Volunteer at the Municipal Level

Town Volunteers Fill Important Roles

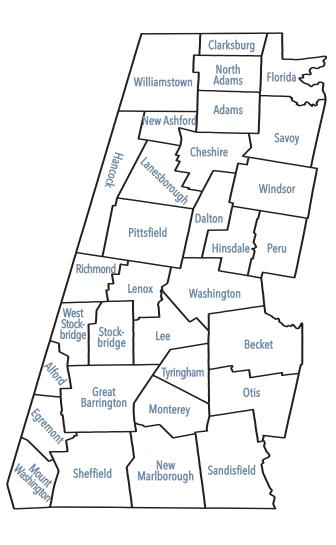
Boards and committees play an important role in the governance and management of small Massachusetts towns, and their members are often volunteers who serve their communities with dedication and expertise.

Volunteers on town boards and committees ensure that communities deliver vital services to residents. For example, volunteers willing to run for and serve on their town's Select Board or Planning Board are responsible for hiring effective management and crafting and enforcing critical by-laws that reflect the wants and needs of the community. Committees



such as the School Committee and Council on Aging are integral in enriching the lives of school-age children and seniors alike. Without volunteers, many of the services and events we enjoy might disappear.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at the Municipal level. In order to find committees and/or boards that would be a good fit, take a moment to explore your town's web site, review meeting minutes and see who else in your community is involved. A glossary of Board/Committee Descriptions is included, showing the breadth of available opportunities. (Town newsletters are also mentioned as entities needing volunteers!)



BERKSHIRE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

TOWN OF ADAMS

town.adams.ma.us

8 Park St, Adams, MA 01220 Town Clerk: Haley Meczywor 413) 743-8300 Ext. 113 or 115

TOWN OF ALFORD

townofalford.org

5 Alford Center Rd., Alford, MA 01230

Town Clerk: Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson, (413) 528-4536

TOWN OF BECKET

townofbecket.org

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

Town Administrator: Katherine A. Warden

(413) 623-8934 ext. 113

TOWN OF CHESHIRE

cheshire-ma.gov

P.O. Box 647, 80 Church Street Cheshire, MA 01225

Town Clerk: Christine B. Emerson

(413) 743-1690 ext. 22, townclerk@cheshire-ma.gov

Town Administrator: Jennifer Morse

(413) 743-1690 ext. 18, <u>imorse@cheshire-ma.gov</u>

TOWN OF CLARKSBURG

clarksburgma.us

111 River Road, Clarksburg MA 01247 Town Clerk: Marilyn Gomeau

(413) 663-8255

Town Administrator:

Carl McKinney, (413) 663-8250

TOWN OF DALTON

dalton-ma.gov

dalton-ma.gov/interested-in-joining-

a-committee/

462 Main Street, Dalton, MA 01226 Town Clerk: Heather Hunt

(413) 684-6111 ext. 210 or 212

TOWN OF EGREMONT

egremont-ma.gov

171 Egremont Plain Rd. Rte. 71 South Egremont, MA 01258 Town Clerk: Juliette Haas

(413) 528-0182 ext.11

Egremont News, egremont-ma.gov

TOWN OF FLORIDA

townofflorida.org

379 Mohawk Trail, Drury, MA 01343

Town Clerk: Lisa H. Brown (413) 662-2448 ext. 3

townclerk.floridamass @gmail.com

Town Administrator:

Joan Lewis, (413) 662-2448 ext. 0 townhall.floridamass@gmail.com

TOWN OF GREAT **BARRINGTON/** HOUSATONIC

townofqb.orq

334 Main Street

Great Barrington, MA 01230

Town Clerk: Jennifer L. Messina

(413) 528-1619 ext. 2100

Town Manager: Mark Pruhanski

(413) 528-1619 ext. 2900

TOWN OF HANCOCK

town.hancock.ma.us

PO Box 1084, 3650 Hancock Road

Hancock, MA 01237

Town Clerk: Linda Burdick

(413) 738-5225 Option# 2

clerk@town.hancock.ma.us

TOWN OF HINSDALE

hinsdalemass.com

39 South Street, Hinsdale, MA 01235 Town Clerk: Dawn Frissell

(413) 655-2300 ext. 301

lanesborough-ma.gov

83 North Main Street

P.O. Box 1492

TOWN OF

Lanesborough, MA 01237

LANESBOROUGH

Town Clerk: Ruth Knysh

(413) 442-1351

rknysh@lanesborough-ma.gov

TOWN OF LFF

www.lee.ma.us

32 Main Street, Lee, MA 01238

Town Clerk: Rachael Armstrong

(413) 243-5505

Town Administrator: C. Brittain

(413) 409-5975

TOWN OF LENOX

townoflenox.com

6 Walker Street, Lenox, MA 01240 Town Clerk: Kerry L Sullivan

(413) 637-5500 ext. 1207

Town Manager: Christopher Ketchen

(413) 637-5500 ext. 7

Senior Sentry

townoflenox.com/sites/g/files/

vyhlif3341/f/uploads/october senior

sentry 2023.pdf

TOWN OF MONTEREY

montereyma.gov

435 Main Road, Monterey, MA 01245

Interim Town Clerk: Marie Ryan

(413) 528-1443 ext. 113

Town Administrator: Melissa Noe

(413) 528-1443 ext.111

Monterey News

montereynews9@gmail.com

TOWN OF MOUNT WASHINGTON

mountwashington-ma.gov

2 Plantain Pond Road

Mount Washington, MA 01258

Town Clerk: Linda Beckwith

(413) 528-2839

Town Office Manager:

Elisabeth (Loes) Lem, (413) 528-2839

TOWN OF NEW ASHFORD

newashford-ma.us

188 Mallery Road,

New Ashford, MA 01237

Town Clerk: Susan Supranowicz

413-458-5461

townclerk@newashford-ma.us

TOWN OF **NEW MARLBOROUGH**

newmarlboroughma.gov

807 Mill River Southfield Rd.

Mill River, MA 01244

Town Clerk: Katherine Chretien

(413) 229-8278

New Marlborough Five Village News

nm5vn.org

CITY OF NORTH ADAMS

northadams-ma.gov

10 Main Street

North Adams, MA 01247

City Clerk: Tina Leonesio

(413) 662-3015

Administrative Officer:

Mary Katherine Eade (Interim)

(413) 662-3000 ext. 3011

TOWN OF OTIS

townofotisma.com

One North Main Road

PO Box 237

Otis, MA 01253

Town Clerk: Lyn O'Brien

(413) 269-0100 ext.112

Town Administrator: Brandi Page

(413) 269-1011 ext. 127

The Otis Gazette (Annual Business

Directory), otisqazette.com

Otis Observer, otisobserver.org

TOWN OF PERU

townofperuma.com

3 East Main Road, Peru, MA 01235

Town Clerk: Kim Leach

(413) 655-8312 ext.102 townclerk@townofperuma.com

CITY OF PITTSFIELD

cityofpittsfield.org

70 Allen St., Pittsfield, MA 01201

City Clerk: Michele M. Benjamin

(413) 499-9361

mbenjamin@cityofpittsfield.org

(To volunteer for board or

commission, send letter of interest to:

Malia Windrow-Carlotto,

Executive Assistant to the Mayor at

mcarlotto@cityofpittsfield.org)

TOWN OF RICHMOND

richmondma.org

P.O. Box 124, Richmond, MA 01254 Town Clerk: Angela Garrity

(413) 553-7793

TOWN OF SANDISFIELD

<u>sandisfieldma.gov</u> 66 Sandisfield Road, Suite 1

Sandisfield, MA 01255 Town Clerk: Douglas Miner

(413) 258-4711 ext. 2

Town Manager: Jonathan Sylbert

(413) 258-4711

The Sandisfield Times www.sandisfieldtimes.org

TOWN OF SAVOY

 $\underline{townofs avoy.com}$

720 Main Road, Savoy MA 01256

Town Clerk: Valerie Reiner

(413) 743-3759

savoytownclerk@gmail.com

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD

sheffieldma.gov

21 Depot Square, Sheffield, MA 01257

Town Clerk: Felecie Joyce (413) 229-7000 ext. 151

Town Administrator: Rhonda La Bombard

(413) 229-7000 ext. 152 The Sheffield Times www.sheffieldtimes.org

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE

stockbridge-ma.gov

50 Main Street, P.O. Box 417 Stockbridge, MA 01262-0417

Town Clerk: Terri Lemolini (413) 298-4170 ext. 251

Town Administrator: Michael Canales

(413) 298-4170 ext. 100

TOWN OF TYRINGHAM

tyringham-ma.gov

116 Main Road, Tyringham, MA 01264

Town Clerk: Heather Ketchen

(413) 243-1749

TOWN OF WEST STOCKBRIDGE

weststockbridge-ma.gov

21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Town Clerk: Ronni Barrett (413) 232-0300 ext. 300

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

washington-ma.gov

8 Summit Hill Road, Washington MA 01223

Town Clerk: Allison Mikaniewicz

(413) 623-8878 ext. 105

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN

williamstownma.gov

131 North Street, Williamstown, MA 01267

Town Clerk: Nicole Beverly (413) 458-3500 ext. 101

nbeverly@williamstownma.gov

Town Manager: Robert Menicocci

(413) 458-3500 ext. 115

rmenicocci@williamstownma.gov

TOWN OF WINDSOR

windsormass.com

1890 Route 9, Windsor, MA 01270

Town Clerk: Sandy Kalmus, 413-684-3811 ext. 1

windsortownclerk@gmail.com
Town Administrator: Madeline Scully

413-684-3811 ext.4

mscully@windsormass.com

BOARD & COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

Massachusetts town boards and committees are constantly evolving to address new challenges and emerging issues. Newer boards and committees have been established in recent years, reflecting the changing needs and priorities of Massachusetts towns, and they play an important role in promoting sustainability, diversity, and community development. By working collaboratively with other town boards and committees, they can help to create vibrant and resilient communities that are well-prepared for the challenges of the future.

Board of Health: This board is responsible for overseeing public health policies and programs, including

vaccination programs, food safety, and environmental health.

Board of Library Trustees: This board is responsible for overseeing the town's public library system, including hiring and evaluating librarians, setting policies, and managing the budget.

Board of Selectmen: This board is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the town, overseeing the budget, and making policy decisions.

Bylaw Review Committee: Responsible for reviewing the town's by-laws and proposing revisions and additions thereto.

Cannabis Sub-Committee: Acts as advisors to the Select Board regarding the issuance of permits for the sale and cultivation of cannabis.

Capital Planning Committee: Responsible for working with all Town departments to ensure that capital requirements for the immediate year and longer term are understood and documented leading to a recommendation to the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.

Cemetery Committee: While many towns have cemetery committees, the duties and responsibilities vary by town. Check a town's website for information.

Community Development Committee: This committee is responsible for promoting economic development and community revitalization. They may work on initiatives such as attracting new businesses, improving infrastructure, and revitalizing downtown areas.

Conservation Commission: This committee is responsible for protecting the town's natural resources, including wetlands and wildlife habitats.

Council on Aging: This committee is responsible for providing services and programs to the town's senior citizens, including transportation, social activities, and health services.

(Local) Cultural Council: Led by municipally appointed volunteers, LCCs award over \$5 million every year, supporting 6,000 cultural programs that include everything from field trips to lectures, festivals, and dance performances.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee: This committee is responsible for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the town. They may work on initiatives such as reviewing hiring practices, developing training programs, and promoting cultural awareness.

Emergency Preparedness Committee:

This committee is responsible for preparing the town for emergencies such as natural disasters, public health crises, or terrorist attacks. They may work on initiatives such as creating emergency response plans, conducting drills and exercises, and educating the public on emergency preparedness.

Finance Committee: This committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on the town's budget and financial policies.

Green Committee: This committee is responsible for promoting sustainability and reducing the town's carbon footprint such as through energy-efficient buildings, encouraging recycling and composting, and advocating for public transportation and bike lanes.

Historical Commission: This committee is responsible for preserving and promoting the town's history, including historic buildings and sites.

Planning Board: This board is responsible for overseeing the town's land use policies, including zoning and development.

Recreation Commission: This committee is responsible for providing recreational activities and programs to the town's residents, including sports leagues, camps, and community events.

School Committee: This committee is responsible for overseeing the town's public school system, including hiring and evaluating teachers, setting policies, and managing the budget.

Town Charter Committee: Tasked with creating and presenting a town charter that will create a framework for governing and managing a town.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Responsible for hearing and deciding upon appeals by persons who have been unable to obtain a permit in accordance with a town's zoning by-law.





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