



News From the Town Clerk

The Annual Town Election is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023, from noon to 7:00 P.M. at the Hawlemont Regional Elementary School. Voters may request a mail in ballot by filling out the vote by mail application found at the bottom of the Town Clerk page on the Town website and returning it to the Town Clerk. The last day to request a vote by mail ballot for this election is 5:00 P.M., Thursday May 18, 2023.

Mail in ballots are due back to the Town Clerk no later than 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday May 23, 2023. A sample ballot is posted to the Town website.

The last day to register to vote to be able to participate in both the May 23, 2023, election and in the Annual Local Town Meeting is Saturday, May 13, 2023. Special Registration sessions will be held at the Town Hall from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. and from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Contact Town Clerk Kathy Reynolds if you should have any questions. She may be reached at 413-339-4335 x 7 or by email at kathy.reynolds@townofcharlemont.org

Agricultural Commission Looking for Alternates.

The Agricultural Commission is looking for a few more members. See the description of the Commission below. If you are interested in joining the commission, please email selectboard@townofcharlemont.org.

Role: The Agricultural/Forestry Commission represents the Charlemont farming/forest community. Said commission serves as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture and forestry in the town both as a business and a resource, the preservation of farm and forest land, the promotion of natural resource-based farm and forestry economic opportunities, and the expression of planning needs and the visibility of farming and forestry in Charlemont. The commission consists of five members appointed by the Select Board. They shall serve staggered terms of three years each. Up to **three voting alternates** may also be appointed by the board, each for a one- year term. Vacancies shall be filled by the board.

News from the Transfer Station

SPRING 2023 "CLEAN SWEEP" BULKY WASTE RECYCLING DAY

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District is holding the Spring 2023 "Clean Sweep" Bulky Waste Recycling Day on Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. to noon. The three drop-off sites are:

Mohawk Trail Regional School at 26 Ashfield Rd. (Route 112 South); Northfield Highway Garage at 49 Caldwell Rd; and Whatley Transfer Station at 73 Christian Lane.

Residents from any District town may bring bulky items such as tires, appliances, scrap metal, furniture, carpeting, construction debris, computers, televisions, propane gas tanks, and other large items. Materials will be recycled whenever possible.

Mattresses and box springs will not be accepted at this event. In 2022, the Solid Waste District established five permanent drop off locations for mattress recycling across the county. See this webpage for locations, pricing and hours: franklincountywastedistrict.org/mattress-recycling. Call the District office at 413-772-2438 if you are unsure if your mattress and box spring can be recycled.

There are charges for most items. Disposal fees, cash only, will be collected during check-in at each site. A complete list of prices for the most common items is at: franklincountywastedistrict.org. The price list will also be provided to participating town halls and transfer stations. Residents and businesses do not need to pre-register for the collection.

Electronics are accepted at the event, but residents are also encouraged to recycle computer equipment and televisions at their town's transfer station, or at Greenfield Transfer Station. Staples stores accept computer equipment (no TVs) free of charge: call your local store for details.

Clean, dry textiles and books will be accepted for free reuse or recycling. Textiles must be contained inside a sturdy plastic bag. Textiles are now banned from the trash. Textile recycling accepts 95% of all textiles, including clothing or linens that are torn, stained, with missing buttons or broken zippers. Damaged textiles can be sold to manufacturers that make insulation or shop rags. Acceptable items include CLEAN & DRY clothing, shoes, and accessories; plus, curtains, sheets, towels and stuffed animals in any condition (except moldy or wet). Books can be in any condition (except moldy or wet) and can be hardcover or paperback. No encyclopedias.

Bulky Rigid Plastics will be collected separately for a special recycling program; \$5 per load. Acceptable items for this special recycling program are limited to these items only: 5-gallon pails, plastic lawn furniture, plastic trash barrels, recycling bins, laundry baskets, storage totes, and milk crates. Bulky rigid plastic items must be empty.

For more information, see franklincountywastedistrict.org, or contact the District office at info@franklincountywastedistrict.org or 413-772-2438. *MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD)*. The district is an equal opportunity provider.

Charlemont Blooms Flower Project 2023

In 2022, a Town-Wide Flower Project was undertaken by a small group of people who came to be known as "Charlemont Blooms". The positive feedback has been stunning! A 2023 project is in the planning stages... your involvement in one or several of the following ways truly helpful.

- * Live along Route 2 / Main Street? Plant a pot or two - (or garden), in a visible location, near the sidewalk
- * Adopt-a-Planter (or several) to water and tend throughout the season - this is an immensely helpful way of involving yourself (we cannot say enough!)
- * Donate to the cost - another *extremely helpful* way to support this wonderfully uplifting project (which so many get to enjoy); this support determines the project's scope and design. Can you help support with a donation? For information on how to donate contact Sarah Reynolds.

Such a beautiful way to celebrate the area in which we live. Your presence is so welcome as part of this! Thank you for your considerations.

Charlemont Blooms
Box 452
Charlemont, MA 01339