GUILFORD GUIDE

A USER'S GUIDE TO GUILFORD, VERMONT

2026 EDITION

GUILFORD, VERMONT

It's often said that it takes a village to raise a child. Here in Guilford, it also takes a lot of volunteers to run a town. The primary definition of volunteering is the act of spending unpaid time doing something to benefit others. Well, in Guilford, there's a generous amount of collective unpaid time spent that provides a whole lot of benefit to others. In a town so geographically large—while being so sparsely populated—volunteerism provides a significant connection between neighbors.

This inaugural 2025 *Guilford Guide* (created entirely by volunteers) is dedicated to all the volunteers who keep Guilford running. Whether in their time devoted to positions, commissions, and committees within the town government, or for a myriad of private nonprofits and projects, it's the generous and committed work of volunteers that keeps the wheels turning and makes life better for everyone in Guilford.

Thank you to all the Guilford volunteers.

Additional volunteers are always needed, and their efforts are greatly valued and appreciated. If you would like to volunteer, see the partial list of volunteer opportunities on page 73 and look for "volunteer" icons located throughout.

~ Bob Tucker and the Guilford Guide volunteers: Planning Commission, Selectboard, Susan Bonthron, Steve Lembke, Joslyn McIntyre, Evelyn McLean, Lesley Malouin, Sheila Morse, Verandah Porche, Marty Ramsburg, Jodi Solomon, Richard Wizansky, and Rick Zamore

See the online digital edition at guilfordvt.gov/guilford-guide.

Cover photo: Lois Pancake

CONTENTS

GUILFORD GUIDE

2026 rev 1

See the online digital edition of this guide and for periodic updates at guilfordvt.gov/guilford-guide.

LIVING IN GUILFORD 4

TOWN GOVERNMENT 16

BUSINESSES 27

FOOD & AGRICULTURE 33

GETTING THE NEWS 37

EDUCATION 39

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES 43

LIVING ON THE LAND 51

RECREATION 57

ARTS & CULTURE 62

HOUSES OF WORSHIP 67

EMERGENCY RESOURCES 69

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 73

ANNUAL EVENTS 75

Photo: Carole Mills

LIVING IN GUILFORD

There's a lot to learn about living in a community, from where to take your trash to questions about property rights. Here are some basics to help you navigate everyday life in Guilford.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

You can find out what's happening in town through a mix of broadcast outlets, newspapers, email newsletters, Facebook Pages, and other online sources. But don't forget good old word of mouth! Talk to people at the Guilford Country Store, the Town Office, Broad Brook Community Center, and the Community Church—just a few of the great places to meet people in the know.

Or go to page 37 *News* section for more details.

TOWN WEBSITE

Guilford has an official town website with information about local government and town resources, official documents and policies, Selectboard and committee agendas, meeting minutes, town reports, and a community calendar: guilfordvt.gov.

photo: Joshua Farr

UTILITIES AND SERVICES

MAIL DELIVERY

Rural mail delivery is an interesting process. Guilford does not have its own post office, so our mail is processed and handled by the Brattleboro post office. United States Postal Service (USPS) mail is delivered to Guilford by five different rural carriers on five separate routes. The zip code for all Guilford addresses is 05301, which is also the zip code of Brattleboro and parts of Dummerston.

USPS will deliver everywhere in town and in all kinds of weather, but you're responsible for digging out your mailbox and keeping it clear in the winter. Other delivery services, like UPS and FedEx, also deliver to Guilford's rural areas, but be certain to use your full address on all packages and to have the number clearly visible at your home.

PHONE SERVICE

You may have discovered that cell service can be spotty in Vermont. Many people still have landlines, including options through satellite or internet. Those who depend exclusively on cell phones should choose providers carefully. More towers are going in and improving service, but reception can vary, and service providers may be less than forthcoming about it. Talk with your neighbors for suggestions and service reviews.

INTERNET SERVICE

Choosing the right service depends on where you live and your needs. Cable providers deliver high-speed internet to many of the homes on more populated roads. More remote homes often rely on satellite internet services.

Recognizing the importance of reliable high-speed internet and phone service to residents, many towns are banding together to create municipal nonprofit utilities. DV Fiber, through an agreement with Guilford and other regional towns, expands its lines to more homes and areas each year, hoping to eventually offer high-speed internet and phone coverage to the entire Guilford area.

For more information regarding service to your area, visit dvfiber.net.

DID YOU KNOW?

FREE TOWN WI-FI ACCESS

You can access free high-speed internet 24/7 at the Guilford Free Library, both inside (when the library is open) and from the parking area (even if it's not).

guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

Efficiency Vermont

Whatever your energy source is, it's not cheap to keep your home warm and well lit. Efficiency Vermont is a statewide organization that provides information, services, and financial incentives to help Vermonters reduce energy and use more renewables. Contact them to learn about financial incentives and rebates and get tips on do-it-yourself projects.

Efficiency Vermont also provides referrals for local contractors and service providers. Many contractors and local organizations offer free walkthroughs to identify places to insulate or tighten up homes to save energy. Vermont offers numerous financial incentives for making your home more energy efficient. For instance, some homeowners install cold weather heat pumps, which use electricity (often solar) to produce highly efficient heat.

Contact Efficiency Vermont at efficiencyvermont.com or call 888.921.5990.

HEAT, POWER, AND ENERGY

Guilford residents heat their homes in a variety of ways. The most common heating options are wood, oil, propane, and electric. Buying wood (or wood pellets) locally helps to support our local foresters and economy. Check the classifieds, ask your neighbors who they use, or post your request on Front Porch Forum. Green Mountain Power provides most of the electricity in our area, though many homes have solar panels. There are several local oil and propane providers.

TRASH, RECYCLING, AND COMPOSTING

We do not have town trash or recycling pickup, but several private haulers pick up trash and recyclables for a fee (see the business section of this guide). You can also transport your trash and recyclables yourself. Brattleboro maintains a transfer station for trash and recyclables on Old Ferry Road. They charge individuals an annual fee for an access sticker and additional amounts for trash. Recycling is free with a sticker. Residents can drop off tin cans, glass bottles and jars, corrugated cardboard, plastic with recycle symbols, boxboard, and newspaper. There are separate bins for recycling and compostable materials like food and yard waste. The transfer station also accepts antifreeze, motor oil, latex paint, fluorescent light bulbs, household batteries, and electronics. Search "Windham Solid Waste Management District (WSWMD) Brattleboro" for lots more information, hours, and the hazardous waste disposal schedule. windhamsolidwaste.org

WATER AND SEPTIC

Most households in Guilford rely on private wells and springs for water and have individual septic systems and leach fields for sewage disposal. State laws govern all forms of sewage disposal across Vermont. Make sure you obtain a septic permit before building a house with a septic system. As of 2002, all new subdivisions and systems must follow state standards for design, siting, and construction.

If your Guilford home or business is located on the Brattleboro end of Route 5 (from the Guilford Country Store north), you may be connected to the Brattleboro municipal water and sewer system. Owners of these houses and buildings are charged rates based on their usage.

CEMETERIES

Guilford owns and maintains 12 cemeteries scattered throughout town. In addition, many old homesteads had their own family cemeteries, so you may run across one in the woods. The town does not own or maintain those burial sites, nor are property owners required to maintain them.

New burial plots are available in the Maplehurst Cemetery on Route 5. Plots in the other cemeteries are limited. Green burials are allowed in Vermont and encouraged in Guilford, as the Town does not allow vaults to be used in the public cemeteries.

The Selectboard oversees cemeteries through the Cemetery Commission, and voters authorize funds each year for maintenance, including mowing and trimming. To purchase burial rights for plots and to make burial arrangements,

contact one of Guilford's Cemetery Commissioners. Contact information and a copy of the Commission's current brochure, as well as maps locating each cemetery, can be found on the official town website or at the Town Office. guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Guilford-Cemeteries-2023.pdf

Guilford Christ Church's historic cemetery is also available for burial plots, and can accommodate green burial. It is also a lovely area for a stroll! Contact Barry Aleshnick for more information (martina1@myfairpoint.net) or check out the website christchurchcemeteryvt.org and facebook.com/ChristChurchCemeteryAssociation for more information.

photo: Lesley Malouin

HOUSING AND RENTALS

Most Guilford residents live in owner-occupied single-family homes. However, there are other types of housing in the area—mobile homes, tiny houses, apartments, and congregate senior housing. If you're trying to rent or buy a home in Guilford, you can find out what's available and on the market by contacting a realtor, searching property sale websites, or looking at local and regional classifieds. If you want to build a home on your property, visit the Town Office to review the required permits. Contact community and social services if you're looking for affordable housing, assisted living, or other subsidized housing. If you have health concerns about a property, contact the Town Health Officer.

RENTAL HOUSING

Rental housing is in short supply in Guilford, but it's an option, and can be a great way for property owners to bring in some extra income. Whether you're a landlord or renter, it's important to know your rights and responsibilities. Tenants have a right to housing that is safe and in good condition (including adequate heat and hot water). They also have a right to fair notice and due process around rent increases or evictions. Likewise, tenants have a responsibility to care for the property, fix or pay for any damage they cause, and give the landlord fair notice before leaving. Renter's insurance is always a good idea for tenants.

The Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) has detailed information for landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities: cvoeo.org, VT Tenant Hotline: 802.864.0099.

SHORT-TERM AND VACATION RENTALS

Many Vermonters rent out entire homes, spare rooms, barns, cabins, yurts, and even lawn space for camping, through various websites. These short-term or vacation rentals are legal in Vermont and Guilford with no additional restrictions. Renters are responsible for following all State regulations and reporting rental income on their income taxes.

TINY HOUSES

Tiny houses are increasingly popular, both as standard residences and additional dwellings. But you can't just plop one down! If it's over 100 square feet, or if it will be in place permanently, you may need a septic permit—and it may be taxable. Contact the Guilford Town Office for more information.

FIND YOUR FLOOD & EROSION RISK

Think you're high and dry? Even if your property has never flooded before, you may still be at risk. Find out whether your home is vulnerable to flooding or erosion by reviewing Vermont's Flood Ready Atlas (floodready.Vermont.gov). This site also provides information on how to protect your property from flood inundation and erosion.

OPEN ACCESS AND LANDOWNER LIABILITY

In Vermont there is a long-valued tradition of "open access" to land. That means people have the right to respectfully use private property for walking, hunting, fishing, and recreation unless a landowner "posts" the land. Owners don't have to allow people to use their land, but it's up to them to properly post signs. Whether land is posted or not, property owners can ask people to leave their property at any time.

HOW IT WORKS

DO I NEED A PERMIT?

Looking to have a bonfire, dig a pond, keep tigers, or build a shed? There are lots of things that property owners may want to do, and many of them require permits (or are simply not allowed...like tigers). It's always best to ask before you build, dig, burn, or do any major project on your property. Contact the Town Administrator and ask for guidance regarding permits: townadmin@guilfordvt.gov, or call 802.254.6857 ext.105.

OWNING PROPERTY

There's a lot to know about owning property in Guilford, and this guide does not cover it all. It includes current info on a few of the most important questions, but things change all the time, so talk to our Town Clerk, a realtor, a lawyer, an insurance agent, or another professional to get complete and up-to-date information. If you're interested in learning about a particular property, visit the Town Office to look up old deeds and property records.

PROPERTY RIGHTS AND USES

Vermonters value privacy and property rights. There's a great deal you can do on your property without restriction, but some things are restricted by the town of Guilford or by the state. It's important to understand property rights and know when you need to get permission or a permit. Fines can be steep! If you're wondering about something we haven't included here, check with the Town Assessor Clerk or Vermont statutes to be sure you're in the clear.

BACKYARD BURNING

It's illegal to burn trash in Vermont. It is legal to burn leaves, brush, and logging debris, but you need a burn permit from the Guilford Fire Warden or a member of the Volunteer Fire Department. Caution is always critical. If you want to burn clean, unpainted natural wood such as lumber from construction projects, you need permits from both the Fire Warden and the Department of Environmental Conservation, Air Pollution Control Division. Information on Vermont's wildland fire seasons is available from the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation: fpr.vermont.gov/forest/wildland-fire/wildland-fire-seasons.

SELLING AND SUBDIVIDING PROPERTY

Selling or transferring land is no small task. There are many steps and details—and a great deal of paperwork. To do so, you'll likely want to consult a realtor or lawyer. If you want to go it alone, then stop in and talk to the Town Clerk about what's required. To subdivide your land into smaller parcels, start by taking a look at state and local laws to see what's allowed.

USING LAND RESPONSIBLY

All private land in Vermont is open to hikers and hunters unless that land is posted. (The only exception is that landowner permission is required for youth and novice turkey and deer hunting weekends.) While landowner permission is not required for hikers and hunters on private lands, they should still ask the permission of the landowner. Those who treat the land and landowner with respect usually find that landowners are happy to grant permission. Whether you ask permission or not, be respectful and responsible in using private land: carry out all trash, close gates, and generally leave the property the way you found it. Look at the list below to see what's generally allowed (unless land is posted), and what's not (unless you have permission).

POSTING LAND

If you're a landowner, you can legally "post" your land to prohibit hunting and trapping, fishing, or recreation on your land. That means posting signs around your property boundary that tell people they aren't allowed to trespass or conduct certain activities. Each year, you must also inform the Town Clerk that you're posting your land. There are specific requirements for how to post your land (number of signs, where to hang them, etc.). Check with the Town Clerk's office or the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department website to learn more.

More informally, you can also put up "hunting by permission only" signs, which allows you to get to know people before giving them permission to hunt on your land. Some people print "courtesy cards" to give to hunters with the details of what they allow or restrict. For newcomers, meeting local hunters is an interesting way to find out about your land.

Learn more about options and guidelines for posting at the Vermont Fish & Wildlife website: vtfishandwildlife.com.

The Guilford Conservation Commission's webpage on Private Land Access also has a lot of useful information: guilfordvt.gov/conservation-commission/private-land-and-public-access.

Remember that the town's Class 4 roads are public property and are always open for snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and other activities—even when they look like private trails or paths. Snowmobile and ATV riders must have written permission to use trails on private property.

PRIVATE LAND AND PUBLIC ACCESS

LANDOWNER RIGHTS

As a landowner, you have the power to:

- Address any property damage or abuse
- Dictate what activities are allowed or prohibited
- Request to see the hunting, fishing, and/or trapping license of anyone on your property
- Request someone leave your property
- Contact law enforcement if you suspect illegal activity

PERMISSION IS ALWAYS REQUIRED TO:

- Trap
- Erect a tree stand or ground blind
- Park, drive, or camp on your land
- Guide hunters or anglers on your property

For more specifics on Vermont law, visit the Guilford Town website's Conservation Commission page on Private Land Access.

STATE PERMITS

Guilford has no zoning regulations. However, large projects and projects of certain types (such as large construction projects, large areas of clearing or land disturbance, or businesses and facilities regulated by the state) often require one or more state permits. The Town Administrator can help you understand what permits you'll need and how to start the process.

HOW IT WORKS

THE VAULT AND ONLINE PARCEL MAPS

Most properties have a long paper trail of records and deeds from each time a property is sold, divided, or transferred. In Guilford, these records go back hundreds of years. Curious about the history of your property? Want to see when it was divided or sold? Want to check for old restrictions or legal issues? Then set aside some time to visit the Vault in the Town Office, where all Guilford's property records are kept. They're protected, but they're public records.

But don't expect it to be a quick stop—it may take you a little time to learn how to use the record system and trace your property back in time. The Town Clerk or the Assessor Clerk may be able to help locate information.

Prefer to look online? Visit the Town Parcel Map at next.axisgis.com/GuilfordVT.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES

If you have any questions about how property taxes work, how to appeal a tax assessment, or whether you're eligible for exemptions, the State of Vermont's website has all of Vermont's tax forms as well as information about state and town rates, payment deadlines, and more. Visit tax.Vermont.gov (or call 802.828.2505).

photo: Rick Zamore

EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Sometimes properties come with strings attached—a legal restriction or a change to standard property rights. One common example is an easement, through which you may sell or donate certain rights to your property while keeping other rights. A conservation easement, for example, means that the property owner gives up the right to develop the property so that the property may be conserved forever; the owner maintains the ownership and continued use of the property.

Rights of way are common as well. They mean that someone else, in addition to the property owner, has the right to use or travel on a part of the property. The town, power companies, transportation agencies, and adjoining landowners often have rights of way. You should know about any restrictions on a property before you buy, *but they aren't always clear.* You may need to go through years of property records to find them.

LANDOWNER ISSUES AND DISPUTES

Vermonters are generally neighborly and respect each other's rights to privacy and quality of life. But every now and then, a problem may arise—neighbors disagree about a boundary line, a neighbor's cow keeps getting loose, a tree falls onto someone else's property, a neighbor likes to blare opera at 4 am. If you have a dispute or concern around any sort of crime or illegal activity, take that issue straight to the State Police. Otherwise, the first step is usually to talk to the neighbor and try to work it out.

If you can't mutually resolve things, you have a couple of options. Check the town bylaws or talk to the Town Administrator to see whether the issue violates a town ordinance. If yes, the Town Administrator or Selectboard can help explain the issue. If the issue is not a violation of a law or local ordinance, then you have a civil matter, and you may want to get legal advice.

PROPERTY TAXES

This tax information is provided as a general overview and should not be your sole source of information. For up-to-date details and deadlines, contact the Town Office.

Property taxes are local taxes paid by each property owner in town—whether for a home, business, or vacant land. Property taxes in Vermont include two different taxes.

- The municipal tax pays for town employees and town services like road maintenance
- The education tax funds the local schools

QUASI-JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

You may hear the term *quasi-judicial* used to describe hearings or boards. Most town boards and commissions can't make legally binding decisions. But the Board of Civil Authority and Selectboard can. Quasi-judicial proceedings are cases in which the board actually hears and makes decisions about cases involving the legal rights of one or more parties. All parties have the opportunity to present evidence and to cross-examine all witnesses. A quasi-judicial proceeding results in a written decision. If a party is dissatisfied with the decision, they can appeal to a higher authority—usually a Vermont court.

DID YOU KNOW?

OWN A HOME?

You must file a Homestead Declaration.

All Vermonters must file a Homestead Declaration each year on or before April 15th, usually with your state income tax return. If you do not file a Homestead Declaration on a primary residence, you will incur a penalty.

Only people who own property in Vermont need to pay property taxes. If you rent, your landlord is responsible. Tax rates are usually set in July; tax bills are mailed in August. Contact the Town Office if you have not received your tax bill by the end of August. Taxes are due each year by October 15th at 5 pm. You can pay your bill by mail, by online bill pay (via e-check, debit, or credit card), or by dropping it off at the Town Office. Guilford charges penalties and interest on any tax payment that is late, so do pay on time. Visit guilfordvt.gov/bill-payment-options for specific details on how to make tax payments.

TAX RATES

The town's Grand List details every taxable property in town and its assessed value. The Town Listers compile the list each year. The Grand List Total is a sum of the values of all taxable properties as of April 1st. The Grand List includes each taxable property in Guilford at its fair market value.

The Grand List contains two categories of properties: residential/homestead and nonresidential. These categories determine which education rate will be used to determine the education portion of your tax bill.

- **Residential (homestead):** A homestead property is the owner's primary year-round residence. All Vermonters with a year-round residence must file a Homestead Declaration on or before April 15th, usually with your state income tax return. The homestead tax rate is determined via the education tax, the CLA, and the municipal tax rate.
- **Non-residential:** All other properties are considered nonresidential. The nonresidential tax rate is the same, except the education property tax rate is lower than for homestead properties.

The municipal tax rate is determined each year by dividing municipal expenses by the Grand List total (the sum of all real property values in the town). The rate is an amount of tax owed per $100 of property value. Note that each year at Town Meeting, voters are asked to approve municipal expenses.

As of 2025, the education tax rate is set by the State and provided to the towns. The State sets the rates for each town by factoring the cost per pupil divided by the statewide grant per pupil, times the statewide property tax, divided by the town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)—a way of equalizing property values across towns. For more info on how the rate is calculated, visit the Vermont Department of Taxes. tax.Vermont.gov

PROPERTY VALUES AND ASSESSMENT

The Town Listers must list the fair market value for each taxable property. But that's more challenging than it seems. Real estate markets constantly change, and towns do not reappraise properties each year, so the assessed value may not actually reflect fair market value. Common level of appraisal (CLA) is determined by the State, based on the relation between the assessed values and actual sale prices of properties in town. Ideally, the listed value of a property would be the same as the fair market value, and the CLA would be 1.0. If the CLA falls below 0.8, a town is required to reappraise. The last townwide reappraisal in Guilford occurred in 2023. The town must notify property owners individually of any change in their town assessment via a Change of Appraisal Notice.

PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

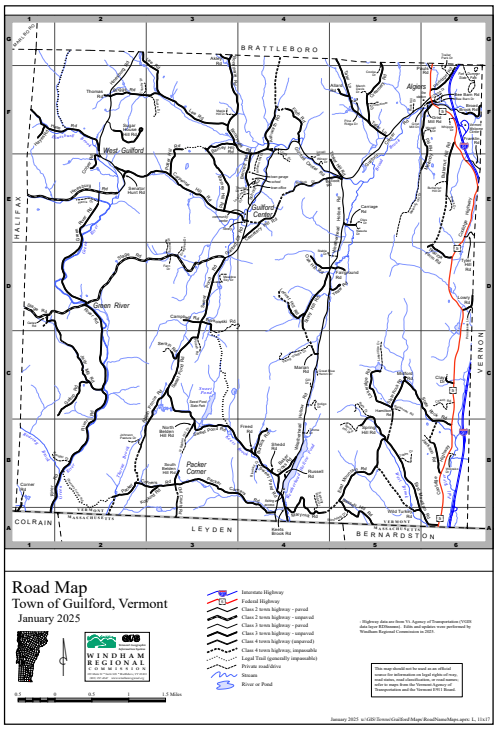
If you don't think your property valuation is fair, or if you have problems paying your taxes, there are ways to get help. Homeowners may be eligible for a property tax adjustment depending on income and home value. You apply by filling out Vermont's Property Tax Credit Form HI-144, found on tax.Vermont.gov/tax-forms-and-publications/individuals). If you disagree with the appraisal or assessed value of your property, you can ask the Town Listers to review your property and reassess it (you must make this request before April).

If you still feel the assessment is inaccurate, you can appeal it. This is called a *grievance*. Grievances occur in June each year, but exact dates can vary from year to year, so always check with the Town Clerk for up-to-date information. The first step is a hearing before the Board of Listers. If this doesn't settle the concern, you can appeal the Listers' decision to the town Board of Civil Authority (BCA). If you're still dissatisfied, you can then appeal to either the State Board of Appraisers or the Windham County Superior Court. Note that if you're struggling to pay your bill on time, you can work with the Delinquent Tax Collector, who may be able to set up a payment plan.

CURRENT USE, EASEMENTS, AND EXEMPT PROPERTIES

Some properties in Vermont are not taxed or are taxed at lower rates, due to their land use or ownership. Properties that are primarily used for "public, pious, or charitable use" may be exempt from state property taxes. (Owners petition the Selectboard for exemption.) This rule often applies to properties owned by nonprofit organizations such as churches, schools, conservation organizations, or hospitals. Disabled veterans may also be exempt from some property taxes. Some landowners sell or donate conservation easements on their properties. (See *Easements and Rights of Way* on page 11.)

In addition, Vermont's Current Use Program may allow farm and forest landowners to save with tax reductions. Read more about the Current Use Program in the "Living on the Land" section of this guide or visit tax.vermont.gov/property/current-use.



DID YOU KNOW?

GUILFORD PLANS & MAPS

Looking for the town plan, town maps, demographics, or planning data? Guilford has a web page where you'll likely find what you need: guilfordvt.gov.

The Guilford Historical Society also houses a large collection of historic photos and artifacts.

The Guilford Public Parcel Map is a valuable online resource. You can zoom in to your town and property to see property boundaries, buildings, topography, geology, etc. See next.axisgis.com/GuilfordVT.

You can also access regional plans and maps from The Windham Regional Planning Commission's website windhamregional.org/gis.

photo: Marty Ramsburg

AGRICULTURE AND ANIMALS

Guilford is a longstanding farming community in a proud agricultural state. In addition to several working farms, many residents have gardens, orchards, and livestock. While Vermont values and protects agriculture, it also values and protects the environment and human health. It's important to know the regulations and procedures for owning livestock and farming, even if you don't consider your property a farm in the traditional sense. If you need help with your animals or pets, check business listings for local vets or search online for state and local associations dedicated to raising livestock.

THE RIGHT TO FARM

While most Vermonters love the scenic views and rural landscapes, farming isn't always a pretty business. Neighbors may not be happy about the smells and sounds that come from active farms, but they're a part of life in a rural area. Vermont has a strong right-to-farm statute that protects our working lands and farmers from nuisance lawsuits. Guilford has no restrictions on farming in any area. You can keep animals and grow a garden wherever you live.

VERMONT AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE

Even if you don't farm professionally, you may be subject to laws or permits around water quality or health inspections. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture has *Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs)* that apply to any small, medium, or large farm. If you're farming or plan to farm, do your homework and find out what's required.

agriculture.vermont.gov/rap

photo: Joshua Farr

DOMESTIC PETS

DOG LAWS AND LICENSES

All dogs and dog-wolf hybrids in Guilford must be licensed by March 31st each year at the Town Clerk's office or a penalty will occur. The fee is $11 for a neutered male or spayed female, and $15 for a non-neutered male or non-spayed female. Please note that dog fees are subject to change based on state statute. A portion of these fees goes to the State of Vermont, and the rest to the town. Dogs are not allowed to run free. When off their owner's property, dogs must be accompanied by a person who can keep the animal under control, either on leash or by voice command.

SPECIAL LICENSE AND KENNEL PERMITS

Dogs kept for breeding and hunting purposes must obtain a special license and kennel permit annually by March 30th.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Complaints about a barking dog, a dog bite, or stray or endangered animals are handled by the Windham County Sheriff's Animal Control Officer. Call 802.365.4942.

STRAY ANIMALS

If you come across a stray dog and can't locate the owner, contact the Animal Control Officer. If you're looking for a lost pet, call the local animal shelter, the veterinary offices, and hospitals in the area (there are several), along with the Animal Control Officer. You can also try posting the name and description of the lost animal on Front Porch Forum or Facebook.

HUMANE SOCIETY AND PET ADOPTION

Brattleboro has one shelter that takes in animals in need of homes and adopts them out to new families—the Windham County Humane Society, located on Route 30 in Brattleboro. If you can no longer care for an animal, call the Humane Society and ask for help with rehoming. If you're looking to adopt an animal, the shelter often has dogs and cats available. Many animals are also in need of foster homes. For more information: windhamcountyhumane.org.

LAND USE AND PLANNING

GUILFORD'S TOWN PLAN

Guilford's Town Plan presents overall goals for the town and recommended actions or policies for getting there. The Town Plan may include recommendations for both voluntary and regulatory actions. It may also help decide matters of law, such as applications to Act 250 (the Vermont Land Use and Development Law) or land use permits for property owners. The Town Plan must be consistent with the Regional Plan, developed by the Windham Regional Commission.

The plan is updated every eight years, with input from citizens, and requires public hearings, so if there's something you'd like to see written differently, there are periodic opportunities to change it.

After a public hearing, the Selectboard reviews the plan, holds another hearing, and votes whether or not to approve it.

View the current town plan on the town website at guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Town-Plan-2022-2030-revised-3_23-1.pdf.

ZONING

As of the writing of this guidebook, there is no zoning in Guilford. Ours is a rural community comprising five villages, two of which are state-designated Village Centers: Algiers Village and Guilford Center. The town has designated these areas as places that should continue to look and function like the "core of a traditional settlement." Thus, we look to the Village Centers as a focus for revitalization, historic preservation, denser development, and a mix of retail, residential, and other uses. Village Center designation may also provide benefits for the town and private property owners, such as tax credits and financial assistance.

accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs

photo: Rick Zamore

TOWN GOVERNMENT

photo: Joslyn McIntyre

How does Guilford govern itself? A small, capable staff and a broad range of dedicated volunteers take on the work of governing—but all residents have a voice in making the decisions that guide our hometown by sharing ideas, volunteering, running for office, voting, and attending annual Town Meeting.

Most towns in Vermont—including Guilford—are governed by a combination of direct and indirect (representative) democracy. We're all familiar with representative democracy, in which we vote for individuals to represent our interests. Our state and federal legislatures, for example, are composed of individuals who were elected to represent their respective districts.

One of the most distinguishing features of self-government in Vermont is the continued practice of direct democracy at the most local level. Critical decisions such as approving the town budget require direct participation of townspeople. Town Meeting is where we take on that responsibility and great privilege.

For over 250 years, since our first Town Meeting in 1772, Guilford residents have gathered to deliberate and decide town priorities. Town Meeting is the high point of civic life in Guilford and the means by which the townspeople govern themselves by coming together to elect officers, pass budgets, and make decisions which will guide town government during the ensuing year.

As a form of direct democracy, Town Meeting is unsurpassed, but its success depends on citizen participation. All eligible voting residents have a say in the town's budget, policies, and other major decisions both by participating in Town Meeting and by electing representatives.

Outside of Town Meeting, there are many opportunities to participate in our community's government. Some positions require appointments; others are elected. For a current list of Guilford's elected and appointed officials, visit guilfordvt.gov and click on "Government."

TOWN MEETING

Town Meeting is such an important part of Vermont's political culture that the Vermont Legislature officially designated the first Tuesday in March as Town Meeting Day. In 2024, town residents voted to move Guilford's Town Meeting Day to Saturday to encourage more Guilford residents to attend. Town Meeting now has two parts. The in-person meeting (on the Saturday before the first Tuesday in March) is devoted to discussing and voting on the municipal and highway budgets and other issues. The following Tuesday (the first Tuesday in March), we vote by Australian ballot to elect candidates into office.

The meeting is held in the Guilford Central School gymnasium and, in the hallway leading to the gym, there are usually information tables staffed by volunteers from town organizations and nonprofits.

The strength of Town Meeting comes from face-to-face deliberations in which people hear and learn from the opinions expressed by their neighbors. Town Meeting works best when people arrive with open minds and a willingness to listen to what their neighbors are saying. The debate can sometimes be spirited if feelings are running high on an issue, but the format (including Robert's Rules of Order) keeps things civil. There are also humorous moments when laughter sweeps the room, as well as many occasions of general good feeling and pride in our town.

PRIOR TO TOWN MEETING: THE WARNING

Preparation for Town Meeting begins long before the meeting itself. The Selectboard works to project municipal and highway budgets during the fall prior to Town Meeting, to anticipate expenses for the coming fiscal year. Individuals, committees, and organizations must provide early input if there are items they wish to see on the Town Meeting agenda, known as *the Warning*.

The Selectboard creates most of the articles (agenda items) on the Warning. Citizens can gather signatures in order to add articles to the Warning. (See *How to petition to place an article on the agenda for Town Meeting* box on page 19.)

The articles contain the only topics that can be decided by binding vote during discussion at Town Meeting. "Other business" may be discussed by the assembly at the end of the meeting, and there may be straw votes taken to get a sense of how people are feeling about an issue not included in the Warning, but those votes are only for the purpose of gathering information.

The Town Meeting Warning is posted on the Town website as well as at the Town Office, the Guilford Country Store, and the Green River Covered Bridge 30 days before Town Meeting.

PRIOR TO TOWN MEETING: THE TOWN REPORT

Before Town Meeting, every household receives the annual Town Report by mail. It contains the articles to be discussed and voted on at Town Meeting, so people can come prepared to speak up on issues important to them. During discussion, articles can be amended to reflect the results of debate, as people's minds are changed by thoughtful and sometimes passionate comments about an article being considered. That's the beauty of Town Meeting: people can express and listen to all sides of an issue before they vote on it.

Town Auditors are required to file an annual report on the town's finances. The town is also legally required to inform citizens about the time, place, and agenda (Warning) for the annual Town Meeting via publication at least ten days before it occurs. The Town Report meets both of these requirements and much more. It's essential reading for citizens as they prepare to attend Town Meeting. It includes an accounting of the prior fiscal year's expenses and revenue, a review of the current fiscal year to date, and the proposed revenue and expense budgets for the coming year—budgets which must be approved or amended by the voters at Town Meeting.

The Town Report is put together by the Town Auditors and the Town Administrator, and begins with reports from the Selectboard, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, and Listers about the work they've been doing during the year. Results from the previous year's Town Meeting are listed at the end of the Town Report, alongside the articles to be considered at the upcoming meeting. Within the 80-odd pages of the report, there are also annual reports and updates from town commissions and committees, local service organizations, the elementary school and the supervisory school district, the fire department, and the library.

PRE-TOWN MEETING

On an evening in late February, the Broad Brook Grange hosts an informational meeting at the Broad Brook Community Center about articles to be voted on at Town Meeting. The Selectboard presents the articles, including the budgets, explaining the reasoning behind them, answering questions and taking comments from the audience.

HOW IT WORKS

TOWN MEETING: KEEPING IT CIVIL

Making democracy work in our community is a matter of working respectfully with our neighbors to define our common interests. Here are some reminders of how we conduct meaningful civil discourse at Town Meeting.

Listen actively and speak respectfully

When others are speaking, stay engaged. You may find out that you have much in common.

Ask questions

If someone isn't being clear, they'll be glad you gave them a chance to clarify their position. If it's the process that confuses you, chances are there's at least one other person wondering about it, too.

Use your imagination

There's usually a solution that meets the diverse needs of different people.

Celebrate and appreciate your neighbors!

Town Meeting is a chance to meet new people and catch up with old friends, particularly during lunch in the school cafeteria, catered by the Guilford Country Store.

Candidates for town offices may also present themselves to the voters at Pre-Town Meeting. (And, the winter issue of the *Guilford Gazette*, our quarterly newspaper, offers candidates for local office an opportunity to introduce themselves to voters and to explain why they're running.) This meeting is a warm-up for Town Meeting, and the citizens who attend arrive at Town Meeting well informed.

TOWN MEETING ITSELF

Town Meeting begins at 10 am the Saturday morning before the first Tuesday in March. Plan to arrive in time to view exhibits and check in with members of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA), who will check your name against the voter list. You will be given cards to use for any votes that occur by paper ballot. (Unless there is uncertainty about the results of a close vote, decisions by the assembly are made by voice votes.)

The Town Clerk calls the meeting to order promptly at 10:00 am. The Town Clerk and the Selectboard are seated at the front of the room; the moderator is at the podium. BCTV films the event, but it's not live-streamed; the video recording of the meeting is available several days later. Guilford Central School students circulate microphones around the floor of the meeting. Raise your hand if you wish to speak, wait for the microphone to come to you, and state your name and street of residence before making your comment so the Town Clerk can keep accurate minutes.

The first order of business is to elect a moderator. The moderator runs the meeting according to Robert's Rules of Order, calls on people to speak (in the order in which they've raised their hands), and ensures that the meeting proceeds in a fair and efficient manner. The moderator is the focal point of the meeting; remarks are always addressed to the moderator. When discussion on an article is complete, the moderator calls a vote and announces the result. Close votes may require a show of hands or a paper ballot, with a tally conducted and announced by the BCA. Any voter may ask for a "division" if the result of the vote is unclear and, if six other voters agree, the vote will be retaken using paper ballots.

HOW IT WORKS

HOW TO PETITION TO PLACE AN ARTICLE ON THE AGENDA FOR THE TOWN MEETING

If you or a group of community members wish to see an issue or question appear on the ballot or agenda at Town Meeting, you must circulate a petition and get signatures from 5% of Guilford's registered voters, about 93 people. A petition must be submitted to the Town Clerk to verify signatures, and then the Selectboard, about six weeks before the meeting. Contact the Town Clerk for information on the exact process and deadlines.

A petition should begin with the statement:
"We, the undersigned voters of Guilford, hereby petition the Selectboard to add the following article to the Warning for the annual meeting."

This statement should appear on each page of the petition. Make sure that your petition has a place for each voter's signature, name, and address. Get more signatures than you need in case some have missing information or are not registered voters.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

Town Meeting is conducted using Robert's Rules of Order, a widely accepted system for running meetings democratically while minimizing friction. A simplified version of Robert's Rules can be found at assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/roberts_rules_simplified.pdf.

At noon, or thereabouts, the assembly breaks for lunch in the school cafeteria, prepared by the Guilford Country Store. The cost is moderate, the food is delicious, and the conversations are good-natured among friends, neighbors, and strangers. Town Meeting lunch is a fun counterpoint to the serious business of decision-making.

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE

On the first Tuesday of March, we have the opportunity to vote for open seats on the Selectboard and other open town offices. This voting happens at Broad Brook Community Center. Polls are open from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm.

HOW IT WORKS

VOTING IN GUILFORD

There are two ways that voters in Guilford have their say. Residents vote on national and state elections and some ballot initiatives on scheduled election days, via traditional paper ballot (Australian ballot). Town issues are voted on by floor votes at scheduled town and school district meetings, including the annual Town Meeting.

Election days and Australian ballot

On federal and state election days, voters come to the polls during scheduled hours and fill out paper ballots. You'll need to state your name to the poll workers (even if they know you). They'll give you a ballot and show you to a private voting booth to vote for candidates and ballot initiatives. Guilford may occasionally call a special election day to vote on a critical local issue.

Town Meeting and floor voting

Most town voting is done by floor votes during the annual Town Meeting. Voters who attend the meeting vote by saying "aye" or "nay" when the moderator calls a vote. This is how the town chooses some new elected officials, approves tax rates and annual budgets, and votes on other policy changes or items. If a floor vote is close (or someone makes a request), then paper ballots may be used.

In order to vote at Town Meeting, you need to sign in as a registered voter. Others are welcome to attend, but they may not vote.

Who runs elections

The Town Clerk and the Board of Civil Authority govern and oversee local elections. They set polling locations and hours, prepare ballots, sign in voters, and count ballots.

DID YOU KNOW?

REGISTER TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

You can register to vote on election day in Vermont. Bring an ID and come to the polls!

In order to register, you must bring a form of ID. Acceptable forms of ID include a valid photo ID (driver's license, passport, or other government ID) or a current utility bill or bank statement.

STATE LEGISLATORS

Guilford residents have one state representative and two state senators who represent the town's interests at the Vermont Statehouse, recognize local achievements, and help constituents access state resources. Guilford's representatives are readily available to their constituents, reporting on social media, attending events, meeting with constituents, and getting to know people and responding to their concerns in their district.

FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

Vermont has one representative to the US House of Representatives and two US Senators. Our federal legislators represent Vermont's interests in the US Congress. Each maintains a Vermont office and staff that is eager to hear from constituents and support Vermont communities.

DID YOU KNOW?

VOTERS' RIGHTS IN VERMONT

- You may see the ballot ten days in advance of an election, at the Town Office.
- You have the right to assistance. You may bring a person of your choice into the voting booth with you (not your employer or a union representative). You may use a magnifying glass or other device. If you are disabled or ill, an official can bring the ballot to your car.
- You can get help marking the ballot. Ask for assistance, and two officials will help you. But no one can tell you how to vote!
- You may bring a list of candidates into the voting booth, but you may not show it to other voters or leave it in the booth.
- You may vote early or vote from home. Many voters use early voting ("absentee ballot"). You do not need to be out of town or ill to vote early. Any voter can contact the Town Clerk's Office to request an absentee ballot prior to voting day. You can vote at the Town Office or have the ballot mailed to you.
- You can get a new ballot if you make a mistake. If you give your first ballot to an election official, you can get up to three new ballots.
- Under new Vermont Law, State and Federal candidates must tell local Town Clerks or the Secretary of State about their intent to run by 5 pm on the Thursday before an election.

LOCAL ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

SELECTBOARD

In Guilford, we elect the Selectboard to oversee the day-to-day governance of our town (including approving expenditures consistent with budget priorities, hiring and managing our valued road crew and other town employees, and overseeing the various volunteer commissions and committees). We also elect other town officials, who are assisted by many volunteers who serve individually on boards, commissions, and committees. The Selectboard appoints individuals to fill many town staff positions and official roles. Each appointee has a specific set of responsibilities and reports directly to the Selectboard or voters. A separate regional board manages school governance. (See *Educational Section* on page 39.)

Guilford is governed primarily by the Selectboard. The Selectboard is charged with making all official town decisions, setting policies, and managing town finances. Guilford has five Selectboard members, elected by Australian ballot on the first Tuesday of March. Three seats are elected to staggered 3-year terms; the remaining two seats are elected to staggered 2-year terms.

The Selectboard's general responsibilities include:

- Setting town policies and regulations
- Overseeing non-elected town staff, including hiring, determining personnel policy, and setting salaries and benefits
- Creating the annual budgets and setting the tax rate
- Liaising with town commissions and committees
- Responding to residents' concerns and requests
- Overseeing the town's legal affairs

The Selectboard meets on the second and fourth Mondays at 6:30 pm in the Town Office. When a holiday falls on a Monday, that meeting is typically rescheduled for the following Wednesday. All are welcome to attend Selectboard meetings in person or by Zoom. The meeting agenda and Zoom link are available on the town website. Meetings are recorded by BCTV, posted on their website (brattleborotv.org), published to YouTube, and played on local cable television.

Selectboard meetings are public meetings, which means the public is informed of the meeting and is invited to attend. There are various points in the meeting during which the public may offer comments. (More on this at guilfordvt.gov/community-participation.)

DID YOU KNOW?

OPEN MEETING LAW

All official town board, commission, and committee meetings are open to the public any time a quorum holds a meeting. Such meetings must be warned: notice of the date, time, and place of regularly scheduled meetings (and the agenda) must be made available prior to the meeting and/or upon request. Special meetings must be publicly announced 24 hours in advance. After a meeting, minutes are shared publicly.

The Secretary of State's office has an Open Meeting Law Handbook, available at legislature. vermont.gov/statutes/section/01/005/00312

To see all available agendas and minutes, visit guilfordvt.gov/documents-and-maps/meeting-minutes.

To see current Selectboard members, access minutes of recent meetings, and for more information: guilfordvt.gov/boards-and-commissions/selectboard.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town Administrator supports the Selectboard and liaises between the Selectboard and other parties. An appointed, full-time position, the Town Administrator works closely with the Selectboard to manage governance of the town by providing administrative support, advising on policy and decisions, consulting with legal services to ensure compliance with statutes, and presenting the Board's decisions to external audiences, as necessary. They ensure effective town operations and communications among departments, residents, and others by working closely with elected and appointed officials, town employees and volunteers, and regional, state, and federal partners. Town Administrator general responsibilities include:

- Overseeing policies, ordinances, finances, and contract services
- Tracking road issues
- Fielding communications to, from, and about the Selectboard

- Handling Selectboard administrative matters
- Knowing who's who in town government

To contact the Town Admin: townadmin@guilfordvt.gov, 802.254.6857 ext. 105.

TOWN CLERK

The Guilford Town Clerk is elected by the voters for a 3-year position, authorized by and executed according to Vermont laws. Town Clerk general responsibilities include:

- Handling voter registration
- Overseeing elections
- Administering oaths of office
- Managing vital records (birth, death, and marriage certificates)
- Managing dog licenses, fishing licenses, and vehicle renewals (not registrations)
- Recording, preserving, and certifying public records and documents (such as vital documents and land records)
- Filing petitions and ballot initiatives
- Notary services
- Driveway permits

To contact the Town Clerk: townclerk@guilfordvt.gov, 802.254.6857 ext. 107.

TOWN TREASURER

This is a full-time position appointed by the Selectboard, requiring knowledge of municipal accounting and finances. Town Treasurer general responsibilities include:

- Depositing money collected by the town
- Balancing bank statements
- Issuing payment of approved town purchases
- Managing town finance records
- Overseeing property tax and delinquent tax payments
- Managing Algiers Fire District #1 invoicing and payments for water and sewer
- Handling town insurance policies, audits, and more

To contact the Town Treasurer: treasurer@guilfordvt.gov, 802.254.6857 ext. 102.

ASSESSOR CLERK

The Assessor Clerk supervises Listers in assessing property values. This person is responsible for the administration of all laws and regulations regarding property tax assesstments. This part-time position is appointed by the Selectboard.

To contact the Assessor Clerk: listers@guilfordvt.gov, 802.254.6857 ext. 104.

photo: Rick Zamore

HOW IT WORKS

GETTING ELECTED OR APPOINTED TO OFFICE

In communities all across Vermont, citizens take on vital roles such as Planning Commissioners, Selectboard members, Listers, Justices of the Peace, and Conservation Commissioners.

If you are interested in getting elected or appointed to an office, look into which office is a good match for your skills and interests. Positions are listed in Guilford's annual Town Report; many are described in these pages. To run for local office, you have to be on the Guilford voter checklist. Some offices require signed and certified petitions to be included on the ballot, while others do not. (Check with the Town Clerk.)

Two of the best ways to get the word out that you're running for an office are to submit a candidate bio to the *Guilford Gazette*'s February issue, and to attend Pre-Town Meeting with a prepared statement ready to read.

Consider this guide your invitation to join with your friends and neighbors to get more involved in local government. Attend meetings, study the issues, offer your insights. Step up!

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of public meetings is provided by announcements posted in the Town Clerk's office, on the town's bulletin board outside the Guilford Country Store, inside the Green River Covered Bridge, and by contacting members of the meeting principals. Emergency meetings may be called without public announcement to respond to an unforeseen occurrence that requires the immediate attention of the Selectboard, as long as notice is provided as soon as possible prior to the meeting. Notice of some meetings is also posted in Guilford's newspapers of record, *Brattleboro Reformer* and *The Commons*, as well as on Front Porch Forum.

TOWN COMMISSIONS

Four primary commissions in Guilford are essential to organizing and running many town activities. Commissions are created by statute. Members have term limits and are appointed by the Selectboard. Contact the Town Office or see the town's website for information about meetings, agendas, and commission openings.

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Manages and cares for cemeteries. Responsibilities include supporting families in selecting plots, selling burial rights, mapping plots, maintaining cemeteries, repairing stones, and honoring veterans with flags.

photo: Lesley Malouin

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Identifies, inventories, fosters, and helps protect Guilford's natural, scenic, recreational, historic, educational, cultural, architectural, agricultural, and archaeological resources for the public good. Helps residents and town officials recognize the value of these resources and administer them for the benefit of future generations.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Prepares the Town Plan for review by residents and approval by the Selectboard. The Plan covers strategies and plans for future land use, transportation and housing, energy efficiency, and protection of natural resources and local character. Advises other town officials on matters of land development and conservation, and participates in regional planning efforts.

RECREATION COMMISSION

Fosters community connections and well-being for our town by supporting our public spaces and by collaborating with other community organizations to offer engaging, inclusive recreational activities designed to meet the needs of our neighbors. In recent years, the Recreation Commission has organized weekly yoga classes for adults, an annual bike night for kids, and winter festivities for all.

TOWN COMMITTEES

Town committees are formed by the Selectboard. They usually have flexible membership and no term limits, but members must be officially appointed, and committees must abide by Open Meeting Law. Current committees include the Bullock Scholarship Committee and the Energy Committee. Contact the Town Office for information about meetings, agendas, and how to join or form a committee.

OTHER BOARDS

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY (BCA)

Governs elections, including setting dates, determining poll hours, and counting ballots. They also handle property tax appeals from property owners. The BCA is made up of the Selectboard, Town Clerk, and Justices of the Peace.

ALGIERS FIRE DISTRICT #1 (PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE)

Oversees and manages the Algiers Village sewer systems, budgets, and rates; not affiliated with the Guilford Volunteer Fire Department and separate from the Town of Guilford. It is not under the supervision of the Selectboard.

OTHER TOWN POSITIONS (VOLUNTEER)

- **Auditors:** Responsible for producing an accurate Town Report. Three Auditors are elected at Town Meeting for 3-year terms.
- **Emergency Management Committee (including Director):** Plans and trains for weather-related or other emergencies. Includes members of the Volunteer Fire Department, Guilford road crew, a Selectboard liaison, neighborhood hub volunteers, organizations providing emergency shelter, and others. Contact emd@guilfordvt.gov.
- **Fence Viewers:** Inspect and help resolve boundary disputes. Three Viewers, 1-year terms.
- **Fire Warden:** Issues burn permits on request.
- **Flood Plain Administrator:** Serves as Guilford's local coordinator of the National Flood Insurance Program. Helps to educate the public on flooding dangers and safety and reviews floodplain projects and construction to ensure compliance with State requirements.
- **Health Officer:** Addresses public health issues including contaminated water, dog bites, home burials, failing septic systems, living conditions, etc. One-year, Selectboard-appointed term.
- **Green Up Day Coordinator:** Organizes volunteers and hands out materials for litter pickup along town roads on Green Up Day, usually the first Saturday in May.
- **Justices of the Peace:** Administer oaths of office, perform civil marriages, serve on the Board of Civil Authority (see above), and hear appeals for property tax abatement. Elected by Australian ballot at Town Meeting.
- **Legal Representation (Town Attorney):** Prosecutes and defends lawsuits, as needed.

- **Listers:** Establish assessed values for properties in town, which form the basis of the property tax. Trained by the State, three listers (including the Assessor Clerk: chief Lister), compensated at an hourly rate.
- **Moderator:** Runs and presides over Town Meeting, ensuring that it proceeds in a fair, civil, and efficient manner. Elected from the floor at the beginning of Town Meeting. One-year term.
- **Pound Keeper:** Feeds and cares for animals impounded by the town until they are reunited with their owner, sold, or humanely euthanized. Appointed by Selectboard. Compensation per budget approved at Town Meeting.
- **Road Commissioner:** Oversees and manages Town road crew to maintain and improve roads and culverts. Responsible for spending Town highway budget as directed by Selectboard.
- **Tree Warden:** Appointed by the Selectboard, the tree warden works closely with the Road Commissioner to manage trees on Town property and rights of way, by planting or removing trees as warranted.
- **Trustees of Public Funds:** Manage, invest, and report on real and personal property held in trust by the town, including cemetery trust funds. Three Trustees serving 3-year terms.

REGIONAL COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

In addition to town boards, commissions, and committees, Guilford appoints representatives to a number of regional boards and committees. They include:

- DV Fiber Board of Directors
- Rescue Inc.
- Windham Regional Planning Commission
- Windham Solid Waste Management District
- Windham Southeast School District's School Board (see *Education* section of this guide)

TOWN OFFICE

Do I need a permit? How do I get on the Selectboard's agenda? We want to get married and don't know where to get a certificate. Are there land use regulations? What if there's an animal control problem?

Guilford Town Office, 236 School Road, is a primary resource about our town and local government. Local government functions are housed here. Staff include the Town Administrator, Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk, Treasurer, Administrative Assistants, and Assessor Clerk.

At Town Office, land records going back to the settlement of the Town are stored in the "Vault." There's also a large meeting room used by the Selectboard, commissions, committees, boards, and others (upon request).

802.254.6857

OTHER TOWN BUILDINGS

In addition to the Town Office, Guilford owns and is responsible for the upkeep of the town garages, the Guilford Historical Society Museum, and the Guilford Free Library.

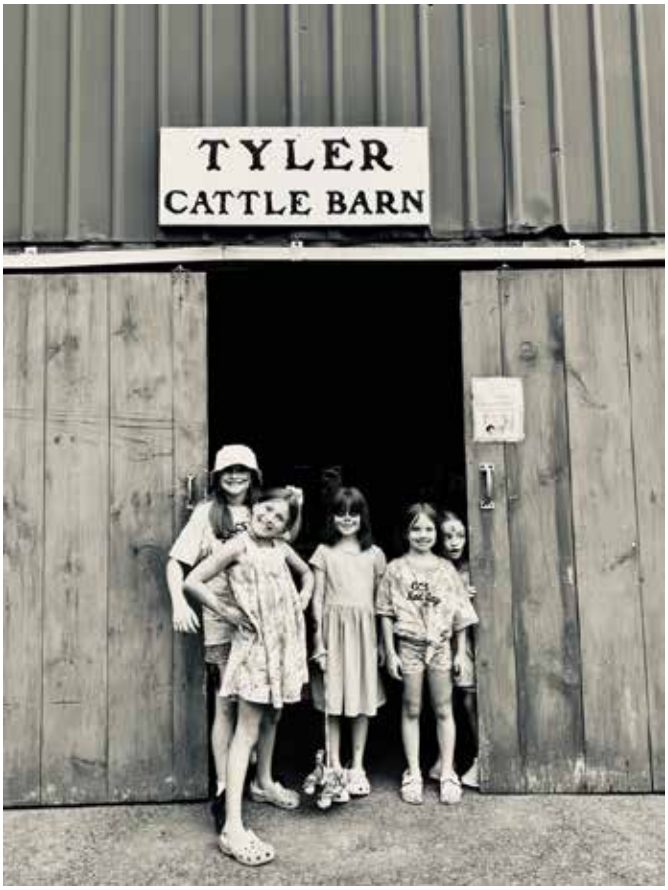


photo: Joslyn McIntyre

BUSINESSES

For a rural town without much of a commercial scene, Guilford has a lot of budding and thriving small businesses. Scroll on for a list of event venues, automobile repair services, housekeepers, excavators, carpenters, stylists, and more. If you're curious about farms and food, skip to the next section for a comprehensive list of local growers, makers, bakers, and purveyors.

If you'd like your business to be listed in the online version of this guide, please email rick.zamore@gmail.com with the following information: name of business, one sentence describing what's special about your business, and optionally, your address, phone number, email address, website, Facebook page, and owner name.

photo: Joslyn McIntyre

APPLIANCE REPAIR

BERT'S APPLIANCE REPAIR

Over 25 years of independent appliance repair offering knowledge and ability to service all major name brand household appliances.

Bert Kaeppel, 802.579.2577

ART, MUSIC, EVENT & PERFORMANCE VENUES

BROAD BROOK COMMUNITY CENTER

Two floors of event space in a completely renovated historic building, including a fully equipped kitchen, dining/meeting room, theater/dance floor upstairs.

3940 Guilford Center Rd.
Ada Brown, Administrator, 802.451.0405
broadbrookcc@gmail.com
broadbrookcommunitycenter.org

AUTOMOBILE

A'S AUTO & TRUCK REPAIR

Towing, road service, repairs, and more.

112 Whipple Dr.
802.254.1155
asautoandtruckrepair.com

BURTON'S CAR WASH

24/7 community car wash, with assistance if needed.

873 Putney Rd., Brattleboro, VT
802.257.5191
Office hours: M-F, 9 am-5 pm, Sat. 9 am-3 pm

DJ'S TRUCK SERVICE

Truck service and repair.

643 Weatherhead Hollow Rd.
802.254.9535

RICHMOND AUTO

Car repair.

14 Guilford Center Rd.
802.254.4071

CAREGIVING & HOUSEKEEPING

If I can't help you, I will find someone who can.

Julie Holland, 816.205.1395
jhollandpta@live.com

ELECTRICIANS

CLEVELAND ELECTRIC LLC

Full service electrical contracting company.

Doug Cleveland, 802.257.0404

EXCAVATING & EARTH MOVING

EAZ EXCAVATING & CONCRETE

Heavy and light equipment excavation and concrete work for commercial and residential jobs.

Elias Zumbruski
802.490.9598
info@EAZexcavate.com

LAROCK CONSTRUCTION

Site work, earth work, foundations, aggregate, excavation, driveways, gravel, septic, ponds, retaining walls, commercial, residential digging.

Brendalarock@gmail.com
802.254.9738

RIDGELINE EXCAVATION & CARPENTRY

Specializing in creative residential earthwork and small building projects.

Dave Gabriel, 802.579.6969
dgabriel@vtridgeline.com

GRAPHIC & WEB DESIGN

MALOUIN DESIGN

Graphic and web design, branding, logos, infographics.

Lesley Malouin
malouindesign.com
lesleymalouin@gmail.com
facebook.com/malouindesign

HAIRCUTTING SALONS

ALISHA STYLE STATION

Quality affordable hair care for all ages, 25 years experience, can travel to people with mobility or medical issues.

Alisha W. Kaeppel
870 Coolidge Hwy.
802.579.6726

NATURAL BEAUTY SALON

A small boutique salon in the Guilford Country Store building.

Joanna Terry Gabriel
475C Coolidge Hwy.
802.258.7779
naturalbeautyvt@gmail.com
instagram.com/guilfordcountrystore

HOMEBUILDING, RENOVATION, CARPENTRY & MAINTENANCE

CHRIS PARKER HOUSE & BARN RESTORATION

Structural restoration, repair and replacement of sills, joist, framing, timbers, foundations; barn frames, timbers, barn board for sale.
Chris Parker
802.257.4610; 802.579.5163
oldbuildingfix.com

OWL'S HEAD BUILDERS

Family owned and operated general contracting company with a focus on custom energy-efficient renovations and new high-performance homes.

Jethro Eaton and Jaime Durham
802.258.8346
owlsheadbuilders@gmail.com
owlsheadbuilders.com
facebook.com/p/Owls-Head-Builders-100089751926274
instagram.com/owlsheadbuilders

MATHES HULME BUILDERS

Full-service construction company.

Scott Mathes
802.380.6772
info@matheshulmebuilders.com

THE USEFUL MAN

Helping neighbors maintain their homes.

Kraig LaPorte
802.490.6707
theusefulmanvt@gmail.com
facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083048866874

VINTON'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Rough and finish carpentry, no job too small.

Shane Vinton
802.490.8882
shanevinton1@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE

DOUBLE J LANDSCAPING & ODD JOBS

Services include mowing, bush trimming, tractor work, fruit pruning, dump hauls, brush hogging, snow blowing, and odd jobs.

Jared Stockwell
802.275.8215
stockwelljared@gmail.com
facebook.com/DoubleJLandscape2017

LOGGING & LUMBER

KERBER FARMS LUMBER CO.

Producers of hardwood and softwood wide plank flooring and native specialty lumber since 1979.

Clinton Kerber
3489 Coolidge Hwy.
802.451.6920
clinton@kerberlumber.com
kerberlumber.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

LIFESKETCH PHOTOGRAPHY

I specialize in capturing personalities—individually, in groups, and at events—and I would love to work with you!

Rachel Boettcher
217.918.1266
LifeSketchPhotography@gmail.com
facebook.com/LifeSketchPhotography
instagram.com/lifesketchphotography

PLUMBING & HEATING

GARLAND PLUMBING & HEATING

50 years of plumbing and heating.

Mark Garland
802.257.0080

PORTRAITS OF PEOPLE & PETS

EVELYN McLEAN

802.257.1961
evelyn.vermont@gmail.com

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & INSPECTION

DT PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Painting, carpentry, dump runs, gravel delivery, mulching, lawn care, wood splitting, and moving to other states and within Vermont.

Declyn Tourville
802.490.9333
promandt@gmail.com
facebook.com/dt.proman

RORY LINCOLN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Property maintenance, chainsaw work, lawn mowing.

Rory Lincoln
802.579.5578
rorco82@gmail.com

SOUTHVIEW FARM, CHIP CARETAKING

Chip Woodruff
802.254.3276

ACCOMMODATIONS, RENTALS & AIRBNBS

COZY VERMONT CABIN

Cabin rental for couples, solo escapes, or writers

Lisa Ford
802.579.7433
lisa@cozycabin.com
92 Evergreen Dr., Guilford VT 05301
facebook.com/cozyvtcabin

GREEN RIVER BRIDGE INN BED & BREAKFAST

Historic inn located on the scenic river.

802.490.2632
greenriverbridgeinn.com

JABULANI FARM STAY

Short and long-term rentals, camp site, wedding venue, homestead tours.

Sharon Cohen
882 Lee Rd.
310.433.2909
brawercohenfamily@yahoo.com

SCHOOLHOUSE NO. 10

B&B 2 BR, 1 BA, full kitchen, hot tub on the deck, open April to December.

Susan Bonthron and Gilbert Ruff
108 South Belden Hill Rd.
802.257.0003

VIKING VILLAGES RESORT

A Viking-themed resort hotel with sheep and a petting zoo on the premises will take you back in time. Families are welcome!

Vermont Re Development LLC
360 Viking Village Drive
802.779.7968
contact@vikingvillages.com
vikingvillages.com

SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

HOUGHTON SANITARY SERVICE, INC.

50-plus years experience—honest and dependable.

416 Guilford Center Rd.
802.254.9221

TRASH SERVICE

FRANKLIN & SONS RUBBISH REMOVAL

Garbage, waste, trash disposal, dumpsters, curbside collection, roll-off containers, recycling.

368 Franklin Rd., Vernon, VT 05354
802.257.4915
sites.google.com/site/franklinrubbishremoval

GOODENOUGH RUBBISH REMOVAL

Garbage collection service.

112 Mercury Dr, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.4937

REED & SONS RUBBISH REMOVAL

Garbage collection service.

188 Sweet Pond Rd.
802.257.1211

TREE CARE & LOGGING

ARBORGATES TREE SERVICE

18 years in business, specializing in danger tree removal, land clearing, nature trail blazing, woodland maintenance, wood splitting, and most chainsaw service—and cat rescue; free estimates.

Silas Filgate
802.490.8750

BANJO TREE SERVICE

Insured and licensed arborist, hazard removal, tree felling, view clearing, tree pruning, tree planting, cutting firewood.

Charles Munford
802.209.3263
charlie.munford@gmail.com
pick-banjo.com

D&E TREE SERVICE (FORMERLY ANSON BALDWIN)

Professional tree care services, including pruning, removal, and maintenance.

802.579.1484 or 802.380.0436
ansonbaldwintree.com

GREEN RIVER LOGGING

Logging, woodland management, land clearing, professional timber harvesting with 30 years experience.

Don West
802.345.1075
greenriverlogging@yahoo.com

MAYOTTE'S TREE SERVICE

Tree service and snow plowing.

Chuck Mayotte
802.254.2293
icuttreez@comcast.net

PINE HILL VOICES, WOODLAND EDUCATION

Workshops in woodland skills, chainsaw safety, firewood, mushroom cultivation, trail building, etc., with underpinnings of respect and gratitude for the more-than-human forest world.

Matt Stinchfield and Matty Adams
108 Bassett Hill Rd.
802.258.8748
matty@pinehillvoices.com
pinehillvoices.com

VIDHIISM

VIDHIISM

Presentation of Indian cinema and music, as well as curated Indian handicrafts direct from makers, by appointment at vendors.

Vidhi Salla
vidhiism.com
facebook.com/vidhisjukebox

WEAVING

CAROL SCHNABEL HANDWEAVING

Weaving lessons for children and adults, as well as handwoven scarves, shawls, placemats, and more.

Carol Schnabel
410 Green River Rd.
802.257.1894
carolschnabelhandweaving@gmail.com

WELL DRILLING & MAINTENANCE

LYNDE WELL DRILLING

Well drilling contractor, hydrofrac wells, water treatments, water delivery for pools.

802.254.2250
lyndewelldrilling.com

WELLNESS, EXERCISE, COACHING & PERSONAL SERVICES

EARTH MEDICINE HOLISTIC BODYWORK

Transform your life—feel healthy in body, mind, and spirit.

Ocean Adams
802.257.4229

ECOSOMATIC THERAPY

Holistic psychotherapy locally and online for both individuals and relationships and family structures of all types—if you need support, please reach out!

Astrid Montuclard
802.644.3128
astrid@ecosomatictherapy.com
ecosomatictherapy.com

GOOD BODY PRODUCTS

Thoughtful products made locally with local ingredients.

Chris and Trish Thomas
802.254.1290
goodbodyproducts.com
facebook.com/goodbodyproductsVT
instagram.com/goodbodyproductsvt

LAUREN WELSCH THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Bodywork in a respectful, therapeutic, and relaxed environment to help people move freely and feel more comfortable in their bodies.

Lauren Welsch
802.251.7202
laurenbwel@gmail.com
laurenwelsch.com

YURTS

DICKINSON'S REACH YURTS

Plans and facilitates community yurt-raisings to make wooden insulated taper-wall yurts that range in size from a small sauna to a large three-story dwelling.

Mike Iacona
802.490.8210
dryurts@gmail.com
dryurts.com

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

You don't have to look far to find good food in Guilford. Farms, including dairy, livestock, produce, and maple, can be found in every corner of town. Active homesteads with animals, gardens, and orchards are common. Guilford Central School even has its own garden and a small sugaring operation.

Agriculture is an essential activity that contributes significantly to the local economy, to the rural character that's so highly valued in Guilford, and to the resilience and survival of the people in this community.

Whether you have a hankering for a gourmet sandwich, want local meat and potatoes for your dinner, or could use some free food to get you by, there are various ways to find food in town. Options range from the Guilford Country Store to the Guilford Food Hub, and from Guilford Cares Food Pantry to farm stands and little free pantries scattered around town.

photo: Meg York

DINING

GUILFORD COUNTRY STORE & CAFE

Handcrafted foods and unique Vermont products—sandwiches, a deli case, daily specials, baked goods, hot coffee, and more

475 Coolidge Hwy
802.490.2233
guilfordcountrystore.com
facebook.com/guilfordcountrystorevt

FARMS AND FARMSTEADS

CLARK DAIRY FARM

Family-owned dairy farm that sells pure Vermont maple syrup

Barbara and Tim Clark
222 Barney Hill Rd.
802.254.2571
clarkfarmllc@gmail.com
facebook.com/profile.php?id=100054494169040

COMFREY COMMONS

Not your usual plant nursery! If you have extra plants in any form—seeds, houseplants, veggie starts, perennial divisions, etc.—they're happy to take to share with others.

1917 E. Mountain Rd.
neighborhoodroots.org/comfrey-commons

DEER RIDGE FARM

Vermont maple syrup and candy, cut flowers, strawberries, and raw honey

4057 Hinesburg Rd.
deerridgefarmvt.com

VERMONT HEMPICUREAN & VERMONT GROW BARN & VERMONT BUD BARN

802.246.HEMP (4367)
257 Marlboro Rd., West Brattleboro, VT 05301
scott@vthempicurean.com
vthempicurean.com
vtgrowbarn.com
vtbudbarn.com
facebook.com/vthempicurean
facebook.com/vermontgrowbarn

FOOTBRIDGE FLOWERS

A 2-acre farm growing a beautiful assortment of heirloom and hard-to-find varieties of annuals, including a nice selection of dahlias, and a fresh-cut flower CSA

Route 5 (Coolidge Hwy.)
footbridgeflowers.com

The Guilford Country Store serves as a vibrant community hub where locals and visitors alike can gather to enjoy a meal, sip on their favorite beverages, or challenge each other to a friendly game of chess.

photo: Joslyn McIntyre

FRANKLIN FARM

Maple syrup, farm fresh eggs, and certified organic hamburger and stew meat at their farm store, open seven days a week from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm

John and Taylor Franklin
4708 Weatherhead Hollow Rd.
802.254.2228
franklinfamilyfarm.com

HERMIT THRUSH HOMESTEAD

Open seasonally with produce, pestos, and eggs

4615 Green River Rd.
hermitthrushhomestead.com/farm

PAUL A. BOYD FARM

Pork, beef, eggs, preserves, and baked goods

663 Barney Hill Rd.
facebook.com/paulAboydfarm

SCHNESKI'S MAPLE & TREE WORKS

Producing roughly 100 gallons of liquid gold every spring. It's wild grown, free range, solar fed, and sustainably made

Sam Schneski
802.257.2737
schneski@hotmail.com

TAPALOU GUILDS

A family owned and operated, mission-driven flower farm striving to evoke beauty, connection, joy, and presence through flowers and nature. Tapalou focuses on offering flowers, children's summer camps, workshops, and a guest space to help nourish people

710 Sweet Pond Rd.
tapalouguilds.com

UP THE ROAD FARM

A small family-run farm growing garden favorites and delicious salad greens; ecologically grown produce and plant starts available at our farmstand from 8am–8pm, daily, May–October

Tadj Schreck and Nathanael Matthiesen
20 Bullock Rd.
802.490.1470
uptheroadfarm@gmail.com

VIKING MAPLE FARMS

An 800-acre, family-owned maple syrup and maple products farm

802.222.0092
danielle@vermontmaplesyrup.com

photo: Joslyn McIntyre

FOOD MARKETS AND DISTRIBUTION

GUILFORD FOOD HUB

A nonprofit local food market run by Neighborhood Roots Food Collective—much like an online farmers market, with advance ordering and pickup on Wednesday afternoons at the Broad Brook Community Center. (Service is weekly in the summer, bi-weekly in the winter.) You'll find items from many of the Guilford-area vendors as well as other regionally sourced items from Food Connects (cheese, yogurt, hummus, bread, coffee, more). Food is sold at cost (no markup). If you are a SNAP/EBT customer, you get a 50% discount on all produce thanks to NOFA-VT's Crop Cash discount. There's also a pay-what-you-want food shelf open to the community on pickup days with items that are free or by donation.

To buy food through the Guilford Food Hub, sign up here: neighborhoodroots.org/guilford-food-hub.

For more information about Neighborhood Roots in general, visit neighborhoodroots.org.

GUILFORD CARES FOOD PANTRY

There's a free food pantry every Thursday from 3-4 pm at the Broad Brook Community Center. Guilford Cares Food Pantry provides a wide variety of fresh, frozen, canned, and packaged food, including meat, cheese, eggs, produce, and many nonperishable grocery items. If you're feeling the pinch of rising food costs and having trouble putting enough food on the table, the Guilford Cares Food Pantry is a warm and welcoming place to round out your weekly food needs. Anyone in need of food for themselves or their families is welcome, and all food is free. No proof of income is needed.

Broad Brook Community Center, 3940 Guilford Center Rd.

For more information, contact Pat Haine, Pantry Director at 802.257.0626, or email her at pth1946@yahoo.com.

FOODWORKS

Run by Groundworks Collaborative, Foodworks is the region's biggest free food shelf program. Located at 141 Canal Street in Brattleboro, this center takes donations, relies upon volunteers, and is open five days a week for food pickup. Visit groundworksvt.org/programs/foodworks for hours and more information.

LITTLE FREE PANTRIES

Neighborhood Roots Food Collective built two Little Free Pantries in Guilford—one near the corner of Weatherhead Hollow and Guilford Center Road, and another at the Guilford Center Natural Playscape on Carpenter Hill Road. They're open to everyone in our community to take and to share non-perishable food items, personal care items, and fresh summer produce.

BRATTLEBORO FARMERS MARKET

The closest traditional farmers market is very close by in Brattleboro. Featuring locally grown produce, prepared food, handmade crafts, and more from farmers and makers all over the region, this farmers market is open and outdoors every Saturday, from 9:00 am–2:00 pm, from May to October, at 570 Western Ave (Route 9). For details, to sign up for their newsletter, and to find out exactly which vendors and entertainment will be at an upcoming market, visit brattleboroareafarmersmarket.com.

In the winter (November through March), there's also an indoor Brattleboro Farmers Market at 60 Austine Dr. (the Winston Prouty Campus) in Brattleboro. Learn more: brattleborowinterfarmersmarket.org.

MAKERS AND PRODUCERS

ANCIENT BLESSINGS WELLNESS

Probiotic sodas, kefir grains, teas

facebook.com/p/Ancient-Blessings-Wellness-100049402945905

EMBUE CACAO

High-quality, small-batch cacao products sourced from small family farms who embody their values

hello@embuecacao.com
802.490.6356
embuecacao.com

EQUATION FORMULARY

A micro-scale, slow foods producer of naturally fermented hot sauces, condiments, and mushroom products made from self-grown, local, and foraged ingredients

Matt Stinchfield
802.258.8748
palatejack@gmail.com
pinehillvoices.love/equation-formulary.html

HIDDEN BEAN BAKESHOP

Gluten-free baked goods

hiddenbeanbakeshop.com

SIRIUS GARDENS

Cannabis clones, flowers, extracts, and salves to support the health and well-being of both people and pets

siriusgarden.com

photo: Linda Lembke

GETTING THE NEWS

TOWN WEBSITE

guilfordvt.gov

The Guilford town website is a treasury of useful information that includes:

- Schedules, calendars, agendas, and minutes for all town boards, commissions, and meetings
- An upcoming events calendar
- Town documents, maps, policies, reports, ordinances, grand lists, and annual financial audits
- Public announcements
- Guilford history
- Archived issues of *The Guilford Gazette*
- Information about the offices of the Town Clerk and Town Administrator, the Guilford Historical Society, and recreation in Guilford
- Questions to and answers from the Selectboard
- Online bill payments

THE GUILFORD GAZETTE

Community volunteers put together this quarterly newspaper, which is mailed to everyone in town. *The Guilford Gazette* aims to bring the community together and highlight all of the wonderful things happening in our town, providing a way for people in Guilford to communicate about local interests and goings on, as well as to share photos and milestones. The *Gazette* is published four times a year in February, May, August, and November.

Anyone can submit an article or letter to the editor by sending it to gazettevt@gmail.com, putting it in the Gazette box at the Guilford Free Library, handing it to the front desk at Guilford Central School, or mailing a paper copy to *The Guilford Gazette* c/o Guilford Free Library, 4024 Guilford Center Rd., Guilford, VT 05301. Deadlines for article submissions are always the first day of the preceding month (January 1 for the February issue, April 1 for the May issue, and so forth).

photo: Joslyn McIntyre

REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS OF RECORD

Brattleboro Reformer, a daily newspaper, and *The Commons*, a weekly publication, are our local newspapers of record. That designation means all legal and official notices for the town are published in these two places:

Brattleboro Reformer reformer.com
The Commons commonsnews.org

RADIO STATIONS

WTSA 96.7 FM and WKVT 92.7 FM, both broadcast from Brattleboro, provide music and local news (such as school closings). In the event of a declaration of emergency, listen to these stations for information and updates.

FRONT PORCH FORUM

This is a free community-building social network service in Vermont and parts of New York—a neighborhood forum only open to the people who live in the neighborhoods served. Front Porch Forum is all about helping neighbors connect. Users interact through the website, mobile application, or via email. FPF is where Selectboard and Town Commission meeting agendas are posted for several days before the meetings. It's also where Town notices are posted (road closures, positions being hired, etc.)

frontporchforum.com

OTHER LOCAL NEWSLETTERS

Various newsletters are distributed by Guilford nonprofits, including:

Broad Brook Community Center
broadbrookcommunitycenter.org

Guilford Free Library
guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

Green River Village Preservation Trust
greenrivervillage.org/newsletters

The Guilford Historical Society
guilfordhistorical.org

FACEBOOK PAGES

Facebook is the most frequented social media platform for Guilford groups and residents. To stay up to date, search for and "like" the many town businesses and organizations on Facebook. Many town groups maintain their own Facebook Pages and post important information there.

Discover Guilford
facebook.com/groups/1713554288702542

Rediscover Guilford
facebook.com/groups/492211623412595

Guilford Free Library
facebook.com/guilfordfreelibraryvt

Guilford Historical Society
facebook.com/guilfordhistoricalsocietyvt

Guilford Recreation Committee
facebook.com/guilfordrecreation

Guilford Volunteer Fire Department
facebook.com/GVFD90

Guilford Free-Cycle Vermont
facebook.com/groups/1552926648278325

BULLETIN BOARDS

Don't underestimate the power of good old-fashioned physical message boards! Look for community boards in many locations around town, with messages and posters about events, business offerings, lost and found pets, and much more. Unless otherwise noted, anyone is welcome to post something. (Please be polite.)

The three official posting sites for Guilford are:

- The Town Office
- The Guilford Country Store
- The Green River Covered Bridge

DIGITAL TIP

WHAT'S GOING ON IN GUILFORD?

Click these calendar links for local weekly to annual events:

TOWN OF GUILFORD
GUILFORD RECREATION COMMISSION
BROAD BROOK COMMUNITY CENTER
GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY
FRONT PORCH FORUM

EDUCATION

GUILFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL

Guilford Central School (GCS) is a small rural elementary school serving roughly 130 children from Pre-K to sixth grade. Since 1957, when the town consolidated its 14 one-room schoolhouses, the school has been located at 374 School Road. The school grounds include fields, forest classrooms, gardens, a playground, a soccer field, a baseball diamond, natural play areas, and a story walk.

Grades K-6 have 60-120 minutes of both math and literacy four days per week. Science and social studies units are thematic and often place-based and interdisciplinary. All classes have physical education twice a week, plus art, music, and library once a week. On "Fun Fridays," classes spend extra time outdoors and participate in special projects.

The school serves free breakfast and lunch every day as part of the independent nutrition program instituted by all Windham Southeast Supervisory Union schools in 2025. GCS also serves a free snack most days through the federally funded Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program (FFVP).

GCS is a *Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports* (PBIS) school that provides a positive learning environment where children and community members are safe, kind, respectful, and responsible. Staff and students devote time to buddy classes, all-school meetings, singalongs, and bi-weekly lessons in social-emotional learning using a research-based curriculum, the *Second Step Program*.

photo: Sarah Rosow

In January and February, GCS students participate in Winter Activities, a Vermont tradition in which children choose among various winter activities, typically including choices such as downhill skiing and ice skating at nearby Memorial Park, as well as school-based art, movement, and nature-based offerings for the younger children.

The GCS Pre-K is a nature-based program for Guilford's four-year-olds. The class spends the majority of its time in a beautiful outdoor classroom in the Wildwood Forest, where children engage with their natural surroundings, climb, dig, and learn through experience and play. They continue their play and studies, and have lunch and rest time, in their indoor classroom.

Students in grades K–3 participate in four lessons per year through the Four Winds Institute's Nature Program (fwni.org/the-nature-program). The Four Winds Institute trains volunteers on topics and activities, and then the volunteers lead classes through hands-on learning experiences in the natural world. GCS is always looking for Four Winds Volunteers.

GCS also has a vibrant Farm to School Program, which provides students with opportunities to work in the school's gardens and participate in cooking and composting projects. Classes take field trips to local farms to plant and harvest crops, visit animals, and learn about maple sugaring. In the fall you'll find students at GCS harvesting crops and putting the gardens to bed. In winter, students cook over fires in forest classrooms. In the spring they start with tapping trees and making maple syrup and move on to planting the gardens. From monthly taste tests of healthy, locally sourced foods, prepared and served by students in every grade, to working on area farms, to planting and harvesting produce served in the cafeteria, GCS works to continually connect students with Guilford's farming heritage.

GCS AFTER-SCHOOL CHILDCARE

The after-school childcare program, for grades PK–1, runs three days per week until 4:30 pm. Up to 15 children have a snack and participate in craft projects, games, and outdoor play time. (For information, contact the school office.)

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

GCS offers seasonal after-school clubs for 1st to 6th graders. Each club meets weekly for six to eight weeks during fall, winter, or spring sessions, from 2:30–4:00 pm. Rotating club topics include soccer, basketball, art, Spanish, school newspaper, yarn club, ukulele, tile club, and more. Clubs are led by parent volunteers, community members, and local educators. Community members are invited to lead or help with clubs, provided they undergo background checks. Contact the school office for information.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT GCS

There are many opportunities for parents, family members, and community members to volunteer at GCS. The Windham Southeast Supervisory District (WSESD) conducts background checks on all volunteers under the National Child Protection Act (NCPA) and Vermont State Statute 16 VSA § 255, which includes information required by policy and reference checks.

More information: drive.google.com/file/d/1xbGnrmflAm0FAUYk-8odE-PC60P8-vBu/view

photos: Joslyn McIntyre

In the spring, Girls on the Run (GOTR) Vermont offers a fun, evidence-based program that inspires participants to recognize their inner strength, increase their level of physical activity, imagine their possibilities, and confidently stand up for themselves and others. Local volunteer coaches are trained by the statewide GOTR organization and lead 3rd to 6th graders through 90-minute twice-weekly lessons and running training sessions from late March until the celebratory 5K in early June. (For information, contact the school office or visit gotrvt.org)

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

During the spring of 2023, a small group of staff members and parents came together in the wake of the pandemic to form a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) with the intent of fundraising for Winter Activities, creating after-school clubs, and supporting teacher appreciation. The PTO meets monthly during the school year and holds a fundraiser in the fall. The GCS PTO is always looking for new members and volunteers to support these efforts, and also welcomes donations from the community in the form of craft supplies, games, treats for staff, and financial contributions.

THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (LC)

Each school in the Windham Southeast Supervisory District has formed a Leadership Council (LC) that consists of parents, school staff, administrators, and school board members. The GCS LC meets monthly to work toward the following goals:

- Advocate for students and their highest academic, social, and emotional growth
- Foster a community built around equality and diversity
- Promote GCS to the local community and the wider district
- Create and facilitate effective communication between GCS and the Windham Southeast Supervisory District

Contact Renee Baker at the school office at rbaker@wsesdvt.org or 802.254.2271 for more information about GCS and its programs.

HOMESCHOOLING

Guilford is home to a vibrant community of homeschoolers and unschoolers. A self-organized, secular group of homeschooling families, the Guilford Homeschool Group (GHG), has been meeting weekly, year round, since 2018. Families with children of many ages, from infants to teenagers, participate in the group.

GHG exists to meet the needs of Guilford-area homeschooling families through connection and collaboration. Members of GHG come from a variety of homeschooling backgrounds, yet as a group, they value working together to create a space for children and adults to grow and learn. The heart of their group lies in the fostering of each child's need to practice creative expression, work and play with each other, and find mentorship in areas of interest. The GHG aims to meet these needs in a variety of ways, including classes, group projects, games, field trips, time for free play, and more.

GHG would like to be a resource to any Guilford resident who is considering homeschooling, and to others in the greater area, as their capacity allows. For more local resources and connections, see the Southern Vermont Homeschoolers sovthomeschoolers.org.

photos: Joslyn McIntyre

MORE GUILFORD EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING AT THE GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

The Guilford Free Library offers storytime, summer reading programs, occasional after-school programs, free and reduced-price museum passes, access to a shared catalog of print and electronic books, and a number of research databases appropriate for school-aged children. guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

GCP YOUTH SOCCER PROGRAM

An independent soccer program is sponsored by and run by volunteers from the Guilford Community Park. Hosting children from 4–9, this free soccer club meets on Thursday for six weeks beginning in the middle of May each year. The format is completely non-competitive, with drills for skills development and a short intersquad game held during each session. Coach Blessed Ngoma is a local Zambian adult who is assisted by parents during sessions. Contact Dwayne Johnson: dwayne.johnson0519@gmail.com.

BRATTLEBORO AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL (BAMS)

BAMS provides education and programs for students in grades 7 and 8. Its mission is to support each person's intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development through meaningful, challenging experiences. The faculty and staff foster healthy relationships to create a safe and caring environment that will sustain lifelong learners, creative thinkers, and responsible citizens. Teachers and students are arranged in teams in order to help students feel comfortable and safe and to do their best. The curriculum includes skills building, team and exploratory activities and trips, service projects, Personal Learning Plans, group and individual work, interscholastic and intramural sports, clubs, and the Brattleboro Enrichment Activities for Middle School (BEAMS) program.

photo: Tosha Tillman

BRATTLEBORO UNION HIGH SCHOOL (BUHS)

Brattleboro Union High School is a comprehensive public school with about 900 students in grades 9–12. The school's community values emphasize respect for others and the environment, relevance in curriculum, and shared responsibility for ensuring that all students feel welcome and supported. The school has a wide range of course offerings from the traditional to cutting-edge courses in areas such as television production, graphic design, and advanced biology. All the school's teachers are rated "highly qualified" by the State of Vermont. Many upper-level courses offer dual high school and college credit from schools in Vermont and New Hampshire.

WINDHAM REGIONAL CAREER CENTER

The Windham Regional Career Center places a high value on preparing students to enter college and the workforce with the skills necessary to gain meaningful employment upon completion from high school. The program instructors work closely with industry representatives to offer a curriculum that meets industry standards, using state-of-the-art technology. Within each program, students have the chance to earn industry-recognized credentials and gain 21st-century personal and workplace skills, and, in some cases, dual-enrollment college credit. Students are also offered workplace learning opportunities. Courses include automotive technology, business management, culinary arts, early childhood education, electrical technology, health careers, forestry and natural resources, and many others.

THE WINDHAM SOUTHEAST SCHOOL DISTRICT (WSESD)

GCS, BAMS, BUHS, and WRCC are all part of the Windham Southeast School District (WSESD), which is a member of the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union (WSESU). WSESD serves four towns including Guilford, Brattleboro, Dummerston, and Putney, with a mission to provide a safe, inclusive, supportive environment where all students grow academically, socially, and emotionally and are challenged to reach their potential as local and global community members.

The Windham Southeast School District Board of Directors oversees the operations of schools in these four towns and meets twice a month. Guilford has two seats on the district's representative school board.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

photo: Little Pond Digital

GENERAL COMMUNITY CENTERS AND RESOURCES

BROAD BROOK COMMUNITY CENTER

Guilford's historic Grange Hall hosts community gatherings, events, meals, a food pantry, and much more. It's a lively community hub in the center of historic Guilford.

3940 Guilford Center Rd., Guilford VT 05301
802.451.0405
www.broadbrookcommunitycenter.org

FRIENDS OF ALGIERS VILLAGE, INC.

The Friends of Algiers Village is a nonprofit group dedicated to preserving the historic flavor of one of the oldest communities in Vermont while fostering modern use and development of the historical buildings and the surrounding land.

board@friendsofalgiersvillage.org
friendsofalgiersvillage.org

GUILFORD WELCOME CENTER

This rest stop on I-91, just over the Vermont line from Massachusetts, provides information, resources, and assistance to visitors and community members, helping visitors navigate the area and find organizations, events, and services.

I-91 North, mile marker 5.6, before Exit 1,
Guilford VT 05301
802.258.4503
bgs.guilfordwelcomecenter@vermont.gov
informationcenter.vermont.gov/centers/guilford

= VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CHILD, FAMILY, AND INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

VERMONT DEPT. FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES (DCF)

Vermont DCF provides legal representation and advice to the division on matters such as temporary assistance, food stamps, fuel assistance, and lifeline programs, and also advises on eligibility and determination for health care programs in Vermont, including Medicaid and VHAP Pharmacy.

109 State St., Montpelier, VT 05609
802.828.3171
dcf.vermont.gov

FAMILIES FIRST

This is a (501) nonprofit organization committed to building meaningful lives for youth and adults living with developmental disabilities.

11 University Way, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.275.4919
familiesfirstvt.org

FAMILY SERVICES

The State of Vermont Agency of Human Services provides services including counseling, support groups, crisis intervention, and referral to other community resources.

232 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.2888
humanservices.vermont.gov/about-us/field-services/brattleboro

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

This organization provides school and community-based mentoring programs for children and youth ages 6–18+.

24 Flat St., Suite 202, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.689.0092
info@bbbsvt.org
bbbsvt.org

SOBRIETY SUPPORT RESOURCES
Please check out sober.com/aa-meetings/vermont/brattleboro for local AA meetings.

WINDHAM COUNTY SAFE PLACE

This organization facilitates an integrated, multidisciplinary response to victims of child physical and sexual abuse and victims of adult sexual assault that reduces trauma, promotes prevention and advocacy, and supports healing.

62 Black Mountain Rd., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.579.1358
safeplacecac.com

WINSTON PROUTY CENTER FOR CHILD & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

This organization provides inclusive education and family support to promote the success of children and families.

209 Austine Dr., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.7852
winstonprouty.org

WINDHAM SOUTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION (WSESU)

WSESU identifies and evaluates all children with disabilities to identify available resources.

802.254.2271 (Guilford)
802.254.3765 (Early Childhood Special Education)

WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER

This feminist organization offers support and advocacy to all survivors of domestic and sexual violence, as well as prevention and educational activities to help create a community in which violence is not tolerated.

802.254.6954
womensfreedomcenter.net

INTERACTION (FORMERLY YOUTH SERVICES)

Now called Interaction, offering Youth Programs, nurturing the next generation of neighbors and leaders; providing mental health services and restorative justice for adults, youth, and the community at large.

28 Vernon St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
24/7 hotline (ages 12–23): 866.888.4498
interactionvt.org

FOOD SUPPORT

BRATTLEBORO SENIOR MEALS

This is a private nonprofit agency designed to provide a nutritious daily meal to people over 60 living in the Brattleboro area.

Gibson Aiken Building, 207 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.1236
director@brattleboroseniormeals.org

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRIES

Little food pantries throughout our community offer free food in a self-serve, always-open way—much in the same way Little Libraries offer free books. Have some extra food? Share it here:

- Corner of Weatherhead Hollow Rd. and Bullock Rd.
- At the playscape on Carpenter Hill Rd.

COMMUNITY FOOD ACCESS – HUNGER FREE VERMONT

The Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) of Vermont is dedicated to addressing hunger and food insecurity by providing free, nutritious meals to those in need.

PO Box 697, Richmond, VT 05477
802.434.4122
info@nofavt.org
nofavt.org

FOOD CONNECTS

This group delivers locally produced food as well as educational and consulting services aimed at transforming local food systems.

info@foodconnects.org
foodconnects.org

GUILFORD CARES

Services include a weekly food pantry, medical equipment lending, nurse visits and referrals, tech support, rides, and classes.

802.579.1350
guilfordcaresvt@gmail.com
guilfordcares.com

GROUNDWORKS COLLABORATIVE

Groundworks works with people and systems creating solutions to end hunger and homelessness for all, and provides ongoing support to families and individuals facing housing and food insecurities in the greater Brattleboro area.

54 South Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.5415
groundworksvt.org

GUILFORD FOOD PANTRY

This organization offers year-round food assistance to families and individuals in need of supplemental food assistance in Guilford, every Thursday from 3:00–4:00 pm at the Broad Brook Community Center.

3940 Guilford Center Rd., Guilford, VT 05301
802.257.0626

GUILFORD FOOD HUB

This community-run food market is a convenient way for everyone in Guilford to access local food from participating farms and local food purveyors. Members order online and pick up their food on Wednesdays at the Broad Brook Community Center—weekly in the summer, bi-weekly in the winter.

food@neighborhoodroots.org
harvesttomarket.com/farmers-market/Guilford-Food-Hub

HUNGER FREE VERMONT

This organization's mission is to end the injustice of hunger for everyone. They prioritize the people most affected by hunger to make permanent systemic change.

38 Eastwood Dr. Suite #100, Burlington, VT 05403
802.865.0255
info@hungerfreevt.org
hungerfreevt.org

NEIGHBORHOOD ROOTS COLLECTIVE

Neighborhood Roots supports community members and local farmers in growing the food we eat, while helping to ensure that all of our neighbors have access to nourishing, locally produced food.

connect@neighborhoodroots.org
neighborhoodroots.org/home

ST. BRIGID'S KITCHEN & PANTRY

This service provides hot meals and grocery items to guests.

38 Walnut St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.6800
stbrigidskitchenvt@gmail.com
stbrigidskitchenandpantry.org

HEALTH SERVICES

GUILFORD TOWN HEALTH OFFICER

For unsafe conditions in rental housing or on public or private property, or to report septic failure or an animal that might be rabid, contact our Town Health Officer.

Richard Davis
802.254.6857

AIDS PROJECT OF SOUTHERN VERMONT

This organization provides services, education, and supplies to those whose lives are affected by HIV and AIDS.

15 Grove St. (PO Box 1486), Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.8263
aidsprojectsouthernvermont.org

BRATTLEBORO AREA HOSPICE (NOW CENTER FOR SOLACE)

This organization provides hospice, early care support, bereavement services, and advance care planning.

191 Canal St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.0775
brattleborohospice.org

BRATTLEBORO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

BMH is our local hospital and the nearest ER for most Guilford residents.

17 Belmont Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.0341
bmhvt.org

BRATTLEBORO RETREAT

This is a nonprofit psychiatric hospital in southern Vermont, providing compassionate mental health care at its safe, restorative campus. The Brattleboro Retreat provides comprehensive inpatient, partial hospitalization, and outpatient treatment services for children, adolescents, and adults.

1 Anna Marsh Ln., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.258.3700
brattlebororetreat.org

BRATTLEBORO WALK-IN CLINIC

This clinic provides primary medical treatment to persons ages 18–64 in our community who do not have health insurance or who cannot afford their high deductible or coinsurance.

191 Clark Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.251.8484
brattleborowalkinclinic.org

BUILDING A POSITIVE COMMUNITY (BAPC)

A community resource for creating a life full of meaningful experiences (substance) without reliance on things that dilute or distract (substances) from authentic connections, BPAC empowers our community's youth through leadership, engaging families, and reducing substance use through environmental strategies.

130 Austine Dr., 2nd floor, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.2175
bapc802.org

HEALTH CARE AND REHABILITATION SERVICES (HCRS)

HCRS provides creative, collaborative, and compassionate health care services that are responsive to the needs of the community.

Brattleboro Regional Office, 51 Fairview St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.6028
hcrs.org

= VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

STATE OF VERMONT AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES/HEALTH ACCESS

The Vermont Medicaid health insurance program and Vermont's state-based exchange for health insurance is also referred to as the Health Insurance Marketplace.

280 State Dr., NOB 1, South Waterbury, VT 05671-1010
802.879.5900
dvha.vermont.gov

TWIN STATES NETWORK

The mission of Twin States Network is to foster a safe and caring community for people living with HIV in Vermont and New Hampshire through peer support, education, advocacy, and outreach.

79 Ashworth Rd., Guilford, VT 05301
802.254.6716
twinstatesnetwork.org

VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

This is the only private agency to offer training, services, and support to visually impaired Vermonters, with a mission to enable Vermonters who are blind or visually impaired to be more independent, cultivate adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life

130 Austine Dr. #280, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.8761
vabvi.org

VERMONT CARE PARTNERS HEALTH CARE AND REHABILITATION SERVICES (HCRS)

HCRS serves the mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability needs of individuals and families across Windsor and Windham Counties, and offers innovative programming within their offices as well as out in the community—including within schools and other organizations—to provide ease of access to services. Their professionally trained staff also work with families within their homes to provide essential supports.

51 Fairview St., Brattleboro VT 05301
802.254.6028 (office), 800.622.4235 (hotline)
vermontcarepartners.org/agencies/health-care-and-rehabilitation-services

VERMONT SUICIDE PREVENTION

Provides resources, information, and help to schools, agencies, and people of all ages to respond effectively to suicidal behavior.

28 Vernon St. #319, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.6590 (main number), 988 (immediate response)
mentalhealth.vermont.gov/suicide-prevention

HOUSING

BRATTLEBORO HOUSING PARTNERSHIPS

This organization ensures the provision of quality affordable housing opportunities in viable communities for lower income households.

802.254.6071
BHP@BrattleboroHousing.org

COMMUNITY HOUSE

This is a short-term residential stabilization and assessment program for children ages 5–12, an independent general and special education school for grades K–12, and a summer (ESY) program for children in grades K–8.

10 Oak St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.7470
communityhousevt.org

WINDHAM COUNTY HEAT FUND

This organization provides assistance with fuel for those who qualify.

802.254.2240, 802.251.0881
wcheatfund@comcast.net
facebook.com/WindhamCountyHeatFund

VERMONT STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY

This organization has been providing critical housing assistance in Vermont for more than 50 years, with a mission to ensure that quality affordable housing opportunities are available to Vermonters statewide.

1 Prospect St. # 1, Montpelier, VT 05602
802.828.3295
vsha.org

WINDHAM & WINDSOR HOUSING TRUST

This organization provides permanently affordable housing solutions in Southeastern Vermont through property management, homeowner education, low-cost loans, financial assistance, and advocacy.

68 Birge St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.4604
homemattershere.org

LIBRARIES

GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

A user-friendly community library and a center of cultural life in Guilford, the public Guilford Free Library is part of the Catamount Library Network, which grants access to the collections from 23 sister libraries. The library also lends ebikes and snowshoes, runs year-round programs, and offers a free camp to Guilford's children for a few weeks each summer.

4024 Guilford Center Rd., Guilford, VT 05301
802.257.4603
staff@guilfordfreelibraryvt.org
guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The larger public library in Brattleboro is Southern Vermont's largest public library. Among other materials and programs, they offer a "Library of Things" where members can borrow anything from kitchen tools to snowshoes to electronic equipment.

224 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.5290
brookslibraryvt.org

SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY ASYLUM SEEKERS PROJECT (CASP)

This is a supportive community for those seeking asylum in the U.S. while supporting basic needs and accompanying clients on their journey toward building a life in Southern Vermont.

112 Hardwood Way, Suite 1, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.579.1509
info@caspvt.org | caspvt.org

DEAF VERMONTERS ADVOCACY SERVICES

This group offers services to individuals who may be facing various challenges or issues.

Vernon, VT 05354
802.479.1934
dvas.org

THE GATHERING PLACE

This organization provides adult day services to promote empowerment, independence, and quality of life for elders, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers.

30 Terrace St., Brattleboro VT 05301
802.254.6559
info@gatheringplacevt.org
gatheringplacevt.org

GREEN MOUNTAIN RSVP

This AmeriCorps Seniors program matches people aged 55+ with volunteer opportunities in nonprofit organizations in Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties.

160 Benmont Ave. #90th, Bennington, VT 05201
802.674.4547
rsvpvt.org

HUMAN SERVICES ON AGING

This organization helps seniors to maintain their independence, well-being, and quality of life as they age.

Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.2573

SENIOR SOLUTIONS

This organization offers services and resources for successful aging in Southeastern Vermont, serving residents aged 60 and up. They also help caregivers build robust support systems for their loved ones.

38 Pleasant St., Springfield, VT 05156
800.642.5119
802.257.7552
seniorsolutionsvt.org

= VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

STATE OF VERMONT AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES (BRATTLEBORO BRANCH)

Three offices in Brattleboro offer resources to address social, emotional, and practical needs; housing assistance, food support, mental health service, substance abuse treatment, childcare and more.

232 Main St., 41 Spring Tree Rd., and 28 Vernon St. #400, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.2884
humanservices.vermont.gov/about-us/field-services/brattleboro

LEGAL SERVICES OF VERMONT

This organization offers free civil (not criminal) legal help including advice by phone, mail, or email as well as referrals and, in some cases, representation.

274 N Winooski Ave., Burlington, VT 05401
800.889.2047
legalservicesvt.org

MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTER (MCC) OF SOUTHERN VERMONT

A branch office of the Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC), MCC provides comprehensive support to help refugees build stable, independent lives in their new communities, with housing assistance, access to medical care, referrals for employment support, English language (ELL) classes, and more.

122 Birge St., Second floor, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.376.1319
vermontinfo@ecdcus.org
ecdcvt.org

OUT IN THE OPEN

This organization connects rural LGBTQ+ people to build community.

PO Box 1685, Brattleboro, VT 05301
info@weareoutintheopen.org
weareoutintheopen.org

VERMONT PARTNERSHIP FOR FAIRNESS & DIVERSITY

This organization offers assistance, support, and advocacy related to inclusion, diversity, and equity in the public sphere.

c/o First United Methodist Church,
150 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.254.4565

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER

This local domestic and sexual violence organization serves both Windham and Southern Windsor counties.

800.773.0689
(confidential 24/7 hotline, collect calls accepted)

SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT COMMUNITY ACTION (SEVCA)

Their goal is to empower and partner with individuals and communities to alleviate the hardships of poverty, provide opportunities for thriving, and eliminate the root causes of poverty in southeastern Vermont.

15 Grove St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
800.464.9951

SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES

This organization provides assistance with housing, food insecurity, and mental health support. It strives to address the needs of vulnerable populations, promote social justice, and enhance the overall wellbeing of community members.

87 Frost St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.4746

STATE OF VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES

This agency supports Vermonters by administering Vermont tax laws fairly and efficiently to help taxpayers understand and comply with their state tax obligations.

802.828.2865
tax.vermont.gov

= VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

UNITED WAY WINDHAM COUNTY

Part of the parent organization United Way, this organization strives to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of community. They focus on healthy community, opportunity, prosperity, and education—HOPE.

1222 Putney Rd., Suite 202, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802.257.4011
unitedwaywindham.org

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

This organization empowers individuals with disabilities to lead self-directed lives through advocacy, education, and support services.

11 East State St., Montpelier, VT 05602
802.229.0501, 800.639.1522
vcil.org

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES (SEVEDS)

SeVEDS develops long-term strategies that generate growth and prosperity in our regional economy, in particular by working to improve broadband and cell service.

brattleborodevelopment.com/seveds

BRATTLEBORO DEVELOPMENT CREDIT CORPORATION (BDCC)

The Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC), is a private, nonprofit economic development organization that serves as a catalyst for industrial and commercial growth throughout Southeastern Vermont, including Windham County.

brattleborodevelopment.com

TRANSPORTATION

SOUTHEAST VERMONT TRANSIT (SEVT) – THE MOOVER

Via the Moover, SEVT provides public transit for Windham and southern Windsor Counties with fixed route services, a demand-response van service for the elderly and disabled, and volunteer rides for medical appointments.

45 Mill St., Wilmington, VT 05363
888.869.6287, 802.464.8487
moover.com

LIVING ON THE LAND

In this section the Guilford Conservation Commission offers some best practices for living and working on the land in a rural community—for maintaining the forests, fields, and wetlands that are part of our daily lives, but which are also important to the many species of plants and animals that live here with us. Also included in this section are answers to questions about topics that landowners frequently have, such as posting land, building in wetlands, controlling invasives, conserving land, and many others.

In 2017 the Guilford Conservation Commission began working with naturalist Patti Smith of Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center to develop a Natural Resources Inventory. Our goal was to locate and describe areas of importance for maintaining the natural heritage and rural character of Guilford.

The inventory, completed in 2023, includes maps of Guilford's forest blocks, wildlife crossings, wetlands, and natural communities, plus detailed descriptions of significant natural features in 10 areas of Guilford. It's a document that residents can use to learn more about their own land and neighborhoods.

guilfordvt.gov/conservation-commission/natural-resources-inventory

photo: Linda Lembke

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR LAND

Forests cover 85% of the land in Guilford. They're part of the larger "Northern Forest" region that covers much of the northeastern United States. Most of this forest land is privately owned, giving landowners the power and responsibility to make informed decisions that will protect the wildlife and natural features in our town and region.

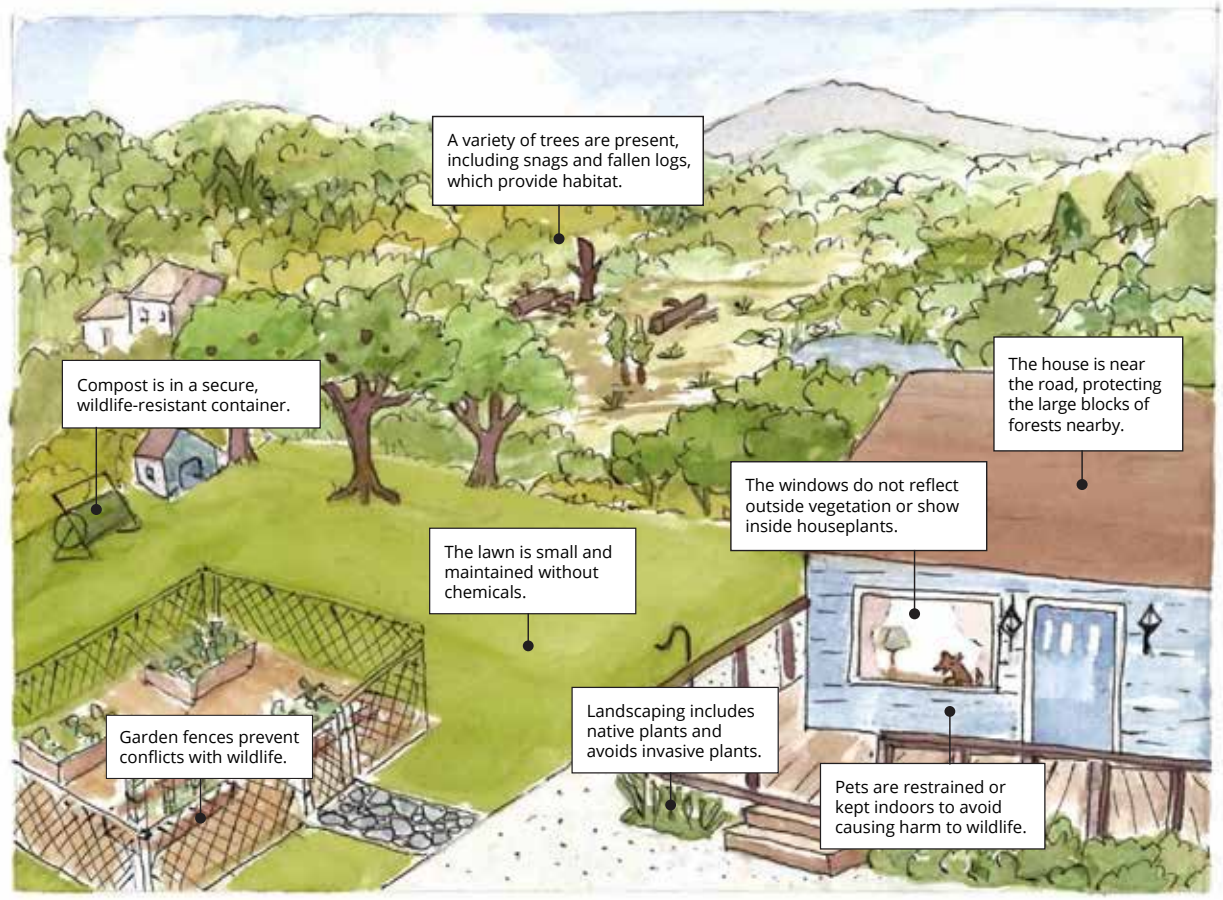
Take time to get to know your property and how it fits in this larger landscape. Learn about its natural features and the wildlife habitats it provides, such as wetlands, grasslands, riparian areas (near water bodies), forests, nesting and wintering sites, and vernal pools. Talk to neighbors to learn more about its history. Look at maps to learn how your land fits into larger expanses of forests and waterways.

If you're building a new structure or making changes on your land, consider the environmental impacts. Determine how you can protect the natural features and wildlife habitats on your land. Maintain buffers of native plants and trees around sensitive areas. Clearing and building should not occur within 300 feet of sensitive habitats like rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands. Avoid construction in locations that are important to wildlife, such as amphibian crossings and nesting sites.

Research tells us that our homes create a "wildlife shadow" of 15 to 30 acres. By keeping driveways short and locating our homes close to other structures and existing roadways, we can maximize the undeveloped land available for wildlife.

GUILFORD NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

This document is freely available on the town website at: guilfordvt.gov/conservation-commission/natural-resources-inventory. Printed copies are available for loan at the Guilford Free Library and at the library cart at the town office.

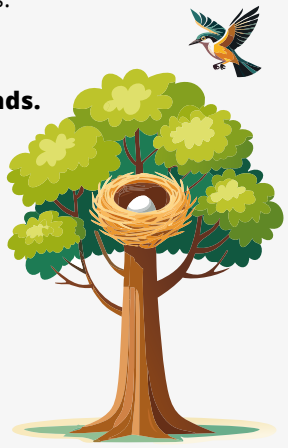


This illustration shows how new or existing homes can be more sensitive to wildlife while also keeping family and pets safe.

Illustration: Susan Bonthran

Wildlife-sensitive suggestions for your land

Maximize habitat connectivity by keeping large stands of forest or habitat intact, concentrating development at the edge of large blocks of habitat, and maintaining vegetated buffers along streams and lakes.



Limit building and clearing near rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands. Leave a 100' buffer (50' for smaller streams) of native trees and shrubs for protection of wildlife corridors and feeding and nesting areas.

Maintain healthy habitats by letting natural processes occur. For example, leave mature trees, snags, and woody debris in forested areas for wildlife shelter, food, and nesting sites.

Minimize disturbances to the land by minimizing the amount of pavement and hardened surfaces you introduce.

Remove invasive species such as barberry, buckthorn, bittersweet, and knotweed. Help slow their spread by pulling up young plants and disposing of them as directed at vtinvasives.org. Plant native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers when adding new plants.

Help prevent flooding and erosion by leaving or planting deep-rooted trees and shrubs along streambanks, driveways, and roads. Monitor driveway runoff and research methods to prevent erosion.

Avoid bear conflicts. Take birdfeeders down from April 1 to November 30. Clean grills promptly. Keep trash secured in an enclosed area.

Minimize outdoor lighting. Night lighting is disorienting to wildlife and can adversely affect animals. Where night lighting is needed, select light fixtures that direct light downward, not out and up, where they create light pollution.

Avoid using harmful chemicals such as pesticides and herbicides, especially near water. Control animal waste that may run off into waterways, and monitor your septic system. All of these factors may affect water quality.

Get to know the cultural resources on your land (stone walls, cellar holes, abandoned roads, etc.). If you log your land, talk to your forester about protecting these resources during timber harvests.

Protect vernal pools. These serve as important breeding grounds for amphibians and invertebrates. Leave undisturbed forested areas around them.

Drive slowly on local roads. Amphibians need to cross roads on rainy nights in the spring to reach wetlands for breeding. Turtles, geese, and many mammal species all cross our roads regularly to reach water, food sources, and nesting sites.

Obtain a burn permit before burning brush. Permission is required and can be obtained by calling Michael Tkaczyk, Guilford Fire Warden. at 802.254.1688.

Consider NOT posting your land. Most hunters and walkers are responsible and respectful of houses in the areas they like to cross. Posting your land for "Hunting by Permission Only" will help to control the size of the deer herd in Guilford, which has been increasing, causing overbrowsing in forestland and home gardens and the spread of disease and parasite risks to people, pets, and other wildlife.

Be a responsible hunter, angler, or hiker. Know whose land you're crossing and ask for permission. Respect "posted" signs.

Support your town road crew. They maintain and upgrade our roadbeds to prevent erosion and replace culverts to manage increasing storm waters. They also remove hazardous trees in the Town Right of Way, unless they are endangering power lines, in which case the power company will come take them down.

FAQS: WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT...

NATURAL RESOURCES ON MY LAND AND NEIGHBORHOOD IN GUILFORD

Guilford's Natural Resources Inventory can be found on the Conservation Commission pages of the Town website: guilfordvt.gov/conservation-commission/natural-resources-inventory. This is a great resource for learning more about the plants, animals, and geology in the area you live. Print copies are available for borrowing at the Guilford Free Library.

The Natural Resources section of the Guilford Town Plan contains additional information about Guilford's forests and wildlife and its agricultural, water, air and mineral resources. See guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Town-Plan-2022-2030-revised-3_23-1.pdf.

SPECIFIC PLANTS AND ANIMALS THAT LIVE ON MY LAND

- *Seek* is a free mobile phone app that lets you use the camera on your phone to identify plants, animals, insects, and fungi and keep track of your discoveries.
- *Merlin Bird ID* is a free app from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It helps you identify birds by their appearance and their songs and calls using your mobile phone or iPad.
- *iNaturalist* is an online, worldwide community of people sharing observations to help each other learn about nature. If you join iNaturalist and share your photographs of plants and animals observed on your property, they will be identified by others in the community. Your observations will also be added automatically to the "Wild About Guilford" project, a collection of hundreds of observations submitted by Guilford residents and visitors. See inaturalist.org.

photo: Guilford Conservation Commission

VERMONT'S CURRENT USE PROGRAM

In 1978, the Vermont legislature passed a law establishing the Use Value Appraisal of Agricultural, Forest, Conservation, and Farm Buildings Property. Today this program is known as "Current Use" and allows eligible landowners to receive lower property tax rates in exchange for keeping their forests and agricultural lands healthy and undeveloped. About 60% of the land in Guilford is enrolled in Current Use. For more information about the program and how to enroll, visit tax.vermont.gov/property/current-use.

LANDOWNER RIGHTS

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife website provides a good overview of Vermont law regarding public access to private land, including landowner rights and liability protection.

vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/landowner-resources/private-land-and-public-access

POSTING MY LAND

The Vermont constitution protects the right to hunt, fish, and trap on open, private land while also ensuring that landowners have the protections they need to control their property. Information about posting laws, regulations, and signage can be found at vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/landowner-resources/private-land-and-public-access/what-posting-means.

MANAGING MY WOODLANDS

Hiring a forester is recommended. See fpr.vermont.gov for a list of county foresters. The current (2025) Windham County Forester is Guilford resident Sam Schneski. He can be reached at 802.380.8916.

REGULATIONS REGARDING WETLANDS ON MY LAND

Vermont has strict rules about where and what you can build near or on wetlands. To find out more about identifying wetlands on your property and state wetland regulations, visit dec.vermont.gov/watershed/wetlands/check-for-wetlands.

MANAGING INVASIVE PLANTS ON MY LAND

Vermont Invasives is the best website for learning about identification and best management practices of invasive plants and insects in Vermont (vtinvasives.org). The Conservation Commission has gathered other resources on invasives. These can be found on the town website (guilfordvt.gov/conservation-commission/invasive-plants) and on the library cart at Town Office. The Conservation Commission also has a Pullerbear to loan out, which will uproot small invasive trees and shrubs. Email guilfordvtcc@gmail.com to make arrangements.

photo: Guilford Conservation Commission

BUYING LAND OR BUILDING A STRUCTURE IN A FEMA DESIGNATED SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA (ALSO KNOWN AS A FLOODPLAIN)

In 1986, Guilford joined the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to protect people and property from flooding and to provide reduced flood insurance rates for existing or new homes located in areas deemed to be especially prone to flooding. These areas are designated as Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) and are identified and mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

As a member of the NHIP, Guilford is required to have floodplain management regulations for existing or new properties located within a SFHA. These regulations carry very stringent building and insurance requirements. Prior to buying or building a home in Guilford, use the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (msc.fema.gov/portal/home) to determine if your property is located in an SFHA. Even if the area is not designated as an SFHA, it can still be at risk of flooding, so it's always a good idea to research flood risk for your property.

You can also contact the Guilford Town Floodplain Administrator or your realtor for additional information and assistance.

CONSERVING MY LAND

Conservation easements allow landowners to protect their land from development in perpetuity, even if the land is sold. An overview of conservation easements on private land can be found at vnrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Conservation-Easements.pdf.

Contact the Conservation Commission to learn more about Guilford's Conservation Fund and about land trusts that work with landowners in our region (guilfordvtcc@gmail.com).

HOW DO I DEAL WITH HAZARDOUS TREES

If the tree is in a town right of way (ROW), contact the Town Office at 802.254.6857. If the tree is on your property, several local tree services can be found on page 27 in the *Businesses* section of this guide.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF MY LAND

The Guilford Historical Society has a large collection of historic photos and artifacts. Stop in when they're open and ask what they may have from your property or neighborhood. The Historical Society also has a set of historic maps printed at the same scale. These can be overlaid to see changes in ownership and road networks.

The Historical Society and the Guilford Free Library have several books about Guilford history, including *The Official History of Guilford, Vermont, 1678–1961*, which describes Guilford's historic districts and homesteads.

Talk to your neighbors! Folks who have lived here for a long time hold a wealth of knowledge about the land and those who lived here before us.

photo: Rick Zamore

RECREATION

If you like to spend time outdoors, there's plenty to do in Guilford year round, from hiking to biking to snow sports. The Guilford Recreation Commission collaborates with other community organizations to offer engaging, inclusive recreational opportunities designed to meet the needs of our neighbors who live here with us.

To find out about things like yoga classes, tai chi, walking groups, and special events and festivals, visit the Guilford Recreation Commission's website: guilfordvt.gov/guilford-recreation. For a detailed Guilford recreation location map click this link: guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/REC-RESOURCE-MAP-2025.pdf

KEY

pavilion(s)	fishing	hunting	skiing	snowmobiling	camping
picnic table(s)	hiking	scenic views	snowshoeing	baseball	canoeing
cabin(s)	bycycling	horseback riding	swimming	tennis	ice skating

photo: Amber Hunt

PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS

GUILFORD FAIRGROUNDS

Located on Fairground Road off Weatherhead Hollow Road, and best known for hosting the annual Guilford Fair, the fairgrounds are owned by the Guilford Fair Association. All Guilford citizens are considered members of the Fair Association, and the grounds and buildings can be rented for special occasions. Contact David Franklin at 802.254.2228 to make arrangements.

WHITTEMORE PARK

Adjacent to the Guilford Fairgrounds on Weatherhead Hollow Road, this nine-acre park is owned and maintained by the Guilford Recreation Club. (All Guilford residents are considered members of this club.) The park includes the following recreational resources, which are available for use by members on a first-come, first-served basis:

- Tennis and pickleball court (access is requested)
- Baseball field (contact Maggie Foley at maggiejfoley@gmail.com to reserve for team practices and games)
- Basketball court
- Picnic shelter and table
- Nature trail
- Log cabin with bunk beds for eight, wood heat, gas stove, and lights (contact Chris Denette at chris195743@yahoo.com for reservations and access to the cabin)

GUILFORD CENTER VILLAGE NATURAL PLAYSCAPE

Located at 70 Carpenter Hill Road near the Guilford Free Library, the Natural Playscape is a community-led endeavor that transformed a vacant lot into an enriching playspace for children, families, and community members. It offers:

- Picnic tables and a gazebo
- A level, looped nature trail
- Raised garden beds for community gardening, plus berry bushes and a compost bin
- Splashing and wading in the Broad Brook
- A children's slide
- A Little Free Pantry to share non-perishable food items, personal care items, and fresh summer produce

GUILFORD COMMUNITY PARK

At 24 Church Drive, off Bee Barn Road in Algiers Village, just south of the Guilford Country Store on Route 5, the Guilford Community Park sits next to the Guilford Community Church. In addition to ample onsite parking, there's a pathway from the Guilford Country Store parking lot through the wetlands directly to the park. The park is open to the public daily for picnics, meditation, or a walk around the labyrinth, and also available to rent for larger parties or gatherings. Information at guilfordcommunitypark.org. Park resources include:

- Timber frame pavilion
- Walking labyrinth
- Playing field (~120×80')
- Half basketball court (22×30')
- Playground
- Frisbee golf
- Fire pit

Guilford Community Park boasts a beautiful timber frame pavilion. Photo: Dwayne Johnson

WEEKS MEMORIAL FOREST

Andrew G. Weeks Memorial Forest off Carpenter Hill Road, just across the street from a historic one-room schoolhouse and close to the Playscape, consists of 171 acres gifted in 1992 by Reed and Barbara Anthony to the New England Forest Foundation and the Vermont Land Trust in memory of Andrew G. Weeks. The lovely Carriage Trail, lined with sugar maples, follows the brook and is suitable for all ages and hiking abilities.

Another trail located across the brook is best for experienced hikers. This trail, traversing a sizable area that has been logged, offers great opportunities for wildlife viewing. A map of the Carriage Trail at Weeks Memorial Forest is available at the trailhead or via download at guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Weeks-Forest-Carriage-Trail-Map-2017.pdf. This map is also available on Trailfinder.

FORT DUMMER STATE PARK

While located in parts of all three towns of Guilford, Vernon, and Brattleboro, Fort Dummer State Park is accessed from Old Guilford Road in Brattleboro. This 217-acre park has a campground with 50 tent/trailer sites and 10 lean-to sites, a picnic area, hiking trails, swimming hole, and a large open field. It's open for camping from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend and for hiking and other activities from dawn to dusk throughout the year.

A park map and guide are available at vtstateparks.com/fortdummer.html and at the entrance to the park. An entrance fee is charged from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Guilford residents can get a free day-pass to the park at the Town Clerk's office.

GUILFORD RECREATION RESOURCE MAP

Handy guide to the hot spots!
guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/REC-RESOURCE-MAP-2025.pdf

SWEET POND STATE PARK

This 100-acre state park in Guilford, on Sweet Pond Road, offers a quiet 1.3-mile woodland trail as well as paddling and swimming from the dam. A park guide is available at fpr.vermont.gov/sweet-pond-state-park.

WEATHERHEAD HOLLOW POND

A great place to swim and kayak, this 33-acre pond, completed in 1965, is maintained by the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife. It includes a fishing and boating access area, where motorized boating (e.g., bass boats) is permitted.

ROARING BROOK WILDLIFE AREA

This 1,401-acre Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in the towns of Guilford and Vernon (but accessible only from the Vernon side) is managed by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. It's open to regulated hunting, fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing. A map and guide are available at fpr.vermont.gov/roaring-brook-wildlife-management-area.

photo: Rachel Boettcher

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BIKING

Although many roads in Guilford offer pleasant cycling, the following roads are relatively level and have little or moderate traffic and prove popular spots for cyclists.

- Ashworth Road (unimproved)
- Green River Road (unpaved)
- River Road (unpaved)
- Weatherhead Hollow Road (paved, but no shoulders)

Note that the Guilford Free Library offers eBike rentals!

CAMPING

Camping facilities are found at:

- Fort Dummer State Park (tent/trailer sites and lean-tos)
- Whittemore Park (log cabin)

DOWNHILL SKIING

While Guilford does not have any downhill ski areas in town, there are plenty of nearby options, and downhill skiing is a very popular recreational activity for many Guilford residents and visitors.

Brattleboro Ski Hill at Memorial Park in Brattleboro is a local favorite—a volunteer-run T-bar where anyone can ski for a $5 ticket. Guilford Central School kids who choose "downhill skiing" for their Winter Activity ski here every Friday for several weeks a year! More information on hours and conditions, which change all the time, can be found at brattski.org.

Also within an hour's drive of Guilford are the following ski areas:

- Mount Snow mountsnow.com
- Berkshire East berkshireeast.com
- Stratton Mountain stratton.com
- Magic Mountain magicmtn.com

GUILFORD RECREATION RESOURCE MAP

Find it here!
guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/REC-RESOURCE-MAP-2025.pdf

FISHING

A fishing license is required for those over 14 years old. Licenses are available at the Guilford Town Clerk's office, the Guilford Country Store, and online. For more information, visit vtfishandwildlife.com or call Vermont Fish & Wildlife at 802.828.1190.

Guilford's favorite fishing spots are:

- Green River and its tributaries
- Weatherhead Hollow Pond
- Sweet Pond
- Broad Brook

HIKING AND TRAILS

The following trails in Guilford are marked:

- Guilford School Nature Trail, built by Guilford Central School students, located on private land—but Guilford citizens are permitted to walk the trail during school hours and when accompanied by a student.
- Sweet Pond State Park's one-mile trail
- Fort Dummer State Park trails
- Weeks Memorial Forest's Carriage Trail
- Green River Meadows Trail in Green River, a one-mile walking trail, located on 17 acres of conserved land, with public access to the Green River.

The following old roads, although not marked with trail signs, are easily followed:

- Bullock Road to Guilford Center
- Ashworth Road

A map of Guilford's legal trails is available at: guilfordvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/trails.pdf

You can help expand, maintain, and reclaim Guilford's trail network by joining the Trails Committee (email jeannettetokarzpc@gmail.com).

HORSEBACK RIDING

Many of Guilford's unpaved roads, old roads, and hiking trails may be used for horseback riding.

Stables and riding instruction are available via:

- Heidi Potter, Holistic Horsemanship New England Center for Horsemanship, 761 Weatherhead Hollow Rd. heidipotter.com
- Southmowing Stables, 3725 Hinesburg Rd. facebook.com/southmowing

VT HUNTING SEASONS

In Vermont, there are specific seasons for hunting wild animals — and specific dates for hunting using archery, shotguns, and muzzleloaders. There are also "youth and novice weekends" for hunting deer and turkey. Visit the VT Fish and Wildlife website for details.

vtfishandwildlife.com/hunt/hunting-and-trapping-seasons

HUNTING

A hunting license is required in Guilford. More information is available at vtfishandwildlife.com or call Vermont Fish & Wildlife at 802.828.1190.

Rifle, pistol, and archery education and practice is available at Sportsmen Inc., which operates a shooting range at 2081 Creamery Road. Sportsmen Inc. promotes responsible fishing, hunting, trapping, archery, and the outdoors to anyone with an interest in wildlife and their habitat. More information on Facebook: facebook.com/people/Sportsmen-Inc/100064719757811

ICE SKATING

Although Guilford does not maintain an official skating area, favorable conditions (very cold nights, no snow) often offer good skating at:

- Sweet Pond
- Weatherhead Hollow Pond

PADDLING

Non-motorized boating is permitted on:

- Sweet Pond
- Weatherhead Hollow Pond
- Green River (seasonal canoeing and kayaking)

The nearby Connecticut and West Rivers also offer excellent canoeing and kayaking.

PICNICKING

Quiet picnic spots are abundant throughout town:

- Fort Dummer State Park
- Sweet Pond State Park
- Weatherhead Hollow Pond
- Whittemore Park
- Guilford Community Park
- Guilford Natural Playscape

SNOWMOBILING

The Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) trails in Guilford are maintained by the Guilford Pitstoppers. Many trails cross private land with permission granted for use only during the snow season (and only by VAST members). They are not open to ATVs, four-wheelers, motor or mountain bikes, hiking, horseback riding, or other uses, unless authorized by landowners.

The Guilford Pitstoppers can be found on Facebook: facebook.com/p/Guilford-Pittstoppers-100077587869383

More info on VAST trails: vtvast.org

SNOWSHOEING AND CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Favorite sites include:

- Guilford's hiking trails and old (Class 4) roads
- Sweet Pond State Park's one-mile trail

The Guilford Free Library rents snowshoes, and the Guilford Recreation Commission rents downhill (Nordic) skis for children: guilfordvt.gov/sports

SPORTS

Whittemore Park has a baseball diamond, a basketball court, and tennis and pickleball courts. See guilfordvt.gov/sports for information.

SWIMMING

Favorite swimming spots include:

The Green River Dam, a National Historic Site maintained by the Green River Village Preservation Trust—swimming is open to all Guilford residents in the millpond above and the pools below the dam

- Sweet Pond—the best access is at the dam
- Broad Brook swimming hole on Broad Brook Road, east of Route 5

WILDLIFE VIEWING

Two favorite sites are:

- Roaring Brook Wildlife Management Area
- Weeks Memorial Forest

ARTS AND CULTURE

You can hardly turn around in Guilford without encountering someone involved in local art and culture—as a practitioner, a volunteer, a fan, or all three.

In addition to its creative population of individual artists, Guilford is home to a number of arts organizations that provide entertainment and enlightenment to local and widespread audiences. Among these are musical venues and happenings, country dances, art and craft exhibits, agricultural fairs, holiday celebrations, and a popup "university" whose teachers are local volunteers with interests to share.

Guilford has several thriving gathering places—the Guilford Country Store, the Guilford Free Library, Broad Brook Community Center, the Historical Society, and local churches—all of which offer public events and community-building opportunities. This section of our Guilford Guide is only a brief glimpse at the incredible cultural resources and events in this town.

photo: Joslyn McIntyre

THE FRIENDS OF THE GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Guilford Free Library work to support the Library Director and the Board of Trustees through fundraising, volunteerism, and advocating for the library's programs, such as fundraiser/raffle events to support the free summer camp. They meet three times a year (often via Zoom) on a Saturday morning and are always looking for new folks to join.

guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

LIBRARIES

GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

Since 1891 the Guilford Free Library has resided in a charming white clapboard building on Guilford Center Road. Its footprint is small, but the library's mission and programs extend well beyond its historic walls, as befits an organization committed to serving the community of Guilford, free of charge and open to all.

The library's collection offers both onsite and online resources, as well as all the materials available from the Vermont Department of Libraries. In addition, you can venture out into snowy woods courtesy of snowshoes lent out as part of the winter gear loan program, or explore Guilford's country roads on an ebike rental. Courtesy of free summer camps at the library, Guilford children wade in streams, kick soccer balls, and perform on stage. The Library's free passes to State Parks also give residents the chance to experience the natural beauty of our great little state. Check the library's hours and events on the website at guilfordfreelibraryvt.org.

FREE LITTLE LIBRARIES

Bring a book, take a book! Little Free Libraries are located in front of the Guilford Country Store, at the intersection of Guilford Center and Weatherhead Hollow Roads, and at Briggs Road and Lee Road. There's also a Little Free Library for children's books called Tater Tales, located on Tater Lane just past the split with Creamery Road.

MUSIC

FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT GUILFORD

Friends of Music at Guilford (FOMAG) began in 1966 with an organ recital in a rural barn. They later took ownership of that antique organ and have been presenting concerts ever since. FOMAG is dedicated to the great tradition of amateur performance—music performed for the love of it. Skilled amateurs and volunteer professionals serve as the musicians. Events are mostly admission by donation, to keep finances from being a barrier, including the Labor Day Weekend Festival (organ in the barn and outdoor orchestra), Community Messiah Sing, Christmas concerts, and A Cappella à la Carte in June. Periodically, FOMAG presents guest artist concerts and stage music projects. Most events are held in Guilford venues such as Christ Church and Broad Brook Community Center.

FOMAG invites local Guilford neighbors (and their far-flung friends) to participate in and attend events and support the organization through door donations, tickets, and memberships. You can find FOMAG on Facebook at FriendsOfMusicAtGuilford, email office@fomag.org, or call 802.254.3600.

SHARED COMMUNITY SPACES

THE BROAD BROOK COMMUNITY CENTER

The recently renovated Broad Brook Community Center (BBCC) is located in Guilford Center and housed in the historic Broad Brook Grange building. The Community Center hosts monthly contra dances, Balfolk dances, art exhibits, potluck suppers, a local food hub and food pantry, Father's and Mother's Day brunches*, community Thanksgiving*, an annual Sugar on Snow Supper*, tai chi classes, commission and civic functions, senior support groups, and more. The building is also available for rent for private functions, pop-up dinners, weddings, and celebrations, and offers a reduced rate for Guilford residents to rent.

** Though they happen at the BBCC, starred functions are officially hosted by the Grange organization, original owner of the BBCC building.*

GUILFORD COUNTRY STORE

Guilford Country Store, located on Route 5 at the junction of Guilford Center Road, is a grocery store, gift shop, and cafe offering delicious soups, sandwiches, pastries, beverages, take-out meals, and more, with dining spaces indoors and outside in warm weather. The store hosts events such as the monthly "Wine Tasting Friends" and "Sip and Paint," samples from area businesses, and occasional live music. They also offer catering for local events. Stop by the store to find out more! facebook.com/guilfordcountrystorevt

GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

Hot dog roasts, Halloween events, concerts at the Guilford Fairgrounds, book groups, small group meetings and lessons—there's always something happening at the Guilford Free Library. guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

GET INVOLVED

Stopping by the **Broad Brook Community Center** for events or volunteering with the organization is a great way to make new friends and get involved in the town in a fun and collaborative way. To learn more, visit broadbrookcommunitycenter.org and sign up for the monthly newsletter, or email broadbrookcc@gmail.com.

PERFORMING ARTS

GUILFORD CENTER STAGE

Most theater groups are launched to fulfill a desire to present plays; then the group finds a venue. Guilford Center Stage reversed that sequence. It was founded, in 2015, to make use of the mostly empty stage at what was then Broad Brook Grange, the only theater space in Guilford. Laura Lawson Tucker and Don McLean started by coming up with the name, a little play on words suggesting the theatrical term "center stage" (and the location in the village of Guilford Center). Next, they asked the Grange organization to sponsor it. Then they came up with the actual plays, and a mission:

> *This community theater project is "place-based," celebrating the work of Guilford playwrights (Michael Nethercott, Verandah Porche, John Carroll) and other Vermonters (Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Sinclair Lewis, Marc Considine) and even reviving a century-old play by Charles Henry, born in Guilford in 1850, who painted the scenic curtains that have hung on the stage for over a century. The Grange organization continues to sponsor Guilford Center Stage as the building has become Broad Brook Community Center. Typically there are two productions a year, which include actors from Guilford and other area towns. Most productions have open auditions for those interested in being on stage or backstage. In addition to the founding members, the group is guided by an advisory board.*

Contact Laura at 802.257.7024 or Don at don.inscape@gmail.com and visit facebook.com/GuilfordCenterStage.

LOCAL HISTORY

THE GUILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Formed in 1972, the Guilford Historical Society is a nonprofit all-volunteer organization whose purpose is to house, store, and display historic articles and ephemera recording life in the Town of Guilford from pre-colonial times to the present. Its museum occupies a town-owned building (the 200-year-old Town Hall) located across the street from the Old Universalist Church (built in 1837), now known as the Guilford Center Meeting House.

Several programs are planned throughout the public open season of the museum from June to October each year. The museum is closed in the winter. The Historical Society owns and is charged with maintaining two local buildings: the Guilford Center Meeting House (in Guilford Center, with the bell tower) and the old one-room schoolhouse located on Carpenter Road near Guilford Center. The Guilford Center Meeting House can be publicly rented for various events and seats about 200 people. The one-room schoolhouse is open to the public at various times during the summer season.

The Guilford Historical Society is composed of and run by a twelve-member Trustee Board. All Trustees are active working historians. (There is no curator for the museum.) You can contact the Historical Society at info@guilfordhistory.org or by sending mail to 236 School Road, Guilford, VT 05301. Follow the Historical Society on FaceBook at facebook.com/guilfordhistoricalsocietyvt, visit the website at guilfordhistorical.org, or follow the Instagram page at instagram.com/guilfordhistory. All are welcome to visit the museum during open hours, which are periodically posted on the website.

photo: Michelle Frehsee

THE KOPKIND COLONY

The Kopkind Colony is a nonprofit educational project in Guilford that brings together people from across the region, country, and world for small-group summer seminar and retreat sessions, and hosts open public lectures and film screenings in Guilford and Brattleboro. Founded in 1998, Kopkind is a living memorial to Andrew Kopkind, eulogized as "the greatest radical journalist of his time," who, with his life partner, filmmaker John Scagliotti, spent 25 summers at Tree Frog Farm in Guilford until his death in 1994.

Andy's writing was known for its astute analysis, gorgeous style, and a sensibility at once personal, generational, and worldly, which he brought to bear in chronicling the movements of the sixties, the seismic force of gay liberation, and the dialectic of action and reaction embedded in current events. The Kopkind Colony, based at Tree Frog Farm, embodies Andy's spirit of thinking deeply, living expressively, and gathering people across generations. Its seminars and retreats include sessions for young journalists and activists and a filmmaking workshop in collaboration with the Center for Independent Documentary.

Kopkind's public events include a program of LGBTQ short films called CineSlam, held annually during Brattleboro's Pride Week in June: cineslam.com. In July and August, Kopkind hosts free public, participatory movies and talks. Those, as well as its fundraising events, also open to the public, are advertised in the calendar sections of *The Commons*, *Brattleboro Reformer*, and at kopkind.org. Past events featured Grace Paley, Robin D.G. Kelley, Patricia Williams, Debra Chasnoff, Eddie Glaude, Tariq Ali, and Laura Flanders, to name a few.

MONTEVERDI ARTISTS COLLABORATIVE

Founded in 1969, the Monteverdi Artists Collaborative (MAC) is an educational nonprofit established to encourage and assist the practice of the fine and performing arts in the state of Vermont and to provide shelter and resources to artists, including full-time residencies. As such, MAC serves as a vital exchange and unifying catalyst for artists residing in or visiting the state. MAC owns the land of the original commune featured in the movie *Far Out*. Artists continue to live here: Mark Fenwick, the wood sculptor; Mac Christopher, a prizewinning filmmaker; Verandah Porche, poet; and others who work in the arts and healing. Monteverdi hosts readings and receptions and incubates literary and musical projects.

verandahporche@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW?

TOWN HISTORY

The town of Guilford was chartered in 1754 and was at the center of significant historical conflict with New York, New Hampshire, and Britain, as well as those Guilfordites not in favor of joining the formation of the State of Vermont. It was, at one time, the most populated town in Vermont.

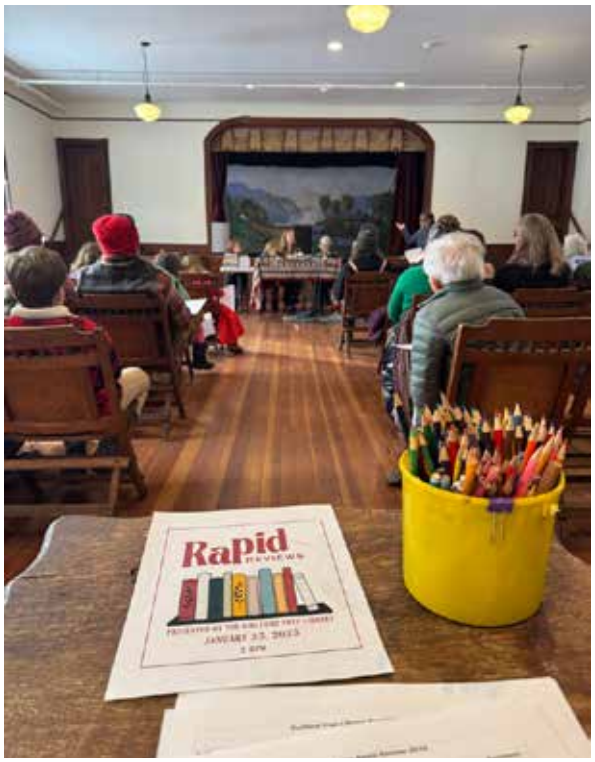


photo: Joslyn McIntyre

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Guilford has three churches, only one of which, Guilford Community Church, currently offers services to a regular congregation.

GUILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

38 Church Dr. (in Algiers Village)
802.257.0994
guilfordchurch.org

Guilford Community Church (GCC), a member church of the United Church of Christ, truly resonates with the idea that God is still speaking. We place a high value on being welcoming and inclusive, nurturing children and youth, and sharing the joy of music. We are committed to advocating for oppressed peoples and to the ethical use of environmental resources. Worship services are Sundays at 10 am and are broadcast on BCTV for those who can't join us in person.

GCC has been entwined with the community of Guilford since it began as a Congregational church in the late 1760s, when the town was just a couple decades old. The first church meeting house was built on Cemetery Hill Road in 1773. The building we call home today was built on Route 5 in 1856. In 1994, it was moved to its current location and expanded.

photo of Christ Church: Margie Serkin

CHRIST CHURCH

Melendy Hill Rd. and US5, Algiers Village

christchurchguilfordsociety.org

The Christ Church Guilford Society, Inc., a federally-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit, was formed to care for and preserve the historic 1817 church structure. The Society's Board of Directors, composed of dedicated volunteers from Guilford and the surrounding area, seeks to make the building and its grounds available to the community for a variety of educational, cultural, religious, and social justice events and initiatives.

Christ Church Guilford Society takes seriously our commitment not only to our beautiful physical space but also to the goal of raising awareness of the land and the Native peoples who have tended this land long before white European settlement; we are grateful that members of the Abenaki "People of the Dawn" tribe are still our neighbors.

GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY CHURCH

Green River Village

greenrivervillage.org

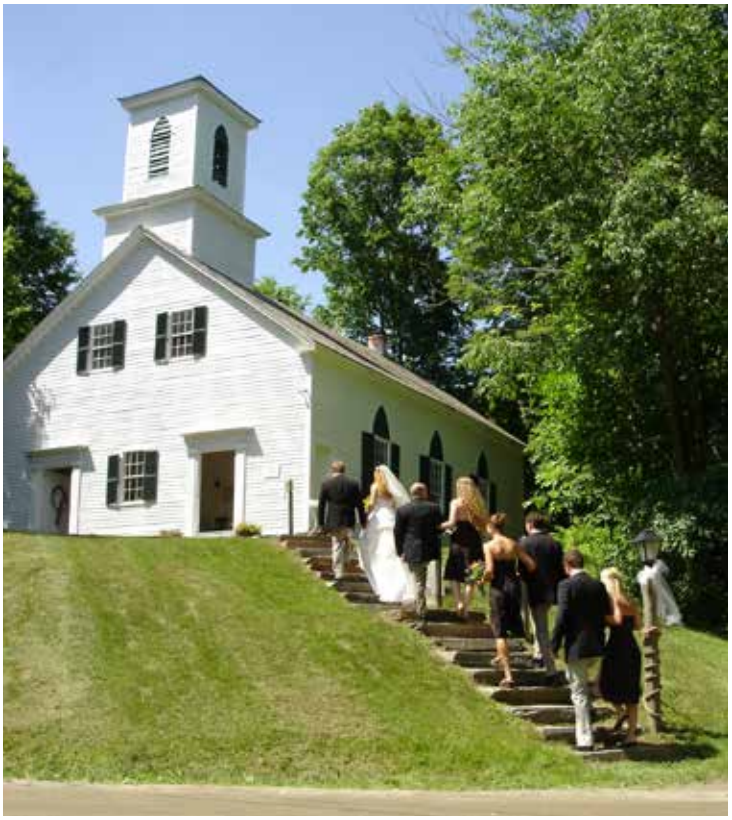
802.254.2924

Green River Community Church, constructed in 1838, anchors a trio of historic buildings and structures at the core of Green River Village, including the Timber Crib Dam and Green River Covered Bridge. Located in Green River Village, the church was built in 1838 by the Methodist–Episcopal Society and abandoned in 1925. The church is now owned and maintained by the Green River Village Preservation Trust. It is currently used for an annual Carol Sing on the last Sunday before Christmas, and is available for weddings and special occasions from May to October.

PLACES TO WORSHIP IN GREATER BRATTLEBORO

From Agape to Zen Buddhism, there are many other churches, synagogues, houses of worship, and meditation centers in the greater Brattleboro area. Some are easy to find with a Google search; others require deeper investigation.

Guilford Community Church. Photo: Dwayne Johnson



Wedding at the Green River Community Church. Photo: Lois Pancake

EMERGENCY RESOURCES

Despite its rural setting, Guilford has dependable access to excellent healthcare and emergency services. Here's what resources are available and who to call in an emergency.

EMERGENCY? CALL 9-1-1

As always, if you have or see any kind of general emergency, call 9-1-1 immediately. That includes fires, accidents, crimes in progress, medical emergencies, suspected overdoses, domestic abuse and disturbances, natural disasters in the making, and downed power lines.

If you wish to report an issue such as a downed tree on a road, call the Guilford Town Garage at 802-254-2755, Monday–Friday between 7am and 4pm and leave your message. If after hours or the weekend, leave a message at the Town Garage, then call 9-1-1 and report the situation.

The State Police have contact numbers for the road crew and Town officials and after assessing the emergency nature of the situation they will work with their contacts to solve the issue.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Guilford does not employ a police force. The Vermont State Police and Windham County Sheriff's Department provide primary policing services. vsp.vermont.gov windhamcountyvt.gov

VERMONT STATE POLICE (VSP)

The VSP in Westminster serves the Town of Guilford. VSP officers patrol state highways and Guilford roads and enforce the laws of Vermont. Officers at the barracks can also help with community services such as installing child car seats, registering alarms for homes and businesses, issuing assembly permits for events of more than two thousand people, and issuing explosives licenses.

1330 Westminster Heights Rd., Westminster, VT 05346
Non-emergency phone number: 802.722.4600

WINDHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Windham County Sheriff's Office provides supplemental law enforcement services to the town. At the request of the town, and for a fee, deputies can provide patrols and police presence and offer security and traffic control for events.

185 Old Ferry Rd., Brattleboro, VT 05301
For emergencies call 9-1-1
Non-emergency phone number: 802.365.4942

WINDHAM COUNTY SHERIFF ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The Windham County Sheriff's office provides animal control services to the Town of Guilford and can be contacted for non-emergency problems.

Non-emergency phone number: 802.365.4942
For emergencies: Call 9-1-1

THE GUILFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (GVFD)

The GVFD responds to fires and medical emergencies in Guilford. On average, the department responds to over 300 calls annually. Through the Tri-State system of mutual aid, all nearby towns assist each other as needed. The Fire Department meets for training at the fire station on Tuesday nights. The department welcomes new members. If interested in volunteering, call 802.254.4413 (non-emergency).

108 Guilford Center Rd., Guilford, VT 05301
Non-emergency phone number: 802.254.4413
For emergencies: Call 9-1-1

DID YOU KNOW?

HOME ADDRESSES MATTER!

Guilford has a maze of rural roads. When a 911 call comes into the regional dispatch center, a major challenge for first responders is finding the right house. Each house in Guilford is assigned an enhanced E911 number. This automatically provides the caller's physical location to 911 dispatchers. In addition, it's critically important for residents to post large numbers on their property that are clearly visible from the road. If you don't have these in place, head to the hardware store and post your numbers today!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES: CALL 2-1-1

Vermont 211 is a free, confidential information and referral program of the United Way of Vermont. One call to 2-1-1 can connect you with a wide range of community, health, and human resources and services.

HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS: CALL 5-1-1

5-1-1 is a free three-digit phone number that provides travel information in the U.S. and Canada. Search 5-1-1 online for local travel conditions and maps.

FIRE WARDEN AND BURN PERMITS

The Guilford Town Fire Warden is charged with preventing and managing wildfires, which can be a serious threat to life and property. Prior to beginning any private burn, you must request and receive a burn permit. If you need a burn permit, are concerned about a potential wildfire, or want to know the current fire risk, call the fire warden at 802.254.1688.

VERMONT ALERT

VT Alert is a free statewide notification system for general emergencies, Amber Alerts, severe weather and road conditions, and even local town notifications.

Sign up at vem.vermont.gov/vtalert for free and choose to receive alerts via text, email, mobile phone, home phone, and TTY/TDD services. If you need assistance signing up, contact the Guilford Town Office.

RESCUE & AMBULANCE SERVICES

RESCUE INC.

Rescue Inc. provides paramedic-level coverage and 911 ambulance coverage to Guilford, 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year (24/7/365). Headquartered in Brattleboro, the station maintains a fleet of paramedic-equipped ambulances as well as swiftwater rescue boats. It's staffed by professional paramedics and EMTs and equipped to handle everything from routine calls to mass casualty incidents. Through their Vermont EMS Academy, Rescue Inc. also provides CPR and emergency medical training to hundreds of volunteers and medical professionals annually. Rescue Inc. bills insurers and charges users the co-pay. They have a sliding-scale fee for those who are uninsured. They also offer a subscription membership; call for details.
rescueinc.org

541 Canal St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
Non-emergency number: 802.257.7679
For emergencies: Call 9-1-1

PROVIDER COLLABORATION

Other local organizations, such as the Guilford Volunteer Fire Department, work with Rescue Inc. to respond to calls and provide backup emergency and rescue services for calls in Guilford. The Guilford Volunteer Fire Department also assists with backcountry rescues and maintains a swiftwater rescue team and equipment to respond to river and water emergencies.

TRAUMA ASSISTANCE

When requested by local responders, the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Advance Response Team (DHART) provides helicopter transport and medical care for critical trauma cases. Patients are transported to Dartmouth's Level 1 Trauma Facility in Hanover, NH.

NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE

Natural hazards are increasingly frequent and severe in Vermont. Flooding and erosion are the most common hazards, followed by wind and ice storms, but any natural disaster can present a threat to life and property. Guilford plans extensively for natural emergencies of all types.

Guilford has two Co-Emergency Management Directors and an Emergency Management Committee. This group maintains and follows a local Emergency Management Plan with set procedures for dealing with many types of events or problems, including a formal incident chain of command.

GUILFORD'S NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT HUBS

The Guilford Emergency Management Committee advises residents to take one of the most important steps to survive a disaster: get to know your neighbors. Research shows that the people most likely to survive and recover quickly from any disaster have strong social and communication networks. Based on this research, Guilford's Emergency Management Directors have divided Guilford into 12 Emergency Management Hubs or neighborhoods. Each Hub has an assigned Hub manager who lives in the neighborhood and is equipped with a technically sophisticated radio that can communicate with the local fire department, road crew and other emergency personnel even when the power, phones and internet are all out. During an emergency event, Hub managers will do their best to share general disaster communication among their neighbors and assist any vulnerable individuals with getting special medical or other unique needs. Contact the Guilford Town Office for the name and contact information of your Neighborhood Hub manager.

EMERGENCY SHELTERS

The Guilford Emergency Management volunteers are currently working toward an agreement with the Broad Brook Community Center (BBCC) to serve as an emergency shelter in case of need. It is possible that Guilford Central School will serve as a backup. Both are ADA accessible. Contact your local Emergency Hub Manager (p. 71) or Guilford Cares (p. 75) for information about what to do during an emergency. Alternatively, contact the Town Office at 802.257.6857 to see which shelters are open.

HOSPITALS & AREA HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

There are many medical providers and facilities in the immediate Guilford area and a wide variety of specialists within an hour's drive. We can't begin to list them all here, but to find services, providers and locations contact:

- Brattleboro Memorial Hospital (bmhvt.org)
- Your primary care physician
- An online directory
- Neighbors and friends for recommendations

You can also visit healthvermont.gov/systems/health-professionals to look up primary care physicians, dental, eyecare, and other area providers.

HEALTH CARE AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

HCRS is a community mental health agency serving Guilford and all of Windham County from its office in Brattleboro. It offers services to children, families, and adults with mental health issues, substance abuse problems, developmental disabilities, and more:

HCRS, 51 Fairview St., Brattleboro, VT 05301
Non-emergency number: 855.220.9428
24-hour HCRS emergency line: 800.822.4235

SAFELINE

This nonprofit organization provides free, confidential services to victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. It provides crisis support, safety planning, legal advocacy, economic empowerment, financial management, and day shelter services.

safelinevt.org | 802.685.7900
24/7 HOTLINE: 800-NEWSAFE (800.639.7233)

DID YOU KNOW?

BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING — AND KNOW THY NEIGHBOR

In any emergency, you and your neighbors are your first line of defense. To plan and prepare yourself and your family for any emergency, Vermont Emergency Management offers free emergency-planning handbooks, resources, and templates for your family and neighborhood. Download these resources from Vermont Emergency Management's website: vem.Vermont.gov/preparedness.

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE

There are many organizations that can provide additional assistance and resources around health and health care, from help with the costs of insurance and medical care to assistance enforcing health codes and caring for family members. For more information search "health care assistance" online.

CALL 2-1-1

Vermont 211 is a free, confidential, information and referral program of the United Way of Vermont. One call to 2-1-1 can connect you with a wide range of community, health and human resources and services.

CALL 8-1-1 FOR DIG SAFE

Vermont law quires notification to Dig Safe (8-1-1) at least 48 hours before excavating on public or private property, rights of way, and easements. Dig Safe is a free service available to anyone who is planning a small or large digging project and needs to know the location of underground utilities, pipes, etc. This law applies to excavators, utility operators, and individual homeowners.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering can be life-changing! Whether you're new to town or a longtime resident, volunteering is a great way to serve your community while making new friends and learning new skills. In fact, volunteers are a big part of what make Guilford such a good place to live.

Throughout this guide, you may have noticed this icon pointing out opportunities to volunteer within our community. Here is a comprehensive list, in one place.

If your nonprofit organization has opportunities for community service and you'd like them listed in a future version of this guide, please contact rick.zamore@gmail.com.

ORGANIZATIONS AROUND GUILFORD

BROAD BROOK COMMUNITY CENTER (BBCC)

Community members can organize, host, and help out at events and help maintain this thoroughly updated historic building.

broadbrookcc@gmail.com
broadbrookcommunitycenter.org

FRIENDS OF ALGIERS VILLAGE (FOAV)

FOAV owns and operates the nonprofit building housing the Guilford Country Store and other businesses.

board@friendsofalgiersvillage.org
friendsofalgiersvillage.org

FRIENDS OF THE GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

The Friends fundraise and support library activities.

guilfordfreelibraryvt.org/be-involved

FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT GUILFORD (FOMAG)

This long-term organization organizes and hosts several choral and orchestral concerts annually.

802.254.3600
office@fomag.org
facebook.com/FriendsOfMusicAtGuilford

THE GREEN RIVER VILLAGE PRESERVATION TRUST

For over 25 years, the non-profit GRVPT has been dedicated to the preservation and sharing of the historical, physical, and community resources of Green River Village and the surrounding area.

802.254.2924 | greenrivervillage.org

GUILFORD CARES

A local organization offering support, rides, and activities for seniors, as well as medical equipment available to borrow at no charge.

802.579.1350
guilfordcaresvt@gmail.com | guilfordcares.com

GUILFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL

Volunteers needed to organize and chaperone after-school activities, sports, and field trips (all volunteers must pass a background check).

892.254.2271
guilfordcentralschool.org

GUILFORD CENTER STAGE

Seeks actors as well as volunteers to help with set design and construction, lighting, publicity, etc., for two or three productions annually.

802.257.7024
don.inscape@gmail.com
facebook.com/GuilfordCenterStage

GUILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

802.257.0994
guilfordchurch.org

GUILFORD COMMUNITY PARK

A pavilion, labyrinth, and green space available for public recreation and private events.

guilfordcommunitypark.org

GUILFORD FAIR ASSOCIATION

A mammoth, two-day fair over Labor Day weekend featuring exhibits, animals, live music, and many scheduled events—everything is done by volunteers!

802.254.2228
guilfordfairvermont.com

GUILFORD FOOD PANTRY

A program of Guilford Cares, with a weekly distribution of free food to individuals and families in need.

802.257.0626

GUILFORD GAZETTE

Writers, editors, production help, and advertising assistants welcome for this volunteer-run newspaper, mailed to every Guilford household four times a year.

gazettevt@gmail.com

GUILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Caring for the historic museum and its treasured contents, the Meeting House, and the brick schoolhouse, with occasional public events.

guilfordhistorical.org

GUILFORD PRESERVATION, INC (GPI)

This 25-acre parcel of pasture, woods, and wetland, just north of the Guilford Country Store on Route 5, is conserved in perpetuity by an easement held by the Vermont Land Trust, and invites intensive small-scale farmers and growers to make use of the pasture.

eastmandf@gmail.com

GUILFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (GVFD) & AUXILIARY

GVFD is a well-run and well-equipped volunteer fire department vital to community safety. The auxiliary supports the GVFD with events and fundraising.

gvfd90.org
facebook.com/GVFD90

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF SNOW TRAVELERS (VAST)

Maintains miles of snowmobile trails in Guilford.

facebook.com/p/Guilford-Pittstoppers-100077587869383/

GUILFORD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer directly for the Town of Guilford, through appointed or elected positions or by joining a committee. For more information on joining a committee or serving in one of the roles listed in the Town Government section of this guide, contact the Town Office at 802.254.6857.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Some Guilford traditions—like Sugar on Snow, Town Meeting, and the Guilford Fair—have lasted for decades if not centuries. Others, like the Holiday Craft Fair, are recent but destined for endurance. Below is a list of events that happen in Guilford every year.

JANUARY

- File petitions to run for elected offices and the Town Meeting Warning
- Election candidates are invited to submit a brief bio to the *Guilford Gazette*

FEBRUARY

- Pre-Town Meeting, sponsored by the Grange at BBCC (sometimes falls in March)

MARCH

- Town Meeting
- Elections
- Sugar on Snow Suppers at BBCC, Guilford Community Church, and the Fire House

APRIL

- Easter egg hunt at Guilford Community Church

MAY

- Green Up Day
- Mother's Day Breakfast hosted by the Grange at BBCC

JUNE

- Father's Day Breakfast hosted by the Grange at BBCC

JULY

- 4th of July Celebration

SEPTEMBER

- Guilford Food Hub potluck dinner at BBCC
- Labor Day Weekend Festival by FOMAG
- The Guilford Fair

OCTOBER

- Town taxes due
- Trunk or Treat
- Halloween in Guilford Center

NOVEMBER

- Community Thanksgiving at BBCC
- General election and mid-terms

DECEMBER

- Holiday craft fairs at BBCC and Guilford Community Church
- Carol Sing in Green River

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

FOR ANY TYPE OF EMERGENCY – DIAL 9-1-1

Fire Department:

- To report a fire dial 9-1-1
- Burning permits: 802.254.1688
- Non-emergency: 802.254.4413

Vermont State Police:

- To report an emergency dial 9-1-1
- Non-emergency: 802.722.4600

Windham County Sheriff:

- To report an emergency dial 9-1-1
- Non-emergency: 802.365.4942
- Animal Control Officer: 802.365.4942

Rescue Inc.:

- To report an emergency dial 9-1-1
- Non-emergency number: 802.257.7679

Hazardous road conditions: Dial 5-1-1
Community support services: 2-1-1

Town Office: 802.254.6857
Town Garage: 802.254.2755
Guilford Central School: 802.254.2271
Health Officer: 802.254.6857
Listers: 802.254.6857

DIGITAL TIP

WHAT'S GOING ON IN GUILFORD?

Click these calendar links for local weekly to annual events:

TOWN OF GUILFORD

GUILFORD RECREATION COMMISSION

BROAD BROOK COMMUNITY CENTER

GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY

FRONT PORCH FORUM

Town of Guilford
236 School Road
Guilford, VT 05301

guilfordvt.gov

Bulk Rate
U S Postage Paid
Brattleboro, VT
05301
Permit No. 103