

# Town of Waterford, NY

65 Broad St.

Waterford, NY 12188

[www.town.waterford.ny.us](http://www.town.waterford.ny.us)



SPRING

# WATERFORD NEWS

2017



## Letter from the Supervisor



I am very proud of our Waterford community, especially when recognized by others as a great place to live. Recently, the Town was designated by the National Council for Home Safety and Security as the twelfth safest community out of 962 towns in New York State. Waterford has also been recognized this year as one of the top 500 towns and cities in the United States in which to enjoy the outdoors by Millennial Personal Finance. These recognitions are a true reflection of our culture in Waterford and I thank each and every one of you for making Waterford what it is, "A safe and happy place to live".

To continue moving Waterford in the right direction, the Town is working on updating our Comprehensive Plan. The current Comprehensive Plan was developed in 2002 and primarily focused on the Village. This new plan will focus on the Town of Waterford outside of the Village and will incorporate current trends and best practices for land use, zoning and planning. This plan will offer recommendations that will be a blueprint for the future development, growth and preservation of the Town. It is designed to guide not only the physical, environmental and economic development of the Town, but also addresses social and cultural resources. My sincere thanks to the volunteer committee for their diligent and hard work over the past 18 months to create the proposed plan. Check our Town Calendar for public meeting dates that will be held by the Town Board to discuss the plan. A copy of the draft plan is available for review at the Town Clerk's Office or at the Waterford Public Library. The draft plan can also be viewed on the Town's website.

With winter behind us and spring in full bloom, it's time to look forward to summer. The Town will again offer a wide variety of sponsored programs and events for our residents to enjoy. The Town swimming pool opens on June 17 and will again sponsor free swim lessons. Our Town parks program at Clement Park begins on June 26, and the Waterford Harbor Farmer's Market opens on June 4 and will be held every Sunday thereafter from 9am-1pm.

Beginning July 6, the Waterford Public Library will hold its Summer Reading Program every Tuesday and Thursday at 3pm at the Library. We are excited to introduce outdoor "Movie Nights" this summer to be held at various locations throughout the Town. Dates and locations are still being confirmed and will soon be posted on our website. Other upcoming events include Steamboat Meet on July 1 and Tugboat Roundup on September 8-10 which will include the second annual Tugboat Chug 5k to be held on September 10. These events will be held at the Waterford Harbor Visitors Center and we will continue our tradition of fantastic fireworks displays.

We are planning much needed repairs to the promenade at our Waterford Harbor Visitor Center with the aid of a grant received from the New York State Canal Corporation. Work has already begun with the expectation that most of the work will be completed prior to the busy boating season. Every effort will be taken to minimize the disruptions while the repairs are made.

It's hard to believe our new Community Senior Center has been open for over six months. There have already been numerous program events held in addition to the daily scheduled activities. These additional events included a technology class for seniors sponsored by our youth from Waterford Halfmoon High School (Thank You Students!), an astronomy lecture sponsored by the Waterford Public Library, a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Waterford Museum, and a chair yoga class offered every Wednesday throughout May. Membership at the Community Senior Center has increased substantially as a result of the new facility and expanded programming. The insert included with this newsletter details the Community Senior Center's member recruitment effort, hours of operation, program events and contact information. Please take the time to visit this new facility that is located directly on the shores of the Hudson River adjacent to the Waterford Water Works.

Memorial Day is a day for all of us to honor the sacrifice of service of those who have served in our nation's armed forces, and especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our country. The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Wednesday May 24 at 7PM. A memorial service will be held at Soldiers and Sailors Park immediately following the parade to pay tribute to those Waterfordians who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may enjoy the freedoms we have. While the parade is a wonderful and fun event, please take a few moments to join us for the brief Memorial Day remembrance ceremony immediately following the parade as Waterford remembers our fallen heroes.

Finally, on behalf of all of the elected officials and Town employees, I wish you and your family a memorable and safe summer!

Sincerely,

## From the Building Department

Please be advised Building Permits expire 12 months from the date of issuance. During that time frame you are required to contact the Building Department to request the following inspections be performed: footings/piers before pouring concrete; foundation inspection before back fill; rough plumbing, heating, electrical, and framing before enclosing the frame work; insulation inspection; and final inspection before Certificate of Occupancy is issued if necessary.

The applicant is also required to close out their permit within the year or they will be charged

a renewal fee, which is half the cost of the original permit.

Building Permits are required for the following: Home Additions, Alterations and Repairs, Swimming Pools (above ground and in ground), Sheds, Decks, Signs, Porches, Sun Rooms, Tanks, Solar Panels, Fences, Patios, Slabs, and Retaining Walls.

The Town Building Inspector, Greg Knorr, can be reached at 235-3802 or by email: [knorrg@town.waterford.ny.us](mailto:knorrg@town.waterford.ny.us).

Please visit the Town website for the current permit fee schedule.



“The final tax roll for the Town of Waterford will be available on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and can be viewed during normal business hours in the Town Assessor’s Office and in the Town Clerk’s Office.”

Greetings from the Town Assessor’s Office! Our assessor, Rachael Holbrook, is in the office on Thursdays, but the office is staffed Monday through Friday to answer questions and receive paperwork. The final tax roll for the Town of Waterford will be available on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and can be viewed during normal business hours in the Town Assessor’s Office and in the Town Clerk’s Office. A few notes about exemptions: new homeowners who want to apply for the STAR exemption (Residential [Basic] or Enhanced [Senior]) must register through New York State, and can do so by calling (518)457-2036, or by going on-line to [www.tax.ny.gov/STAR](http://www.tax.ny.gov/STAR). We will continue to administer the exemptions of homeowners who previously had their STAR exemptions administered through us. Also, residents in the Shenendehowa School District who were receiving the Alternative Veteran’s Exemption on their town and county property taxes will, as of this year, begin to receive that exemption on their school taxes as well. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office at 235-9907. Thanks, and enjoy the summer.



*Do you enjoy meeting new people? Do you like spending time near the water?* If you answered yes to either one of those then please consider becoming a volunteer at the Waterford Harbor Visitor Center. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. There are openings during the day, evenings & weekends. Spend a few hours enjoying the picturesque Waterford Harbor and meeting people from all over the world. Please stop in or contact Dick Hurst at 233-9123.

The Waterford Memorial Parade will be held on Wednesday May 24th at 7PM. The Parade will step off from Grace Street and proceed to Saratoga Avenue and end at Soldiers and Sailors Park on Broad Street. We hope you will join us for the wreath laying ceremony that will be held at the Park after the parade to honor those who sacrificed their lives while serving our great nation.

## 10 Digit Dialing to Begin In Our Area

The New York Public Service Commission recently approved an “area code relief plan” for the part of New York that is currently served by the 518 area code, adding a new 838 area code to the region. Below is the timeline for these changes:

Starting **August 19, 2017** — You must use the following new dialing procedure for all calls: Dial the **area code + telephone number**

**September 19, 2017** — New telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 838 area code

### *What will remain the same?*

- \* Your telephone number, including area code, will not change.
- \* The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change.
- \* What is a local call now will remain a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed.
- \* You will continue to dial 1+ area code + telephone number for all calls to other area codes (outside of 518 and 838).
- \* You can still dial just three digits to reach 911. If 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 or 811 are currently available in your community you will still dial these codes with just three digits.

## Town of Waterford Upcoming Events

**June 17** —Town Pool Opens

**June 26**– Town Park Program begins Clement Park/Northside

**July 1**–Steamboat Meet—Fireworks

**August**– TBD Northside Night Out– Clement Park

**September 8,9,10** Tugboat Roundup-Fireworks Saturday

**September 10**– Tugboat Chug 5K

**October 14**– Household Hazardous Waste Day

**October 21**– Electronics Recycling Day

Check the Town calendar for additional details and events as they are planned.

## Veterans Corner



Electronics Recycling Day  
October 21, 2017  
See Town website for  
more details

By Frank McClement, Director Saratoga County Veterans' Service Agency

### “Where can I get a Veterans ID card?”

We answer this question daily at the Veterans Service Agency. I'd like to take a moment to answer this question, and possibly alleviate some confusion as well.

The Department of Defense only issues ID cards to military retirees or veterans who are established as Permanent and Total Service-Connected disabled with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs only issues ID Cards to veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care system.

On July 20, 2015, the Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015 was signed into law. This act allows veterans to apply for an identification card directly from VA. However, a roll-out date has not been established and there will be a cost associated with this program. When available, veterans will be able to request an ID card from VA for a fee. It should be noted that the identification card is different from a Veteran Health Identification card or a DoD Uniformed Services or retiree ID card. As such, the VA identification cards cannot be used as proof of eligibility for any federal benefits and does not grant access to military installations.

**The easiest solution for veterans seeking an ID card** that will allow them to access discounts and incentives at local businesses is the **Saratoga County FAVOR Card**. Honorably discharged veterans, surviving spouses, and Gold Star parents can obtain one by visiting the Saratoga County Clerk's Office in Ballston Spa. One simply needs to present an original or true-certified copy of their DD Form 214 for recording at the Clerk's office, and they will be provided a photo ID FAVOR card at no cost. To file discharge papers and/or apply for the Saratoga County F.A.V.O.R. Veterans Program card, please come in person to:

Questions? Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency 884-4115  
Saratoga County Clerk 885-2213

Saratoga County Clerk's Office  
40 McMaster Street  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

## Waterford is ranked as the 12th safest place in Upstate New York for 2017

The ValuePenguin team analyzed 210 places with populations of more than 5,000 to determine a ranking of places based on how safe they are. To rank these places, they collected data from the 2014 FBI crime statistics by city, which provides the most recent crime data available. The crime scores ranged from 16 to 5,266.

They standardized the data to reflect violent and property crimes per 100,000, to account for population. Then, they aggregated a “crime score” by weighting violent crime at 80 percent and property crime at 20 percent. Though property crime is more prevalent, they figured that violent crime is more concerning to

town residents. Then they adjusted the crime score for population size, giving more slack to larger cities.

The most recent Safest Cities in New York report came out a few weeks ago for 2017. **We are happy to let you know that the Town and Village of Waterford were again ranked 12<sup>th</sup> as the safest and securest place to live in upstate New York as it was for 2016.**

The National Council for Home Safety and Security, is an organization made up of companies and individuals in the home safety and security industries. Their goal is to further education and public knowledge about Home Security, Home Safety, Child Safety,

and Senior Safety at Home.

With national crime rates on the rise, it's increasingly important for residents to feel proud of where they live and those cities and towns are recognized. This is a joint effort on the part of the Waterford Police Department and the residents of both the Town and Village to keep the Town and Village of Waterford among the safest places to live in New York State.



## Interested in Becoming a Pollworker?



Waterford is always looking for dedicated individuals to help support and uphold the election process.

You are eligible to serve as a pollworker if you are resident of the Saratoga County and a registered voter.

Poll workers are only needed a few days each year; Primary Day in September, and Election Day in November.

Some of the tasks you will perform as a pollworker are to prepare the polling place for voting, set up the voting equipment, process the voters, demonstrate voting procedures to the voters, close the polling place and canvass and report the results. You will be paid for your service by Saratoga County. Please think about becoming involved and become a proud participant in a process that is the foundation of democracy in our country.

Contact Saratoga County Board of Elections at (518) 885-2249 or visit the Saratoga County website at

[www.saratogacountyny.gov](http://www.saratogacountyny.gov) and fill out the “Become a Pollworker Form” on the Board of Elections page.



# Town of Waterford Trash Drop Off Program 2017

**8am-1pm**  
**Town Highway Garage**  
**June 3rd, July 8th, August 5th**  
**Every Saturday Sept 16th thru October 28th**  
**CARS \$15.00 VANS & PICK UP TRUCKS \$30.00**  
**PASSENGER CAR, TRUCK OR VAN w/trailer \$40.00**  
**Residents Only—Proof Required**  
**For more information contact the Highway Garage at 235-3413**  
**or visit the Town website for the complete listing of accepted items.**  
*Separate Electronics Recycling Collection Available— October 21, 2017 8am to 1pm*

Household  
 Hazardous  
 Waste Day  
 October 14th  
 Check Town  
 website for  
 upcoming  
 registration  
 form and  
 details.

## Town Pool and Park Program

The Town Pool will open June 17th and 18th and will be open 7 days a week beginning June 24th. Hours will vary by day so please check the Town website for the complete schedule. Swim lesson signups will be held on June 17th and June 24th from 10am to 12pm. Proof of residency is required at time of sign up. Please note that registration for upcoming sessions can also be done during public swim hours.

The Town Park Program at Clement Park begins June 26th and will held Monday-Friday from 10am to 2pm. Activities will include group sports and team play, crafts, and educational skill building. See the Town website for the full daily calendar. Our Park Program is a “come and go” program with no formal attendance structure. For more information please contact Georgia Wohnsen at 518-527-1740 or by email at [wohnseng@town.waterford.ny.us](mailto:wohnseng@town.waterford.ny.us)

Town of Waterford  
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## Postal Patron

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**Supervisor:**  
 John E. Lawler 235-8184  
**Councilman:**  
 Laurie A. Marble 588-6496  
 James E. Boudreau 235-8345  
 David F. Ball 237-2884  
 Frank S. McClement 928-7636  
**Town Clerk:**  
**Tax Collector, Registrar**  
 Darlene A. Dziarcak 235-8282  
**Town Justices:**  
 Judge David G. Fusco 237-6788  
 Judge Nancy M. Sunukjian 237-6788

**Building Inspector:**  
 Greg Knorr 235-3802  
**Zoning Board Chairman:**  
 Charles Fusco 235-3985  
**Director of Planning:**  
 Richard Hurst 233-9123  
**Planning Board Chairman:**  
 David Woodin 237-3917  
**Recreation Director:**  
 Georgia Wohnsen 527-1740  
**Police Commissioner:**  
 John Tanchak 237-3341  
**Highway Superintendent:**  
 Harold Martel 235-3413  
**Wastewater Facility Operator:**  
 Richard Thyrring 235-2033

**Assessor:**  
 Rachael Holbrook 235-9907  
 Village Of Waterford 235-9898  
**Police: Emergency Calls: 911**  
 Non-Emergency Calls 237-3341  
 Animal Control 237-3341  
 Library 237-0891  
 Post Office 235-1733  
 Waterford Community/Senior Center 235-8500  
 Waterford Harbor Visitor Center 233-9123  
 Water Works/Water Dept. 237-0422  
 Waterford Swimming Pool 235-4414  
 Waterford Historical Museum 238-0809  
 Waterford Rural Cemetery 237-5512