



# MUNICIPAL MONTHLY

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## Subscribe!

Subscribe to our News Flash for news, agendas, and meeting postings delivered by email or SMS text message.

Subscribe

## TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE

**978.929.6600**

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Thursday: 8 AM - 5 PM

Friday: 8 AM - 2:30 PM

Closed: Fri, Nov. 10

Thurs, Nov. 23 and Fri, Nov 24

## TOWN HALL & HUMAN SERVICES

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday: 8 AM - 5 PM

Tuesday: 8 AM - 7:30 PM

Wednesday: 8 AM - 5 PM

Thursday: 8 AM - 5 PM

Friday: 8 AM - 12 PM

Saturday - Sunday: Closed

Closed: Fri, Nov. 10

Thurs, Nov. 23 and Fri, Nov 24

## ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Please see page 18 for November hours of operation.

## TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

Preparation of the Fiscal Year 2025 Recommended Budget and Capital Plan is well underway. Please find below the listing of upcoming meetings where you can learn more about the budget proposals for Fiscal Year 2025.

- 11/20/2023: Presentation of Facility Study and Preliminary Capital Plans
- 12/4/2023: Presentation of FY2025-2034 Capital Improvement Plan
- 12/18/2023: Presentation of Town Manager FY2025 Recommended Budget

Acton's Veteran Services Department invites you to join us for this year's Veterans Day Ceremony. The ceremony will be observed on Saturday, November 11th at 11AM, by the Isaac Davis monument on the town common (weather permitting). In the event of inclement weather, we will move the ceremony to the Faulkner room inside the town hall. All are encouraged to attend.

## We want your feedback!

**Powder Mill Corridor Initiative** – The next public open house is taking place November 15th, 6PM-8PM, at 34 Powder Mill Road (Maynard Elks Lodge). The focus will be to review and provide feedback on draft zoning proposals.

**Route 2 at Route 27 ramps** - A Live Virtual Public Information Meeting will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the preliminary design for the Intersection Safety Improvements at Route 27 (Main Street) and the Route 2 Eastbound Ramps in Acton, MA. More information is available here: [bit.ly/Route2and27](https://bit.ly/Route2and27)

**South Acton Vision and Action Plan** – The next public open house will be held in early December, date to be announced shortly. The focus will be on gathering public feedback on draft zoning proposals for the core Village District.

**Open Space and Recreation Plan** – The next public engagement session will also take place in early December. The event will include a presentation of draft goals, actions, and parcel prioritization for final feedback.

Do you have photos taken in Acton? Submit them to [photos@actonma.gov](mailto:photos@actonma.gov) and we'll feature them in future publications. Visit page 20 for a special opportunity to enter your best Acton photo for the OSRP!

# TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE CONTINUED

## Welcoming our new Fire Chief

Congratulations to Anita Arnum on her appointment as Acton Fire Chief on October 13, 2023. Arnum began her career with the Acton Fire Department as a full-time firefighter in 1989. She was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in January 2012 and named Captain in March 2017. She was named Deputy Chief and Town Emergency Management Director in November 2020. Arnum is a state and nationally registered paramedic, a member of the State Hazmat Response Team, and a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Search and Rescue System. She is also certified in numerous technical rescue fields, and is qualified as an instructor/trainer in EMS, hazmat, firefighting, and technical rescue. Arnum helped guide the Town of Acton through the COVID-19 pandemic, providing testing,



Sincerely,  
John S. Mangiaratti  
Town Manager



**Honoring All  
Who Served**

# **VETERANS DAY**

The Town of Acton's Veteran Services Department, and the Celebrations and Ceremonies Committee, invite you to join us for this year's Veterans Day Ceremony.

The ceremony will take place outdoors\* by the Isaac Davis monument on the Town Common on Sat, November 11th at 11 AM .

Please park behind Town Hall or behind the Fire Station.

All are encouraged to attend.

We hope you can join us in paying reverence to our nations' heroes.

\*In the event of inclement weather, we will move the ceremony to the Faulkner room inside Town Hall.



**NOVEMBER 11, 2023**



# Plan before you Plant

## Plant the right tree in the right place for electric service reliability

Trees and power lines don't mix. When they touch, it can cause everything from power outages, fires and downed lines, to safety hazards for people, wildlife and even the trees themselves. Tree branches too close to power lines must be trimmed, and adequate trimming can't always be done in ways that retain the natural aesthetics of the tree.

Low-growing trees maturing up to 25 feet in height such as crabapple, dogwood, hawthorn, plum, and Japanese maple, can be planted near roadside power lines, in the **Red Zone**.

Medium-sized trees, maturing at heights of 25-45 feet, can be planted between **15 and 30 feet from the power lines**, in the **Yellow Zone**. Such trees include arborvitae, flowering cherry, magnolia, hornbeam, and shadblow.

Large-growing trees, reaching heights of more than 45 feet, should be planted **at least 30 feet from power lines**, in the **Green Zone**. Oak, maple, locust, spruce, and pine are some examples.

## Plant Trees in the Proper Zone

### Red Zone:

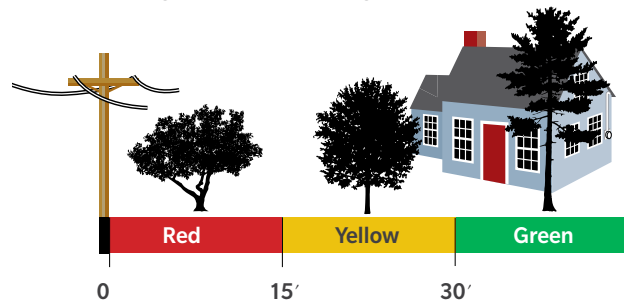
Trees less than 25' high










### Yellow Zone:

Trees 25 - 45' high

### Green Zone:

Trees greater than 45' high



LOW-Growing	MEDIUM-Growing	TALL-Growing
 Dogwood	 Arborvitae	 Maple
 Flowering Crabapple	 Flowering Cherry	 Oak
 Japanese Maple	 Magnolia	 Pine

## Call Before You Dig!

Call **1-800-922-4455** at least two full working days before any type of digging. It's free, easy and the law.

Visit [cbyd.com](http://cbyd.com) for more information.




Visit [eversource.com](http://eversource.com) for more information about our programs and services.

**EVERSOURCE**

# PLEASE SCOOP THE POOP!

You hate stepping in it. Fish hate swimming in it. Dogs produce a lot of waste which, if not disposed of properly, can end up in our waterways.

## Do your "DOODY" to keep our local waters clean:

-  Pick up after your pet.
-  Dispose of pet waste by flushing it down the toilet or putting it in the trash.
-  Never throw pet waste into a storm drain or waterway.

## Here's why:

Stormwater may wash pet waste into ponds, streams or coastal waters, either directly or via storm drains. Pet waste contains germs and nutrients that can be harmful to human health and to our waterways and can even cause algae to grow, making the water turn an unpleasant green color. Water with increased bacteria and algae can have serious, and sometimes fatal, consequences when ingested by your dog as well as for all aquatic life.

For more information email \*\*\* or go to [www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org](http://www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org)





## Stop by a public open house to shape the future of Powder Mill

**We want to hear from you!**

Over the past year, the Towns of Acton and Maynard have worked together to develop an overlay zoning district that will make the Powder Mill Road corridor a more welcoming place for people to live, visit, and spend time.

At the open house, town planners will share the proposed zoning vision, answer questions, and ask for feedback. There will be no formal presentation, so you can come when it works for you and stay for however long you'd like.

**For more information about the project, visit [mapc.ma/powdermillcorridor](https://mapc.ma/powdermillcorridor).**



### Details

Wednesday, November 15  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
34 Powder Mill Road  
(Maynard Elks Lodge)



The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is working with the Towns of Acton and Maynard on this project.

Email Sarah Scott, Regional Land Use Planner with MAPC, at [sscott@mapc.org](mailto:sscott@mapc.org) with any questions.

# the secret double life of donated textiles

NEARLY **100%** OF DONATED TEXTILES ARE RECYCLED! They are separated into three grades:

**45%**  
USABLE CLOTHING



**20%**  
FIBER CONVERSION GRADE



**30%**  
WIPING CLOTH GRADE



Recycled fiber products **SAVE MONEY** and **RESOURCES** by using existing materials.



## CLOSING THE LOOP

Recycled cloth rags use **LESS WATER**, **LESS ENERGY** and create a **LOWER CARBON FOOTPRINT** than all other alternatives.



The second hand clothing market provides **AFFORDABLE CLOTHING** to those in need and **ENCOURAGES GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**.



## SECOND LIFE ...



stained t-shirt → wiping cloth



lone sock → pillow stuffing



old denim → household insulation



teddy bear → car seat stuffing



torn bath towel → wiping cloth



**SECONDARY MATERIALS® AND RECYCLED TEXTILES**

The Association of Wiping Materials, Used Clothing and Fiber Industries

donate recycle don't throw away®



A PROGRAM OF SMART THE SECONDARY MATERIALS AND RECYCLED TEXTILES ASSOCIATION

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS/HIGHWAY DIVISION SNOW & ICE MAILBOX REPLACEMENT POLICY

Mailboxes installed in the Town right of way are placed at the owner's risk. Each mailbox installation should be sufficiently solid to withstand snow-clearing efforts by the Town. It is the responsibility of the owner of the mailbox to clear the snow around the mailbox to assure mail delivery by the U.S. Postal Department. If the snow banks are too high to shovel, place a temporary box beside the road until the snow has melted enough to allow access to the mailbox.

The mailbox should be installed, periodically inspected and maintained by the homeowner in accordance with the guidelines provided by the United States Post Office ([www.USPS.com](http://www.USPS.com)). When installing a mailbox choose a suitable location. If you are unsure, check with the postal carrier.

The Town does not replace mailboxes if damaged by snow being discharged by the snowplow. The Town only assumes responsibility if a Town plow comes into contact with the mailbox or post.

The Town does not replace plastic mailboxes. Plastic mailboxes in cold weather become very brittle and are not well-suited to withstand this type of environment. The Town also does not replace mailboxes that are in need of repair due to lack of maintenance, vandalism or have a spike-type support. Homeowners should check the condition of their mailbox and post before the ground freezes and make any necessary repairs. The Town will not be responsible for damage to any mailbox or post if the front of the box extends past the curb line and/or is within 6-inches from the curb line.



The Town will only replace mailboxes if the Town's plow came in contact with a well-maintained mailbox or post. The Highway Division will inspect the reported damage to determine the cause of the damage to the mailbox and/or the post. If it is determined that the damage is a result of the Town plow hitting the mailbox or post, the Town staff will attempt to make the necessary repairs. If the mailbox or post is deemed non-repairable, the homeowner may choose from one of the two options listed below:

- the Town will replace the damaged mailbox and/or post with a standard-style metal mailbox and/or wood post,
- the homeowner may opt to furnish and install their own mailbox and post and the Town will reimburse them up to \$100 towards the replacement.

Mailboxes to be fixed will be put on a list and repaired when the Highway Division is back on a regular schedule and all other weather-related priorities are completed.

A CLAIM should be submitted to the Highway Division immediately following the storm so that they can witness the damage and make their determination. LATE CLAIMS are difficult to verify and will likely be denied since they may not be able to adequately determine the cause of the damage.



## **Minuteman Bike Share Closing for the Season at the end of November**

If you haven't gotten to try the renting from the Minuteman Bike Share, now's your chance! Bikes will be stored for the winter at the end of November.

More information can be found at:  
<https://minutemanbikeshare.square.site/>

# ACTON BUSINESS ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM

Are you the owner of a business in Acton interested in reducing your energy use while increasing savings? Read to learn more about the Acton Business Energy Efficiency Grant (ABEEG) Program!

## ABOUT THE ABEEG PROGRAM

Acton's Select Board approved the use of **ARPA funds** to support **energy efficiency improvements for businesses** as part of the Acton Business and Energy Efficiency Grant (ABEEG) Program.

ABEEG will provide eligible business owners in Acton with reimbursement **grants up to \$2,000** to **mitigate the financial impacts of improving the energy efficiency** of their physical location. The Town will allocate up to \$20,000 for this program.

## ABEEG PROCESS

During an audit, energy efficiency experts assess energy use to provide customized recommendations for cost and energy savings. Businesses can work with the official Eversource auditor, AECOM, or with another Mass Save sponsored auditor.

It's important for businesses to **apply for the ABEEG grant BEFORE** making any **payment** for upgrades. (Review steps 1 & 2!)

Once energy efficiency upgrades are completed, businesses pay the cost in full and then send receipt of payment to the Town for reimbursement of up to \$2,000.

## HOW TO APPLY

### 1 Sign up for an Energy Efficiency Audit

Sign up for a no-cost, no-obligation assessment from an AECOM small business Energy Efficiency Expert at: [bit.ly/AuditReg](https://bit.ly/AuditReg).

### 2 Apply for Additional Savings

Once you've scheduled or signed up for an audit, apply for additional savings of up to \$2,000 through the Town by filling out the following form: [bit.ly/ABEEGapp](https://bit.ly/ABEEGapp).

**Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until November 25, 2023. Grant awards will be announced in the order that applications were received through December 2023.**

Visit [bit.ly/ABEEGinfo](https://bit.ly/ABEEGinfo) for more information and to check if your business qualifies for ABEEG.

Please reach out to the Sustainability Office with any questions at **978-929-6515** or [sustainability@actonma.gov](mailto:sustainability@actonma.gov).



### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Shop Small is an annual national shopping event that occurs on the Saturday following Thanksgiving. It is akin to Cyber Monday or Black Friday but for small businesses. This event encourages consumers to prioritize local shopping and patronize independently-owned establishments within their communities for Black Friday, Cyber Monday & the entire holiday season.



***For Acton Businesses, we invite you to participate*** by completing this form to share any Small Business Saturday or Holiday Season promotions. The information submitted will be added to a directory where consumers can view all of Acton's deals. Refer to this link to view last year's directory. You do not have to offer discounts, promotions or money off to appear in the directory, you just have to agree to encourage shopping locally during the holiday season. The deadline to submit this form is Friday, November 17.

Additionally, the Economic Development Office will be offering lawn signs and posters to businesses. These promotional materials can be acquired during regular Town Hall Business Hours from Monday, November 13 through Tuesday, November 21. Please note that each business is eligible for one sign/poster, and they are required to be returned after the event.

Finally, what you enter on [this form](#) is exactly how your entry will appear in the directory, so please check for errors prior to submitting.

**[Sign up here to participate!](#)**



## NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Please be on the lookout for the  
upcoming mailings from our office:



**Dog License Renewal** in late December



**Street Listing/Census** in early January

Now is a good time to **verify your voting status**  
for the 2024 election year. You can do that by  
going to the Secretary of the Commonwealth's  
website:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>

The State of Massachusetts will be sending out  
mail-in voter registration cards to every  
registered voter in January 2024.



### NEED HELP PAYING YOUR ENERGY BILL?

Massachusetts' home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) helps eligible households pay a portion of their winter heating bills. No matter what type of heating source you have, and even if the cost of heat is included in your rent, LIHEAP might be able to help.

Home heating costs during the heating season (November 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024) may be eligible for LIHEAP.

#### *Do I qualify?*

- Eligibility for LIHEAP services can vary depending on income, household size, place of residence, and other factors.
- Households must meet 60% of state median income levels.
- The Council on Aging and the Community Services Office can help you determine if you qualify.
- Eligibility and benefit information is available online [here](#).

#### *How does the program work?*

Fill out a free application to determine if you are eligible. It doesn't matter if you own or rent - or even if heat is included in the price of the rent - LIHEAP may be able to help.

- The program provides a fixed amount for the cost of your primary source of heat, including (but not limited to) oil, electricity, natural gas, propane, kerosene, wood and coal.
- Payments are made directly to the heating company.
- Please contact the Council on Aging at (978) 929-6652 or the Community Services Office at (978) 929-6651 to schedule an appointment.



The poster for Bessie's Closet is set against a light green background. At the top left is the Discovery Museum logo, which includes the text 'DISCOVERY MUSEUM' with a star and a leaf icon. To the right of the logo, the text 'a free pop-up clothing shop for children and adults' is written in a blue, sans-serif font. The title 'Bessie's Closet' is written in a large, purple, cursive font across the middle. Below the title, there are silhouettes of various clothing items (a t-shirt, a tank top, a long-sleeved shirt, and a pair of pants) hanging from a clothesline. To the right of the clothesline is a green silhouette of a dinosaur. Below these elements, the event schedule is listed in green, bold text: 'Friday, Nov. 3, 3:30pm - 7:30pm', 'Saturday, Nov. 4, 10:00am - 3:00pm', and 'Sunday, Nov. 5, 10:00am - 3:00pm'. A white rectangular box with a purple border contains the following text: 'Come shop in Bessie's Closet—a **FREE** collection of new and gently used clothing—open to all at the Discovery Museum for a short time only! Infant through adult sizes for all genders will be available.\*' Below this, it says 'Admission to the Museum is not required, but also not included. If you wish to visit before or after you shop, please make a reservation at [discoveryacton.org](http://discoveryacton.org).' At the bottom of the box, it says '\*Available items are dependent upon donations received.' Below the box, the text 'Donations to Bessie's Closet will be accepted through October 24 in the lobby of Discovery Museum.' is written. At the very bottom, the contact information '978-264-4200 • 177 Main Street (Route 27) • Acton, MA 01720 • [discoveryacton.org](http://discoveryacton.org)' is listed.

**DISCOVERY MUSEUM**

a free pop-up clothing shop for children and adults

**Bessie's Closet**

**Friday, Nov. 3, 3:30pm - 7:30pm**  
**Saturday, Nov. 4, 10:00am - 3:00pm**  
**Sunday, Nov. 5, 10:00am - 3:00pm**

Come shop in Bessie's Closet—a **FREE** collection of new and gently used clothing—open to all at the Discovery Museum for a short time only! Infant through adult sizes for all genders will be available.\*

Admission to the Museum is not required, but also not included. If you wish to visit before or after you shop, please make a reservation at [discoveryacton.org](http://discoveryacton.org).

\*Available items are dependent upon donations received.

Donations to Bessie's Closet will be accepted through October 24 in the lobby of Discovery Museum.

978-264-4200 • 177 Main Street (Route 27) • Acton, MA 01720 • [discoveryacton.org](http://discoveryacton.org)

# JOIN US FOR THE UPCOMING FREE FIRST AID TRAINING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH MIDDLESEX COUNTY

THIS YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING IS SUPPORTED BY A  
GRANT FROM THE GREATER LOWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (GLCF).

## WHAT IS YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

The Youth Mental Health First Aid training teaches adults how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents from ages 12-18



## HOW IS THIS TRAINING BENEFICIAL?

1. Informs adults about common mental health concerns among youth
2. Helps reduce stigma
3. Helps adults recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health and substance misuse challenges beyond "typical" teen behavior
4. Provides guidance with a simple 5-step action plan (ALGEE) how to properly and safely respond to these challenges

## WHO SHOULD KNOW AND BE INVOLVED?

- Parents
- Educators
- All community members

## WHEN & WHERE?

**Date:** November 14th, 2023

**From:** 930AM-3:30PM

**Location:** Billerica BATV - Community Room  
390 Boston Road Billerica, MA 01821

### Interested in attending?

Please email Ashley Pavlakos for registration.

✉ [APavlakos@tewksbury-ma.gov](mailto:APavlakos@tewksbury-ma.gov)



**NEPHA**  
NORTHEAST PUBLIC  
HEALTH ALLIANCE





Fall

# REGISTRATION

ACTON RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT UPCOMING  
PROGRAMS

ARCHERY (AGES 9-99)

DODGE BALL (AGES 8-12)

FLOORBALL (AGES 8-12)

GYM GAMES (AGES 7-10)

SCHOOL VACATION & SCHOOL  
DAYS OFF PROGRAM (AGES 5-12)

CUB SOCCER (AGES 3-5)

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**VISIT [ACTONREC.COM](https://actonrec.com)**

FOR DETAILS AND/OR  
REGISTER

## COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging at the Senior Center offers services and activities for residents age 60+

- **Location:** Human Services Facility at 30 Sudbury Road Rear
- **Contact us:** [seniorcenter@actonma.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov) or (978) 929-6652
- **Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 AM to 5 PM, Tuesday 8 AM to 7:30 PM, and Friday 8 AM to Noon
- **Information:** Visit our website [www.actoncoa.com](http://www.actoncoa.com) where you can get the most up-to-date information and view our newsletter. Follow us on [Facebook @actoncoa](https://www.facebook.com/actoncoa)

For seniors and their family members seeking information on area social services, please contact COA Senior Services Coordinator Beverly Hutchings at 978.929.6652. She provides information on home care agencies, elder day programs, housing options, food and fuel assistance, and a variety of other services.

**November program highlights: Most programs are free to Acton seniors!**

**See our newsletter for details.**

- **Between Us Sisters:** A Living History Dialogue with Louisa and May Alcott, Thurs, Nov 2 at 1 PM
- **What Matters to You:** Self-Awareness and Self-Care group starting Fri, Nov 3 at 10 AM
- **Senior Field Trip and Lunch at ABRHS,** Tues, Nov 7, school bus will pick up and drop off at the Senior Center
- **Learn about the South Acton Vision Plan** during open houses on Tues, Nov 7 from 4-6 PM and Tues, Nov 14 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
- **Medicare Supplement Plan or Medicare Advantage Plan—Which Is Best for You?** Tues, Nov 7 at 1 PM
- **Caregiver Support Group** meets via Zoom at 3 PM on Tues, Nov 7 and Tues, Nov 21
- **Beaded Jewelry Class,** Wed, Nov 8 at 10 AM
- **WWII History Presentation/The American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor,** Wed, Nov 8, at 2 PM
- **Drop-in Tech Help** with Rebecca from Acton Memorial Library, Thurs, Nov 9, 10-11 AM
- **Financial Literacy & Wellness** with John Blute, MD, Thurs, Nov 9 at 1 PM
- **Book Discussion Group,** The Library Book, Tues, Nov 14 at 10 AM
- **From Doormats to Dynasty:** History of the Perennial Powerhouse Patriots, Tues, Nov 14, at 1 PM
- **Choosing a Home Care Provider** with Deaconess Abundant Life Services, Wed, Nov 15 at 11 AM
- **Presentation offered by the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind,** Wed, Nov 15 at 1 PM
- **Wool Needle Felting** class with Magda Stilmant, Wed, Nov 15 at 1 PM
- **Poet of the Month:** Ogden Nash via Zoom with Val Walker, Thurs, Nov 16 at 10:30 AM
- **Country Music of the 1950s** presentation with John Clark, Thurs, Nov 16 at 12:30 PM
- **Take Charge of Your End-of-Life Decisions** with Attorney Margaret Hoag and Dr. Judy Weinstock, with individual appointments available after the presentation, Tues, Nov 21 at 1 PM

- **Visit with Bodacious the Golden-Doodle** therapy dog Wednesdays from 10:00 to Noon
- **Memory Lane Café** for those with memory impairment and their care partners, Tues, Nov 28 at Noon
- **ABRHS Student Classical Music Performance**, Tues, Nov 28 at 6 PM
- **The Art and History of Sicily** with Paolo Di Gregorio, Tues, Nov 28 at 1 PM
- **Greeting Card Workshop** with Nancy Dodge, Wed Nov 29 at 10:30 AM
- **Classical Music Favorites and Hidden Gems** with Sivan Etedgee, Thurs, Nov 30 at 12:30 PM

**ONGOING CLASSES INCLUDE:** line dancing, the Works of Thornton Wilder seminar, storytelling workshop, line dancing, Words Galore via Zoom, and drawing/watercolor class—call COA about availability.

**ART EXHIBIT** this month features the wool needle felting art of Acton resident Magda Stilmant.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** We offer exercise classes for all fitness levels, Ask the Lawyer appointments, gym with senior-friendly equipment, SHINE appointments, and Laugh for Your Health. Drop-in activities include movies, LitLovers study group, bridge games, Hot Topics discussion group, singing group and Computer Club. Don't miss the pop-up knitting goods fair that will benefit the Friends of the Acton Council on Aging on Tues, Nov 14 from 10 AM to 2 PM!

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY DÉCOR SWAP:** People can drop off donations of winter holiday decorations at the Senior Center Friday, December 1 from 8:00 am to 12 noon and Monday, December 4 from 8:00-10:00 am. People of all ages can “shop” on Mon, Dec 4 from 11 AM to 5 PM and Tuesday, December 5, from 8 AM to 7 PM. We cannot accept large items such as artificial trees and outdoor décor.

**MEALS:** The Minuteman Senior Service (MMSS) dining site offers in-person lunches Monday through Thursday at noon for \$2 donation. Anyone celebrating a birthday receives a free lunch the second Thursday of the month! Grab and Go lunches continue to be offered Monday through Friday. Sign up for lunch at least 24 hours in advance in person or by phone 781-221-7098.

Our popular lunch café, Bistro 30, is open 11:30-1:30 PM on Wednesdays and Thursdays for people of all ages; new menu each week, \$6/item. The COA also partners with Open Table to provide free frozen meals to bring home.

### MAKE A RESERVATION WITH THE COUNCIL ON AGING FOR SPECIAL CULINARY EVENTS:

- **Dinner by Doug from Boston Events:** Tues, Nov 7 at 5 PM, baked fish, \$5
- **Lunch with Chef McGuire**, Tues, Nov 14 at 12 PM, pulled pork sandwiches, \$3
- **Monthly Breakfast**, Friday, Nov, 17 at 9 AM, \$3; followed at 9:45 PM by Java with John, a discussion with Town Manager John Mangiaratti
- **Benchmark at Robbins Brook lunch**, Tues, Nov 21 at 12 PM, turkey and the fixings, \$3



SENIORS GET A CHANCE TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL AT ABRHS



MAKING BEAUTIFUL ART IN THE WOOL NEEDLE FELTING ART CLASS

## Newsletter:

Did you know that you can subscribe to the monthly newsletter online? Family members are encouraged to see what we offer and may be of interest to their older family members. It just takes a moment at: <https://actoncoa.com/list.aspx>



# MEMORIAL LIBRARY

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM



## UPCOMING CLOSURES

Friday, November 10: Veterans Day

Friday, November 17: Closing at 1:00 PM. for Staff Development

Wednesday, November 22 (closing early) through Friday, November 24: Thanksgiving

## ADULT PROGRAMS

- **English at Large Conversation Group**, Mondays, 1:00 - 2:30 PM or 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Drop-In Tech Help** at West Acton Citizens' Library, Wednesday, November 8, 1:00 - 2:00 PM
- **Coffee with a Cop**, Thursday, November 9, 9:30 - 11:30 AM
- **Drop-In Technology Help** at the Senior Center, Thursday, November 9, 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- **Asian Art Series: Japanese Aesthetics** – Exploring Japan's Artistic Sensibilities, Sunday, November 12, 2:30-3:30 PM
- **Yarn and Needle Club**, Tuesdays, November 14 and November 28, 3:00 - 4:00 PM
- **"The Drive to Sing" Documentary Screening** plus Q&A with Filmmakers/Cast, Wednesday, November 15, 5:45 - 8:00 PM
- **Breathe for Change**, Friday, November 17, 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- **I Hiked Acton's Trails Book Club**, Friday, November 17, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- **Staged Reading of "Under Milk Wood"** with WordsMove Theater, Saturday, November 18, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- **Neal Rantoul Gallery Talk**, Sunday, November 19, 2:00 - 4:00 PM
- **Acton Memorial Library Book Discussion Group**, Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 - 8:00 PM
- **Fix It Clinic**, Saturday, November 25, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- **Veteran and Surviving Spouse Benefits Discussion**, Wednesday, November 29, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

## TEEN PROGRAMS

- **D&D for Teens**, Grades 7+, Saturday, November 18, 10:00 AM - NOON
- **Teen Advisory Board**, Wednesday, November 22, 3:00 - 4:00 PM

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- **Baby Toddler Storytime** with Ms. Amy, Tuesdays, 9:30 - 10:30 AM
- **Singalong Storytime**, Wednesdays, 9:30 - 10:00 AM
- **Preschool Storytime** at the Library, Thursdays, 10:00 - 10:30 AM
- **Storytime at West Acton Citizens' Library**, Thursdays, 3:00 – 3:30 PM
- **Children's Crafting** for First Grade and Up, Thursdays, 4:00 - 4:30 PM
- **Pre-K to 1st Grade Crafting**, Fridays, 10:00 - 10:30 AM
- **Chess Club**, Saturdays, 1:00 - 2:30 PM
- **Early Release: Moon Adventure Game**, Wednesdays, November 8 or November 15, 2:00 - 2:45 PM or 3:00 - 3:45 PM
- **Preschool Storytime with Police Dog Zane and Detective Stackhouse**, Thursday, November 9, 10:00 - 10:30 AM
- **Read to Goats**, Tuesday, November 14, 4:00 - 5:00 PM
- **Read to a Horse**, Tuesday, November 14, 4:00 - 5:00 PM
- **Early Release: Moon Adventure Game**, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2:00 - 2:45 PM or 3:00 - 3:45 PM
- **Sensory Storytime**, Friday, November 17, 11:30 AM - NOON
- **Read to a Dog: Zora**, Tuesday, November 21, 4:30 - 5:00 PM
- **D&D for 5th and 6th Graders**, Saturday, November 25, 10:00 AM - NOON





Members of Town Boards and Committees are volunteers who enjoy spending a few hours (usually in the evening) with their fellow residents helping the Town of Acton run efficiently while remaining a pleasant place to live. There are currently more than 30 boards and committees dealing with a broad range of Town and regional interest.

For further information on a certain board or committee, [follow this link](#) to that board's page. Another excellent way to find out what a board or committee does is to attend its meetings. The meetings of all boards and committees are listed in the calendar on this website. It is recommended that you verify the meeting schedule before the meeting because sometimes they change.

Members of most of the Town boards and committees are appointed by the Select Board. The Town Manager and Town Moderator also appoint member to boards. To apply, please fill out the [Acton Volunteer Application](#) and deliver it to the Town Manager's Office located at Town Hall, 472 Main Street, Acton.

# Acton Rides Program



Eligible residents can now schedule free taxi rides during nights and weekends:

- Monday-Friday between 3 p.m. and 11 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Residents who are eligible include:

 Adults aged 50 and up	 Individuals with a demonstrated financial need
 Individuals with limited driving ability due to a disability	 Active-duty military members or veterans

All rides must begin or end in Acton and are capped at a maximum of 25 miles.



For more information or to apply, contact the Transportation Office at 978-929-6611 or [transportation@actonma.gov](mailto:transportation@actonma.gov).

## ACTON'S LOOKING GOOD CONTEST

Thank you to The Acton Garden Club for the 2023 'Acton's Looking Good Contest' acknowledging Acton businesses whose landscapes enhance the town's beauty and to encourage more businesses to improve their landscapes. The winners are presented with plaques containing photographs of their property. Here is what the Acton Garden Club saw for 2023!



**[Link to Acton Garden Club video](#)**

The 2023 Acton's Looking Good Winners are:

## Best Stand Alone Business – Acton Funeral Home – Dan White

## Best Use of Small Space – Ernie's Auto Body – Rose Silveria

## Best New Garden – Tavenier Place – Rachelly Bartolotta

Continued Excellence – West Acton Village – Lauren Richardt

## Best Use of Container Gardens – Anita's Shoe Boutique – Anita Opitz

Best Retail Plaza – TJ Maxx/Roche – Larry Farrell Mgr. of TJ Maxx



**Acton Lions 43rd Annual Ski and Skate Sale - Nov 17-19, 2023!**



The Acton Lions Club will hold its annual ski and skate sale at the Conant Elementary School, 80 Taylor Road, Acton. Buy or sell used winter gear or pick up new gear. Saturday will feature new equipment as well! Great selection and prices!

Drop-off consignment items will be accepted :

- Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 - 8 pm
- Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>: 8 - 10 am

**Sale:**

- Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>; 11 am - 4 pm
- Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>; 10 am - 2 pm



**Consignment Pay-out or Pick-up unsold items:**

Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 3 - 5 pm

The Acton Lions Club will pay consignment donors 70 percent of the sale price of each item sold. Any pay-out or items not picked up by 5 p.m. on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> will be considered a donation. All money raised will go to local charities, food banks and scholarship funds. Check us out on Facebook!

# DIRECTORY OF TOWN DEPARTMENTS

TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE - (978) 929-6600 | VISIT US ONLINE AT [ACTONMA.GOV](http://ACTONMA.GOV)

Department	Phone Number	E-Mail
Acton Nursing Services	978-929-6650	<a href="mailto:nursing@actonma.gov">nursing@actonma.gov</a>
Assessor's Office	978-929-6621	<a href="mailto:assessor@actonma.gov">assessor@actonma.gov</a>
Building Division	978-929-6633	<a href="mailto:building@actonma.gov">building@actonma.gov</a>
Cemetery Division	978-929-6642	<a href="mailto:cemetery@actonma.gov">cemetery@actonma.gov</a>
West Acton Citizens' Library	978-929-6654	<a href="mailto:wacl@actonma.gov">wacl@actonma.gov</a>
Collector/Treasurer Office	978-929-6622	<a href="mailto:collector@actonma.gov">collector@actonma.gov</a>
Community Resources Office	978-929-6651	<a href="mailto:lducharme@actonma.gov">lducharme@actonma.gov</a>
Council on Aging	978-929-6652	<a href="mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov">seniorcenter@actonma.gov</a>
Economic Development	978-929-6611	<a href="mailto:economicdevelopment@actonma.gov">economicdevelopment@actonma.gov</a>
Engineering Division	978-929-6630	<a href="mailto:engineering@actonma.gov">engineering@actonma.gov</a>
Fire Department	978-929-7722	<a href="mailto:fire@actonma.gov">fire@actonma.gov</a>
Health Division	978-929-6632	<a href="mailto:health@actonma.gov">health@actonma.gov</a>
Highway Division & Transfer Station	978-929-7740 978-929-7742	<a href="mailto:highway@actonma.gov">highway@actonma.gov</a>
Human Resources Department	978-929-6613	<a href="mailto:hr@actonma.gov">hr@actonma.gov</a>
Information Technology Department	978-929-6612	<a href="mailto:it@actonma.gov">it@actonma.gov</a>
Acton Memorial Library	978-929-6655	<a href="http://actonmemoriallibrary.org">actonmemoriallibrary.org</a>
Natural Resources Division	978-929-6634	<a href="mailto:NR@actonma.gov">NR@actonma.gov</a>
Planning Division	978-929-6631	<a href="mailto:planning@actonma.gov">planning@actonma.gov</a>
Police Department	978-929-7711	<a href="mailto:police@actonma.gov">police@actonma.gov</a>
Public Facilities Division	978-929-7744	<a href="mailto:mpo@actonma.gov">mpo@actonma.gov</a>
Public Works Department	978-929-7740	<a href="mailto:highway@actonma.gov">highway@actonma.gov</a>
Recreation Office	978-929-6640	<a href="mailto:recreation@actonma.gov">recreation@actonma.gov</a>
Sustainability Office	978-929-6611	<a href="mailto:sustainability@actonma.gov">sustainability@actonma.gov</a>
Town Clerk's Office	978-929-6620	<a href="mailto:clerk@actonma.gov">clerk@actonma.gov</a>
Town Manager's Office	978-929-6611	<a href="mailto:manager@actonma.gov">manager@actonma.gov</a>
Veterans' Services	978-929-6614	<a href="mailto:vso@actonma.gov">vso@actonma.gov</a>
Acton Water District	978-263-9107	<a href="http://www.actonwater.com">www.actonwater.com</a>