Town of Charlemont September 2024 Newsletter



From the Board of Health

A reminder that a mosquito in Greenfield tested positive for West Nile Virus. Between dusk and dawn, you should wear long sleeve shirts and long pants use bug spray, preferably with Deet, if you must go outside during those hours. In addition, empty containers with water on your property. COVID: unfortunately, it is around and many in the area have caught it. It is recommended that if you go into a crowded building, such as a supermarket, that you wear a N95 or KN95 mask. We have those available if you need one. The federal government will make free test kits available sometime toward the end of September. To sign-up for them go to https://aspr.hhs.gov/covid-19/test/Pages/default.aspx. To contact the Board for masks or kits email boh@townofcharlemont.org or call 413-339-4335 ext. 6-2. The new COVID vaccine is available at local pharmacies. Those over 6 months are eligible. It is recommended that those who are immune compromised, those over 75, those with certain pre-existing health conditions, and those who are pregnant fall into a higher risk category should get the updated vaccine as soon as possible. If you have questions about if and when you should get one, contact your doctor's office or talk to a pharmacist.

In 2024, the Cooperative Public Health Service launched its Rural Communities Naloxone Cabinet Initiative, with the vision to increase public access to naloxone by distributing it through naloxone cabinets and working with community partners. Naloxone is the generic name for the medication Narcan. The main purpose of these cabinets is to be locations where community members can take free naloxone with them, with the intention that this will happen outside of times of emergency.

Charlemont is participating in the program and there is currently a cabinet at the back of Town Hall near the Library and Voting boxes.

It's National Preparedness Month!

What should you do in: an earthquake? a tornado? a flash flood? a power outage? Spend 10 minutes and talk with your whole family about what to do before, during, and after different types of emergencies and severe weather:

https://www.mass.gov/safety-tips-for-specific-threats-hazards

To get emergency notices go to the following website:

https://www.mass.gov/alerts

Are you signed up for the Charlemont Notification system?

To sign up contact administrator@townofcharlemont.org or call 413-339-4335

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Franklin County Solid Waste District will hold the 2024 household hazardous waste collection on Saturday, September 21 at Greenfield Community College (GCC) and the Orange Transfer Station.

Residents and businesses must pre-register by September 13th. Online pre-registration for the 2024 collection will open on August 14, at: franklincountywastedistrict.org. Mail-in registration forms will be available in mid-August at town transfer stations and in local newspapers.

Participants will be assigned an appointment time to bring waste to the collection; an appointment time and instructions will be provided by mail after registration is processed.

The collection is free for residents of most of the District's 21 member towns. Businesses may participate but must pay for disposal costs. For business registration information, call (413) 772-2438. This event provides an opportunity to dispose of hazardous items that should not be put in the trash, such as leftover oil-based paints, stains, thinners, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, motor oil, antifreeze, household cleaners, and other household chemicals. A more complete list of acceptable items is at: franklincountywastedistrict.org.

Batteries and mercury-containing items such as fluorescent light bulbs, thermometers, and thermostats are not accepted at this collection. These items, which may contain mercury or heavy metals, should never be put in trash or recycling. Handle them carefully, bring them to a municipal transfer station or a Regional Hazardous Waste "Super Site" and hand to the attendant. In addition, fluorescent light bulbs are accepted at Lowe's Stores (all types of fluorescents), and Home Depot (CFLs only).For more information visit: franklincountywastedistrict.org or contact the District at info@franklincountywastedistrict.org, (413) 772-2438. MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD). The District is an equal opportunity provider.

