




Winchester Weekly

Report from Winchester Town Manager, Lisa Wong

Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!


Town of Winchester
Thanksgiving 2020


Recommendations

	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
<p style="color: #8B4513; font-weight: bold;">Happy Thanksgiving Winchester!</p> <p style="color: #8B4513; font-weight: bold;">Safer At Home This Year</p> <p style="color: #8B4513; font-weight: bold;"><i>Indoor Covid Transmission is Real</i></p> <p style="color: #8B4513; font-weight: bold;">Looking Forward to November 2021!</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small dinner with people in household only Virtual dinner with extended family and friends Watching sports & parades at home with household members only Online "Black Friday" shopping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small OUTDOOR dinner with family and close friends Pumpkin patch/orchard (wear masks and use hand sanitizer!) Local outdoor sports event, race or parade with masks and social distancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INDOOR dinner with people who don't live with you Using alcohol or drugs (indoor or outdoor), which can impair judgment Crowded (or indoor) sports event, race or parade In person "Black Friday Shopping"
<small>Adapted from the CDC Thanksgiving guidelines: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#thanks </small>			

COVID UPDATES

Two companies have announced that they have vaccines that are nearing approval by the Food and Drug Administration. The town will share any information on distribution plans as they are developed.

Local Testing

The town is partnering with Armstrong Ambulance on local COVID testing.

Winchester Municipal Employee Only testing day on Dec 3 at the Jenks Center. This is FREE and limited to 270 registrants.

Winchester community testing day on Dec 6 at the Jenks. There will be a cost of \$66 per test and limited to 270 registrants.

Times TBD. Registration/payment links will be posted soon at www.winchester.us

SELECT BOARD

The next meeting will be Monday, Dec 7th at 7:30pm. Agenda and Zoom link will be posted at the Government Calendar link at www.winchester.us

SHOP LOCAL

The Chamber has announced 01890 Spirit Days in lieu of the past "Midnight Madness" events. winchester-chamber.com/01890-spirit-days/

TRANSFER STATION

The transfer station has announced changes to the following due to upcoming Holidays:
 Wed 11/25 - 8am-3pm
 Thur 12/24 - 8am-2pm
 Thur 12/31 - 8am-3pm

UPDATES - Winning Farm Affordable Units Now Available

The Town is announcing the sale of two units at Winning Farm to first time home buyers who meet the income requirements. Winning Farm is located on the west side of Winchester, near the Wright-Locke Farm and Vinson-Owen Elementary School, and is set on 13 acres surrounded by wooded conservation land.

These approximately 2,476 square feet three bedroom, two and one-half bath units each include a two-car attached garage and are listed for the below market price of \$294,000. The initial condo fee is \$140 per month and includes master insurance and a small reserve.

Winning Farm at Winchester is a 55+ development. The units being offered in this program do not need to meet the age requirements and residents of any age can reside in these units. Preference will be given to those who live or work in Winchester.

Applicants must be pre-approved for a 30-year, fixed rate mortgage no more than two percentage points above the current MassHousing rate, with no more than 2 points. Buyers may not pay more than 38% of their income for housing costs. Non-household members are not allowed to co-sign the mortgage. The mortgage pre-approval must be submitted as part of your application.

There will be one (1) Information Sessions during this period that will be held via Zoom on December 9th at 6:30pm. Please register here - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1g5N75OWSSqCpTo1tElp1A

Applications are **Due January 19, 2021, if mailed, postmarked by January 18, 2021**. Applications can be found at www.winchester.us or request an application by emailing Jennifer Cafarella. Submit to: Town Manager's Office, Town Hall, 2nd Floor, 71 Mount Vernon Street, Winchester, MA 01890, ATTN: Winchester FTHB Program via Housing Lottery. Direct questions to: 781-759-9747, Monday – Thursday from 9:00am – 2:00pm or jcafarella@winchester.us.

UPDATES - TRANSFER STATION FEES

The new fee schedule has been set for January to December 2021. Residents are highly encouraged to pay ONLINE at www.winchester.us/219/Online-Payments when the permits become available. Fees are:

Regular Permit - \$270 * SMART Program Permit - \$70 * Commercial Hauler Permit - \$270