level funding for 2026. Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of where we all get to live, work and play. Be an Environmental Hero - Donate on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

**2026 Green Up Day is May 2nd.**

*Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.*

**GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST**

4387 US RT-4 E, Mendon, VT • Forest Supervisor: John A Sinclair  
Phone: 802.747.6700 • [www.fs.usda.gov/contactus/gmfl/about-forest/contactus](http://www.fs.usda.gov/contactus/gmfl/about-forest/contactus)

**Town Meeting Report:** The employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from many municipalities, volunteers, partners, and contractors. The Forest would like to take this time to thank you and your community for the support and interest that you have shown in helping with the management of the approximately 400,000-acre GMNF. The GMNF is proud to be a part of Vermont and your town. It is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state. Forest staff work hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of all people -- people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year. This has been another exciting year for us, and we have worked hard to support new opportunities on the National Forest that benefit the people and communities that we serve. The following is a brief summary of what happened in your National Forest throughout the past year:

**Summary:** On June 13, 2025, Chris Mattrick, Rochester / Middlebury District Ranger signed the Final Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project. The project area is located on the Green Mountain National Forest, Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts within Rutland, Windsor, and Addison Counties, Vermont including the towns of Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Killington, Mendon, Pittsfield, Pittsford, and Stockbridge. The project proposal includes management activities on National Forest System lands to achieve multiple resource benefits as provided by direction in the 2006 Green Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Alternative C was selected for implementation after considering the analysis documented in the Telephone Gap project final environmental assessment, public feedback received during project development and analysis, and supporting information found in the project record. It was determined that this alternative will best move the forest landscape toward desired resource conditions within the project area while addressing concerns identified through public involvement. Alternative C includes management activities to provide resource and public benefits. These include improved wildlife habitat, restored soils and wetlands, a sustained network of roads and trails, increased recreation opportunities, and timber harvesting to provide wood products for the local and regional economy while enhancing forest health and diversity.

In 2025 the U.S. Forest Service approved the designation of approximately 72 miles of National Forest System roads and trails on the Manchester Ranger District within the Green Mountain National Forest as part of the Velomont Trail -- a future, state-wide, hut-supported mountain bike and multi-use trail running from Massachusetts to Canada. This work will be accomplished and coordinated with Vermont Huts & Trails (VHT) and the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA). The designated section will include a mix of new trail construction, upgrades to existing routes, and targeted relocations to improve sustainability and user experience. Once complete, it will expand mountain bike access to areas where limited or no opportunities currently exist, increase connectivity between rural towns, and open new points of entry to the outdoors -- designed to be adaptive-friendly wherever possible.

Vermont suffered moderate to severe drought conditions last fall. In response to these conditions, the Green Mountain National Forest issued fire restrictions on the national forest beginning on September 22, 2025. The decision to implement fire restrictions was based on various factors, including the prevalence of unattended fires, unfavorable weather conditions and the availability of firefighting resources. At the time, moisture level of forest trees and other vegetation was deceptively low with autumn leaves falling which added to dry fuels on the forest floor. We are extremely thankful to each and every local, state and federal partner who supported our outreach and response efforts to these abnormal conditions.

Over the past year, we have worked diligently to keep our social media accounts and website up-to-date with substantive content. We encourage members of the public to visit our website ([www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl](http://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl)) which can be used as an on-line tool for up-to-date information. In addition, we strive to collaborate with towns, schools and other organizations to provide issue-based content for Forest Service presentations. If you know of an event that is happening in your town and would like to invite the Forest Service to participate, please reach out. Again, thank you for your support of your National Forest. Together, we will continue to maintain and improve this valuable resource for generations to come.

## HOMEWARD BOUND

236 Boardman Street, Middlebury, Vermont 05753 • Phone: (802) 388-1100 • [homewardboundanimals.org](http://homewardboundanimals.org)  
 Executive Director: Karin Page • Phone: 802.388.1100x100 • Email: [director@homewardboundanimals.org](mailto:director@homewardboundanimals.org)

Homeward Bound is the humane society serving Addison County. It is a bricks and mortar shelter located in Middlebury. Each year, Homeward Bound serves hundreds of lost, abandoned, surrendered, or neglected animals who have nowhere else to go.

In addition to providing adoption services and rehoming these companion animals, Homeward Bound strives to keep pets and the people who love them together through a variety of community programs to include PetCORE (supplemental food, wellness, and preventatives), and Pets in Crisis (short-term room and board). We work to prevent the overpopulation of unwanted animals in the county by offering affordable spay/neuter services for cats and dogs (PetFIX) without income or residency restrictions, and a Trap-Neuter-Return program to sterilize feral and loosely owned community cats. Established in 1975, Homeward Bound has been a resource to the 23 towns of Addison County for more than 50 years.

### Shelter and Adoption Services:

- **PetCORE** is an income-eligible program that provides food, veterinary care, subsidized spay/neuter, and other pet owners
- **Pets in Crisis** provides free short term boarding and medical care for pets whose owners face housing crises
- **PetFIX** provides an affordable way for pet owners to sterilize their pets
- **Spay the Mom** provides free spay/neuter for pets who have an accidental litter (requires surrender of offspring)

<b>Incoming Animals</b>	Stray animals brought to shelter	2
	Animals surrendered by their owner	8
<b>Outgoing Animals</b>	Adopted	3
	Returned to their owner	0
<b>Community Services</b>	PetCORE	4
	PetFIX	8
	Pets in Crisis	0
	Spay the Mom	1

## HOPE

John V. Craven Community Services Center • 282 Boardman Street, Suite 1A, Middlebury, Vermont 05753  
 Phone: (802) 388-3608 • Fax: (802) 388-0756

HOPE seeks to assist individuals and families in identifying and obtaining the resources that will help them meet their own basic needs. We serve thousands of people each year with food, clothing and household goods, financial assistance with heat, housing, medical needs, and more.

We are also seeing record numbers of people needing help with housing and utility payments, and we're working to assist a swelling population of unhoused people, including a number with serious medical needs, mental illness and substance use disorders. Use of our food shelf has continued to increase, and we have to buy more food at higher prices. As government food benefits and other crucial programs are reduced, the number of people in need will continue to climb. As a non-governmental organization, we depend on local support in order to help the people who come to us for help.

In 2024, HOPE served an unduplicated **161** Leicester residents in **57** households; **20** of these individuals were senior citizens, **57** were children, and **40** had a documented disability. HOPE respectfully requests that the voters of the Town of Leicester allocate the sum of \$1,300.00 to help defray the costs of providing assistance to town residents in the coming year. Thank you for your consideration.

## JOHN W. GRAHAM HOUSING & SERVICES

69 Main Street, Vergennes, VT 05491 • Phone: (802) 877-2677 • [johngrahamshelter.org](http://johngrahamshelter.org) • Executive Director: Susan Whitmore

John Graham Housing & Services (JGHS) has a mission to provide emergency shelter, affordable housing, and essential services to individuals and families without a home or facing housing instability. JGHS has done this work for 44 years in collaboration with community partners.

JGHS annually serves approximately 350 people without a home or facing housing instability in Addison County, including those fleeing domestic violence, veterans, elders, parents with children, and those with mental health disorder, physical disability, and/or substance use disorder. JGHS clients are homeless, low-income, and/or unemployed.

Vermont is facing a serious housing crisis. Record numbers are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of losing their homes:

- The 2025 State of Homelessness in Vermont Report (HNAV 2025) states there are 4,588 unhoused Vermonters, including 1,041 children and 269 Vermonters over age 64
- Vermont's shelter capacity can meet the needs of 602 households - just 21% of the 2,914 unhoused households (HNAV 2025)
- Vermont's current housing supply falls short at the fourth-lowest national rental vacancy rate (3.4%) (US Census 2025)
- In Addison County, fair market rents for a two-bedroom apartment increased by 33% from 2021 to 2025, with the current fair market rent being \$1,410. ([rentdata.org](http://rentdata.org))
- The percentage of JGHS clients aged 60 and over more than doubled from 2023 to 2024 (went from 10% to 23%) and the percentage of children served by JGHS almost doubled (24% in 2023 to 43% in 2024) (CCL 2025)

It is our hope that the Town of Leicester will again partner with JGHS in our effort to end homelessness in Addison County.

## LAKE DUNMORE FERN LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 14, Salisbury, Vermont 05769 • LDFLA President: Sarah Voigt Pritchard

**The Association's mission** is "to protect and enhance the natural vitality of Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake while preserving the recreational and lifestyle interest of the Lake's community. In so doing, the Association protects the Lake's value as a public recreational facility and respects the interests of property owners and the public." Membership in the Association is open to anyone who supports the mission and goals of the Association. We encourage all those who visit the lakes to become members.

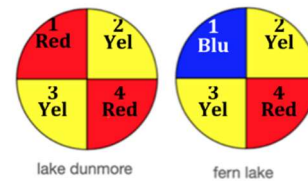
**Invasive species control** is by far the largest program operated by the Association. The uncontrolled spread of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) can limit recreational activity on the lakes. Our milfoil control program is supported by funding from the Towns of Salisbury and Leicester, and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Aquatic Nuisance Grant in Aid. These funds help pay for the Greeters at the Magoon Access Area, as well as for equipment and labor.

The results of our EWM control program in 2025 continue to be positive. We made a strategic application of ProcellaCor in Lake Dunmore in 2024. We applied for a permit for use in Fern Lake. The decision on application is pending. Between last year's limited use of herbicide in Lake Dunmore and the relatively cool spring weather, our scientific consultants reported, "Eurasian water milfoil was sparsely scattered in Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake." Both our milfoil crew and our dedicated members agree with this statement. Therefore, there was a significantly reduced amount of milfoil harvested throughout the entire season. As a result, our crew was free to spend more time on Fern Lake than in years past and reported a reduced amount of milfoil harvested there. To the extent possible, we rely on hand-pulling or diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH) to control the EWM.

**The milfoil control program costs and funding** 2025 was **\$128,252**. The decrease from the 2024 expenditure of \$178,648 is due to the application of ProcellaCor in Lake Dunmore in 2024.

These costs were met as follows:

VT DEC Aquatic Nuisance Grant	\$ 15,000
Lake Champlain Basin Greeter Grant	\$ 20,722
Town Support – Leicester	\$ 25,000
Town Support – Salisbury	\$ 25,000
LDFLA Operating Fund	\$ 42,480



### **Watershed Quality Initiative - From Pristine to Poor & Back Again!**

The VT Lake Score Card data is shown above: 1 Nutrient Trend, 2 Shoreland & Lake Habitat, 3 Mercury, 4 Invasive Species as blue-good, yellow-fair, red-poor. We are committed to being BLUE!!

- From our Watershed Action Plan, using grant funding, one project completed in May on Westside Drive near Fern Lake improved stormwater drainage on a steep section of that road.
- Plans to mitigate erosion on a steep section of the trail to Silver Lake near the Falls of Lana progressed past the preliminary design phase. LDFLA successfully applied for funding to complete this project next spring.
- The LDFLA is actively seeking public funding to implement additional projects in the plan.
- Working with Fitzgerald Environmental Associates and GMP to better understand the nutrient inputs from the upper watershed and have installed monitoring equipment at the entry to Lake Dunmore on Sucker Brook.

The benefits to the Town of Leicester are twofold: First, the preservation of a wonderful, natural recreation area available to the public. Second, the preservation of property values around the lakes which are an important and substantial portion of the Town's Grand List.

## MAPLE BROADBAND COMMUNICATINS UNION DISTRICT

Expanded Annual Report Available <https://www.maplebroadband.net/governance>

As one of Vermont's 9 Communications Union Districts (CUDs), Maple Broadband is working to ensure that every on-grid household in our member towns have access to broadband from at least one provider. Our impact, powered by local governance and strengthened through strategic partnerships, is bridging digital divides across our 20 member towns: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge, and Whiting.

### **2025 Accomplishments**

Maple Broadband provisionally secured over \$14 million in new funding, which will enable us to accelerate our fiber rollout and ensure that broadband is available throughout our member towns. Until this funding is finalized, we are holding most of our remaining grant funds in reserve, and are planning a significant network expansion in 2026. At the close of 2025 Maple Broadband:

- Has been provisionally awarded three grants, totaling \$14.09 million;
- Plans to launch two new affordability initiatives in early 2026;
- Offers service over more than 250 miles in portions of 12 member towns; and
- Serves nearly 650 customers with fiber-optic broadband service.

Our partnership with Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT)/Green Mountain Access continues to expand fiber access within our district. In 2025 WCVT:

- Installed over 109 miles of fiber service drops;

- Activated service on over 75 miles of mainline fiber, and continue to build in portions of Bristol, Lincoln, Starksboro, Monkton, and North Ferrisburgh; and
- Continued to convert customers to fiber, with over 3,250 currently receiving fiber broadband

## OTTER CREEK WATERSHED INSECT CONTROL DISTRICT (OCWICD)

P.O. Box 188, Brandon, VT 05733 • ocwicd.com • Hotline: 802.247.6779 • Chair: Jeffrey A Schumann, Ph.D.

The Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District (OCW) experienced an exceptional year in 2025, made possible through the steadfast support of our six member towns, the dedication of our staff, the volunteer service of our Board of Trustees, the generosity of the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association (LDFLA), and our continued collaboration with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFM).

During the past year, the District successfully addressed several critical capital improvement needs through a combination of funding sources, including the VAAFM Larvicide Grant, contributions from the LDFLA, a private community loan, and allocations from the District's Capital Improvement account.

These investments enabled the purchase of new entomology laboratory equipment and lab/ office HVAC upgrades, the acquisition of 3 used trucks to replace the 3 of District's aging fleet, and the replacement of outdated laptops with two new systems. Collectively, these improvements were essential to the District's operational success in 2025.

	2025	PRIOR YEAR
<b>NO-SPRAY REQUESTS</b>	177	90
<b>LARVA DIP SAMPLING</b>	362	140
<b>ADULT CDC LIGHT TRAP SAMPLING</b>	214	78
<b>LARVICIDE TREATMENTS</b>	4	0
<b>ADULTICIDE SPRAY MISSIONS</b>	92	3

Looking ahead, a key near-term capital improvement priority is the installation of running water, restroom facilities, a chemical safety shower, and a wastewater and sewage system at the District's office, laboratory, and warehouse facility (estimated cost: \$50,000). This project will enhance staff safety, ensure compliance with chemical handling standards, and improve the overall functionality of the District's operational base.

At its Annual Meeting in November, the Board of Trustees approved the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget, reflecting an overall 5% increase from 2025. Individual town assessments were recalculated to reflect updated Equalized Education Grand List data for 2024 and refined Adulticide Spray Route mileage figures for each municipality, resulting in minor adjustments to assessment percentages.

Additionally, the Board has elected the following leadership team for the coming year: Chair - Jeff Schumann (Salisbury), Vice-Chair - Jeff Whitting (Goshen), Secretary - Steve Belcher (Pittsford), and Auditor - Albert Wenta (Proctor). There were no candidates for Treasurer; therefore, in accordance with the OCW By-laws, the current Treasurer, Doug Perkins (Leicester), will continue to serve until a successor is elected.

The Board of Trustees remains committed to enhancing the quality of outdoor living throughout the watershed through the effective management of nuisance mosquito populations, guided by the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). For district information, check our website at: <https://ocwicd.com>.

A reminder: No Spray requests must be renewed annually and should be submitted to the OCW no later than April 15th. Please check our website: <https://ocwicd.com> for detailed instructions. On that website you can also sign up for notification about planned spraying activities. Please also watch for public notices about permitted activities.

### OPEN DOOR CLINIC

100 Porter Dr, Middlebury, VT 05753 • Phone: 802.388.0137 • Email: [odc@opendoormidd.org](mailto:odc@opendoormidd.org) • Website: [www.opendoormidd.org](http://www.opendoormidd.org)  
Executive Director: Heidi R Sulis, MPH

The Open Door Clinic (ODC) is requesting an allocation of \$300.00 from the Town of Leicester for the fiscal year 2026-2027 to be included in the Town Warning for the 2026 Annual Town Meeting. The allocation will be used to provide free health care to uninsured and under-insured residents of Leicester and Addison County in general. We are grateful for your past and generous support of our clinic and hope that you will renew your commitment to the ODC once again this year.

**Our Mission:** The Open Door Clinic provides access to free, quality health care services to those who are uninsured or under-insured in a compassionate, respectful, and culturally sensitive manner until a permanent healthcare provider can be established.

**YTD Report:** Between 1/1/25-12/28/25, the clinic provided 1,878 medical and dental visits to 1,307 distinct patients, including 394 new patients! We served **one** Leicester resident who received help from our health insurance navigator, learning about health insurance options available to them through Vermont Health Connect.

**Outreach and Services:** Through our outreach program this year, we served 495 patients on 37 farms, orchards and other small businesses. While in the field, we provided vaccines to 321 patients and provided 99 medical appointments with a doctor or nurse practitioner. We continue to offer 7-10 in-person medical and dental clinics each month through which patients receive comprehensive chronic and acute care and referrals to a variety of specialists when needed.

**Volunteer Based:** As a free clinic, we cannot charge for any of our services and rely entirely on the expertise and efforts of many volunteers to care for our patients. Our volunteers include our medical and dental directors, nurse practitioners and physicians, nurses, nutritionists, pharmacists, medical interpreters, and many others who provide general support.

**Help with Health Insurance:** To date, our incredibly knowledgeable insurance navigator has helped 333 individuals learn about health insurance plans and has enrolled 276 individuals in plans through Vermont Health Connect. She is the only navigator remaining in Addison County, is available to meet with any member of our community and her services are free!

It's been another busy and fruitful year made possible by our extraordinary staff and volunteers who remain deeply committed to providing health care and comprehensive wrap-around services to individuals in need across Addison County.

## **RSVP OF ADDISON COUNTY**

### ***The Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program***

16 North Street Ext, Rutland, VT 05701 • Phone: 802.468.7044 • Website: [volunteersinvt.org](http://volunteersinvt.org)  
Director: Maryesa White • Ph:802.468.7056 • [maryesarsvp@gmail.com](mailto:maryesarsvp@gmail.com)

**Brief Description of RSVP:** RSVP of Addison County is a volunteer management program which offers individuals the opportunity to share their experience, professional skills, and time by volunteering for local non-profit organizations. RSVP considers volunteering to be a key solution in responding to Addison County's most pressing challenges. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health and education.

RSVP also oversees several free community outreach programs that benefit local residents. These include free Bone Builders health and osteoporosis prevention classes offered twice per week at many locations in Addison County; the Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program which places volunteers in our schools; the Warm Hearts Warm Hands initiative which distributes clothing items to local schools, hospitals, nursing homes, social service agencies; the RSVP/AARP Tax Program which provides income tax return services to low income residents; and the Peaceful Packs Program which provides essential items to children/families in crisis. These programs strengthen communities through service and volunteering and allow Addison County residents to stay healthy, engaged and financially stable.

**Services Provided to Leicester Residents:** In FY'25, RSVP Leicester residents took advantage of RSVP programs, our free health/osteoporosis prevention classes and our free income tax preparation services. In Addison County 326 residents benefited from attending in-person/remote Bone Builders classes and 520 residents received income tax services. Over \$236,462 in federal and state refunds and credits was returned to the Addison County community as a result of volunteer tax preparers working with individuals and families. During the winter months, more than 200 warm clothing items were given to Addison County community members in need and volunteers helped provide essential items to children and families in crisis.

In addition, RSVP volunteers also donated thousands of hours to support the community. Many Leicester residents who received assistance from a local service organization benefited from the work RSVP volunteers do throughout the area. Examples include community members at risk of hunger who received free nutritious meals from RSVP volunteers who assisted with meals, or residents who received free transportation services from volunteer drivers. In total, RSVP volunteers provided 21,201.25 hours to local social service agencies, health care organizations, schools and other nonprofit organizations. This equates to \$737,591.48 in donated labor to our community.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help defray the increased costs of providing volunteer placements, support, insurance, transportation, and recognition. As financial constraints affect non-profit organizations, the need for volunteers increases. With your help, RSVP of Addison County will continue to respond to this need. On behalf of our volunteers and nonprofit partners, we would like to thank the residents of Leicester for their continued support of RSVP. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our programs, please feel free to call us at (802) 388-7044.

## **RUTLAND COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER**

[www.rcpcc.org](http://www.rcpcc.org) • Co-Executive Director: Corissa Burnell  
61 Pleasant Street, Rutland, VT 05701 • Phone: 802.775.9711  
34 Faivre Circle Brandon, VT 05733 • Phone: 802.247.8251  
16 Chaplin Avenue Rutland, VT 05701 • Phone: 802.773.8397

Rutland County Parent Child Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing accessible, educational, and dignified services to families throughout Rutland County. Our mission is to remove barriers that prevent families from reaching their goals by offering a range of services, including early childhood education, developmental intervention for young children, educational and enrichment programs for at-risk youth, family education, food access and education, playgroups and a welcome baby program. Additionally, our unique grocery store-style food pantry is an invaluable resource in the county. In the last fiscal year, we served over 2,500 families and 1,400 children through our 4 sites across the county. The ongoing housing crisis and the increasing demand for comprehensive, whole-family services highlight the critical need for our work.

RCPC also has a state of the art 2Gen Campus, expanding our reach and providing a one-stop shop for community services. This new campus strengthens our ability to serve families by offering a centralized location where they can access a variety of essential resources. At RCPC, we follow a two-generation (2Gen) Whole Family Approach, ensuring that both children and parents receive the support necessary for lasting success. By focusing on the needs of the entire family, we aim to create sustainable outcomes that empower individuals and strengthen communities. All our services are offered at no cost or with substantial financial assistance, guaranteeing that every family can access the resources they need to thrive.

RCPC is requesting a continuance of last year's total of \$300. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to serve our communities.

## TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT

Formerly ACTR • Executive Director: Jim Moulton  
Website: [www.trivalleytransit.org](http://www.trivalleytransit.org) • [infor@trivalleytransit.org](mailto:infor@trivalleytransit.org) • 802.388.2287

Thank you for supporting TVT's vital public transportation programs in Leicester!

TVT's Dial-a-Ride and Shuttle Bus Systems provided a total of **203,585 rides** last year. These rides enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

In the past year, **102** bus riders boarded at the Leicester Park and Ride. In the past four years we provided an annual average of **725** Dial-a-Ride trips for Leicester residents using volunteer drivers or paid drivers in wheelchair accessible buses when needed.



**Dial-a-Rides** help older adults, people with disabilities and low-income families/individuals who can't access transportation on their own. Free, door-to-door rides with volunteer drivers (or on lift-equipped vans) bring people to medical appointments, senior meals, adult day care, pharmacies, food shopping, social services, vocational rehabilitation, and critical medical treatments like radiation, dialysis, and methadone.

**Public Buses** are open to the general public and are fare-free. These rides promote economic development, energy conservation, mobility independence and quality of life. **In Leicester, residents can directly access the Rutland Connector bus at the Leicester Park and Ride to travel north to Middlebury or south to Rutland.**

TVT's government grants require 20% local matching funds. TVT strives to raise 5% of this match through municipal contributions based on our fair share formula using each town's population and access to service. Your continued support of these important programs is greatly appreciated. If

you have any questions, would like to learn more about our services, or are interested in becoming a volunteer Dial-a-Ride driver, please visit [www.trivalleytransit.org](http://www.trivalleytransit.org) email [info@trivalleytransit.org](mailto:info@trivalleytransit.org) or call 802-388-2287.

The state and local grants through which we provide these services require us to raise up to 20% "local match" dollars. TVT's requests from towns account for approximately 5% of the match requirement.

## TURNING POINT CENTER OF ADDISON COUNTY

54A Creek Road, Middlebury, Vermont 05753 • Executive Director: Danielle Wallace  
Phone: (802) 388-4249 • [info@tpvt.org](mailto:info@tpvt.org)

The Turning Point Center of Addison County (TPCAC) is peer-lead and offers a safe and substance-free environment to support our mission: We provide peer-based recovery support to all including friends, families, and allies.

Across the country, communities continue to confront alarmingly high rates of overdose and suicide deaths. While provisional national data suggests a 24 percent decline in overdose deaths during the 12 months ending September 2024, the levels remain historically elevated, and gains are fragile. In Vermont, overdose deaths have shown volatility; recent reports indicate a decline in opioid-related fatalities over two consecutive years. Nevertheless, the burden of polysubstance use, especially fentanyl combined with stimulants or xylazine, persists, along with ongoing risks of suicide and overdose.

In response to these ongoing challenges, the Turning Point Center of Addison County (TPCAC) has continued to offer services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As a peer-run organization, we offer confidential, judgment-free recovery services at no cost to people living with, impacted by, or exploring concerns about harmful behaviors. Drawing from our own lived experience, we foster prevention, reduce stigma, and promote healing throughout our community.

Our mobile coaching program brings trained recovery coaches directly to participants across Addison County, removing the need to travel to Middlebury to access support. Coaches meet individuals where they are, at home, in the community, or at a partnering organization, to provide immediate, personalized assistance. This service helps prevent fatal and nonfatal overdoses and suicides while linking participants to evidence-based treatment, recovery resources, and ongoing peer support.

In FY25, TPCAC supported **206** participants through **872** hours of recovery coaching, including **102** in Regular Coaching and **104** in Emergency Department Coaching. These sessions provided one-on-one, goal-focused support to help participants navigate treatment options, employment and housing challenges, and long-term recovery planning. The Center also facilitated **507** group sessions attended by **6,841** participants, offering safe, supportive spaces for connection, skill-building, and peer mentoring. Additionally, TPCAC distributed **532** doses of Narcan, a **78.5% increase** from FY24's 298 doses, expanding access to lifesaving overdose prevention tools throughout Addison County. Coaches also delivered harm reduction kits, provided resource referrals, and strengthened partnerships with local service providers to ensure continuous care.

While the nature of our services makes it difficult for us to capture detailed demographic information for our group participants, we know that individuals from every Addison County community, including Leicester, rely on our programs and support. Continued partnership from the Town of Leicester ensures that recovery, harm reduction, and mental health resources remain accessible to all who need them.

## VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

99 Maple St, #18 Marble Works, Middlebury, Vermont 05753 • Regional Director: Natalie Reigle • nreigle@vtadulthoodlearning.org  
Phone: (802) 388-4392 • Fax: (802) 388-4396 • www.vtadulthoodlearning.org

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) offers a variety of learning opportunities to help adults achieve their educational goals and enhance their quality of life. We work with each student to develop an individualized learning plan that includes a transition to further education or employment. We offer GED testing, programs for completing a high school diploma, basic skills instruction in reading, writing, and math and classes for English Language Learners (ELL). Instruction is also available to students who need skill preparation for college or employment purposes.

Our programs are free and confidential. We are grateful to the townspeople of Leicester for supporting the services we provide.

## VERMONT CARES

Director of Operations & Services: Melissa Farr, MSW • melissa@vtcares.org

Vermont CARES has been providing support services to Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS and their family members for more than 37 years, thanks to support from the Town of Leicester. Vermont CARES also works to prevent new HIV infections by educating and training Vermonters on how to stay safe and reduce their risks. So much of the foundational programming we've built over the last few years has allowed for our mobile outreach services to truly flourish, and with our growing outreach program, we were able to serve even more Addison County community members. The appropriation from Leicester could help us continue focused excellent service for people living with HIV/AIDS, those in need of harm reduction programs, and increase access to free rapid-result HIV tests. Our work focuses on creating connections with those who are most marginalized and impacted by inequities in access to health care, affordable housing, and food security.

### Vermont CARES' Programming for People Living with HIV/AIDS:

- Case management support for HIV care ranging from working with someone who has a new diagnosis to persistent medical and related issues
- Advocacy with doctors, property managers, and other social service organizations
- Housing case management support at a residential facility in Colchester, plus additional subsidized (through housing collaborations) apartments across Vermont
- Transportation to and from medical appointments, the pharmacy & grocery store
- Emergency financial assistance for food and nutrition, housing, and utilities, and other critical financial needs
- Support groups and social events

### Vermont CARES Programming for People at Risk of HIV/AIDS:

- Rapid HIV tests, including risk reduction planning and counseling around HIV prevention medication (called "PrEP")
- Community education events for high schools, colleges, community groups, first responders, and employers
- One on one education and support to reduce future HIV risks
- Syringe exchange services based out of our Rutland, Addison, Franklin, Grand Isle, Washington, Caledonia, Orange, Chittenden, Lamoille, and Orleans Counties, including mobile service by appointment. These services include free naloxone kits, test strips to determine the presence of possible fentanyl, and other life-saving materials

## VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

435 Stone Cutters Way, Ste. B, Montpelier, VT 05602 • Phone: 802.229.0501 • 800.639.1522 • Email: info@vcil.org • Website: www.vcil.org

For over 45 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'25 (10/2024-9/2025) 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 **126** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and our VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **229** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **96** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **71** individuals with information on assistive technology; **30** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **334** 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 **15** people and provided **11** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone. A one-year grant through the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) enabled us to establish the Assistive Technology/Home Modifications (AT/HM) Fund for items to increase peer's independence (AT) and remove peers from our HAP waiting list for modifications (HM).

VCIL's central office is now located at 435 Stone Cutters Way, Ste. B in Montpelier and 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 our FY'25, **1** resident of Leicester received services from the Information, Referral and Assistance Program.

## VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE

vote.vermont.gov

By using the Vermont Voter Portal, a registered voter can:

- Check registration status;
- View information on upcoming elections;
- Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;
- View a sample ballot;
- Request and track an absentee ballot;
- and much more.

Turning 18 *before* the November General Election, but *not* before the August Primary Election?

YOU CAN STILL VOTE IN THE AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION! Learn more at [vote.vermont.gov](http://vote.vermont.gov)

We encourage voters to log into the Vermont Voter Portal to learn more.

**REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY BEFORE THE ELECTION TO ENSURE YOU'RE ON THE VOTER CHECKLIST! Online registration can be found at: [vote.vermont.gov](http://vote.vermont.gov)**

## WHITING COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF

7 N Main St, Whiting, VT 05778  
Melissa O'Neill • [ministry@whitingchurch.org](mailto:ministry@whitingchurch.org)

The Whiting Community Food Shelf is a local non-profit organization serving Whiting and surrounding communities, including Leicester, Shoreham, Sudbury, Salisbury, Bridport, Cornwall, Orwell, and Brandon. We have been continuously operating for nearly three decades. The Food Shelf benefits from the generosity of Whiting Community Church members, private citizens and organizations, Hannaford Supermarket, as well as the local municipality of the Town of Whiting. On average, the Food Shelf serves **35** lives per week, over **1,750** lives per year.

Three times a year we give out food baskets for the holidays, providing a complete meal for family members to enjoy. The primary goal of the Whiting Community Food Shelf is to meet the food insecurity needs of individuals and families. We see ourselves as partners in this endeavor and strive to maximize our impact on human lives with the food we provide. The Food Shelf is hosted on **Monday mornings from 8:30-9:00AM** on the first floor of the Whiting Community Church building in the fellowship hall at 7 N Main Street, Whiting, VT. We are typically closed only on major holidays that fall on Mondays and during inclement weather conditions, with a few exceptions. Please contact Melissa O'Neill, food shelf coordinator, at [ministry@whitingchurch.org](mailto:ministry@whitingchurch.org) for more information.

**NOTES**

TOWN OF LEICESTER  
44 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD  
LEICESTER, VT 05733

Marketing Mail  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Brandon, VT 05733  
Permit No.44

**TOWN INFORMATIONAL HEARING:**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 02, 2026 7PM**  
PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU

**TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTING:**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 03, 2026 10AM – 7PM**