

Town of Charlemont September 2026 Newsletter



Keeping Charlemont's Small Bridges Open

Small bridge projects are inconvenient for drivers, but the work is essential to keeping Charlemont's infrastructure safe, reliable, and open to the traveling public.

Throughout Charlemont, our small bridges and bridge components require ongoing inspection, maintenance, and repair. Taking care of these problems when they are identified can mean temporary traffic controls, short-term delays, or detours. While those inconveniences can be frustrating, they are far preferable to waiting until a bridge deteriorates to the point where a full closure is necessary. A small repair today can prevent a major problem tomorrow—and, more importantly, can help avoid long-term closures and lengthy detours that affect residents, businesses, emergency services, and visitors.

The photo below is a good example of why this work matters. It shows significant deterioration, including section loss and holes in the bridge web at a support. Conditions like these can develop over time and, if left unaddressed, can affect the safety and structural integrity of the bridge.

Our goal is simple: **keep Charlemont moving**. By investing in routine maintenance and timely repairs, we can address problems before they become emergencies, extend the life of our bridges, and keep our roads open for the community. To be kept up to date on upcoming bridge projects, monitor the town website and make sure your contact number is in the town robo-call system, affected roads are called and updated during bridge projects.



Photo 6: Beam 5, South Abutment, East Face - Web and bottom flange section loss and holes in web at support

News From the Hawlemont School Committee

- First day of School: Sept. 2 (half-day with 12:30 dismissal) for K - 6; Sept. 8 for Pre-K.
- Open House: September 23 from 4:30 - 6 p.m. Time to get a building tour, meet all staff, learn about the start of the school year, community programs and clubs, and enjoy a dinner that's provided for all in attendance.
- All School Hike: September 30 (town folk can join in, just call school office @ 339-8316 to get CORI check by 9/23).
- Advocacy for More Rural School Funding: Superintendent Stanton has been meeting directly and regularly with the Department of Education Commissioner to address our concerns and challenges.

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE & ORANGE TRANSFER STATION

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY SEPTEMBER 9TH

Register online: franklincountywastedistrict.org

or fill out the form on page 2 of this sheet and mail it.

Your appointment time and directions will be mailed after registration is processed.

For residents and businesses of the following towns:

Athol, Barre*, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston, Rowe, Royalston, Shelburne, Sunderland*, Warwick, Wendell, Whately.

This collection event is free for residents*. Space is limited.

**Barre and Sunderland residents must pay to participate.*

Greenfield and Leyden residents are not eligible; call (413) 772-1528 for info on disposal.

For business registration and pricing information, call (413) 772-2438.

LATEX PAINT IS NOT ACCEPTED AT THIS COLLECTION.



WHAT TO BRING

Any substance labeled: CAUSTIC, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, POISON, FLAMMABLE, WARNING, DANGER, CAUTION



FROM YOUR YARD

Flea powder
Fungicides
Herbicides
Insect sprays
Lighter fluid
Muriatic acid
No-Pest strips
Pesticides
Pool chemicals
Rodent killers
Root killers

FROM YOUR GARAGE

Antifreeze
Asphalt sealer
Brake fluid
Carburetor cleaner
Creosote wood sealer
Engine degreaser
Gas treatments
Gasoline, Kerosene
Radiator flush
Solvents
Transmission fluid
Used motor oil

FROM YOUR WORKSHOP

Degreasers/solvents
Lead & oil-based paints
(*Latex paint not accepted*)
Paint thinners
Roofing tar
Rust inhibitors
Spray cans (paint/haz.)
Stains
Varnish
Wood preservatives
Wood strippers

FROM YOUR HOME

Arts & crafts supplies
Chemistry kits
Drain cleaners
Furniture/metal polish
Mothballs
Oven cleaners
Photo chemicals
Spot remover
Toilet cleaners
Upholstery cleaner

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, mercury-containing items (see reverse for alternate disposal), **latex paint**, empty containers from hazardous products (put empties in trash, not recycling), gas cylinders, radioactive material, explosives (including ammunition & fireworks).

For more information: franklincountywastedistrict.org, 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.



FREE TECH SUPPORT!

NEED HELP WITH YOUR DEVICES?

DROP-IN SUPPORT



**2nd THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH | 3:30 PM – 6:00 PM**



TYLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

157 Main Street, Charlemont, MA 01339

OR BY APPOINTMENT

Scan below to schedule a 1-on-1 session



**SCAN THIS QR CODE
TO BOOK YOUR SPOT**

Or visit:

<https://forms.gle/21D2Tur8AyePKUXj8>



Smartphones



Tablets



Wi-Fi



Email



Software
& Apps

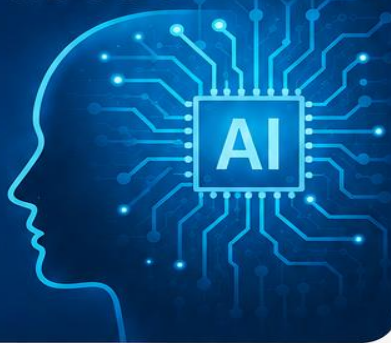
Tyler Memorial Library

Cyber-Seniors

COMMUNITY TECH CONVERSATION



Let's talk about
AI



Friendly conversation
in plain language



Learn, ask questions,
and share ideas



Open to everyone –
all experience levels
welcome!



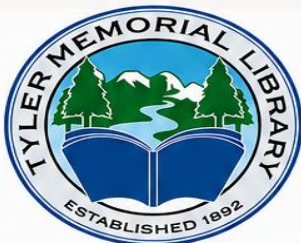
THURSDAY, SEPT 3
5:30 – 7:00 PM



TYLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY
157 Main Street, Charlemont, MA

*Everyone
is welcome!*

Join the conversation
about technology
that matters.



Cyber-Seniors®

Connecting Generations
Bridging Technology

This program is a partnership with the towns of Northfield, Charlemont, Colrain, Leyden, Wendell, and New Salem, and is funded by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTech Collaborative under the Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program. Funding was provided by Massachusetts ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds.



**MassBroadband
INSTITUTE**
at the MassTech Collaborative