



WHEELOCK NEWS

Wheelock Community Initiative on the Web: <https://wheelockcmty.org/> and on Facebook!

Email: wheelockcmty@gmail.com Phone: 802-626-3109, leave message



Meeting notices are on the Town Hall message boards and online

<https://townofwheelockvt.org/>

Join **regular Selectboard meetings** by phone or Internet. On the town website click on the **"Government"** tab, then **"Agenda & Minutes"**

Each meeting agenda document lists **unique** phone numbers, Zoom links, meeting IDs, and passcodes

PUBLIC HEARING TO DECLASSIFY WELCH RD.

Tuesday Dec. 2 6:00 PM
Wheelock Town Hall

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS Dec. 2 @ 7:00 PM

or whenever public hearing adjourns

Budgeting Tues. Nov. 25 & Dec. 9
Regular Dec. 16 6:00 PM

Wheelock Town Hall
or attend remotely (see link above)

HOLIDAY FOOD/TOY DRIVE

Dec. 2, 3, 4 (See page 2)

SHEFFIELD FOOD PANTRY Holiday Food/Toy Distribution

Wed. Dec. 10
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Sheffield Town Hall
Tammy Jacoby, Manager
call/text 802-397-4929



PHOTO CONTEST DEADLINE Thurs. Dec. 11 3:00 PM

Wheelock Community Initiative

Thurs. Dec. 11, 2:30 PM
In person at Town Hall

All are welcome!



Selectboard News and Notes

The **December 2 public hearing** scheduled by the Selectboard is part of a lengthy process, outlined in statute and the Town's policies, to declassify a portion of Welch Rd.; which could ultimately remove the town's responsibility for maintaining it. The road is a roughly 400 foot spur connecting Keniston Hill Road to the far side of an unnamed brook. (The Selectboard's required site visit was completed on 11/23.)

Flash floods destroyed a culvert at the brook crossing in July 2023, and again in 2024 washed out a temporary "logger" bridge built by the town in 2023.

A state hydraulic study found to replace the crossing to current state municipal standards would require extensive work; engineers estimated a new bridge could cost between **\$500,000 and \$600,000**. Any alternative to a bridge, built by another entity would still have to comply with state environmental laws. A recent Caledonian Record article reported that some un-permitted work on the crossing (not by the town) has been halted.

Grant Funding Sought for Commission's Work

The Planning Commission's first order of business was to complete a grant request to support the year-long revision process of the **Wheelock Town Plan**. Co-chairs Carol Amos and Kim Hathaway, and members Meaghan Rinehart and Teresa Stimpson will be meeting monthly on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am at Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public. If funded, the grant will provide expert technical assistance from Alison Low of NVDA.

Thank You, Donors!

The recent **Thanksgiving Food Drive** was a heart warming success! Chandler Pond Farm was an additional drop off point, which expanded the days and times for collection. A total of **22 boxes** of food and **\$355 in checks** made it one of the most successful drives yet.



Photo Contest Deadline Extended!



Town Clerk Erin Swigart invites you to enter your photos for the cover of our 2026 Town Report. Photos must be taken in Wheelock. Your name, contact information, and the location of your photo **must be submitted to Erin no later than December 11.**

Town Clerk/Treasurer: Erin Swigart

Hours: Tues./Thurs. 8:30-3:00; Wed. 10:30-5:30

Email: wheelocktown@gmail.com **Phone** 802-626-9094
P.O. Box 1328, 1192 Route 122, Wheelock VT 05851



GOT HISTORY?

*There's no time like the present
to learn more about Wheelock's past.*

The American Revolution

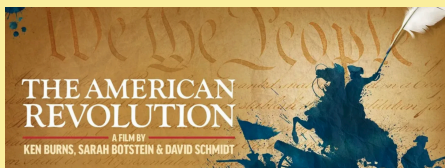
Vermont was not yet a state at the outbreak of the American Revolution. It was a territory fiercely contested by the colonies to its east and west; New York and New Hampshire. Many early Wheelock residents were from New Hampshire in search of farm land or places to set up shop as merchants to the farmers.

Two native sons who served in the war are buried (but not named) in Wheelock Hollow. Six other soldiers are documented to be buried in the So. Wheelock Cemetery.



Thirty one soldiers are honored on the grist mill stone memorial (at the junction of Rt. 122 and Sulfur Spring Road).

It is extraordinary to imagine this level of service and sacrifice for the idea of a completely new form of government. It attracted the residents of our very small town, which was not even chartered until Nov. 8, 1780. (568 residents were recorded in the 1800 Census.)



The length of the Revolutionary War, the strategies and ferocity of its many battles, **several of them in Vermont**, are brought vividly to life in a new 12 hour Public Television series by Ken Burns: **The American Revolution.**

The series played on consecutive nights last week on **Vermont Public** in 2 hour segments but they are still available by streaming at <https://bit.ly/4plhmXg>

This writer watched them all and highly recommends them!

2025 Holiday Food and Toy Drive

The **third and final food drive of the year**, organized by the Wheelock Community Initiative, is right around the corner!



The drive also includes a request for new toys, games, and/or art supplies for area children in needy families.

Drop off location:
Wheelock Town Hall.

If you prefer to donate a check, make it out to **"Sheffield Food Pantry"** Either drop it off at Town Hall or mail it to:

**Sheffield Food Pantry
c/o Town of Wheelock
P.O. Box 1328
Lyndonville, VT 05851**

Cemetery Task Force Expands Team and Projects

Our original **Cemetery Task Force** of Liz Muckerman, Wendy and Hannah Tidhar, and Patti Baker welcomed three new volunteers; Norma Twombly, Katherine Coons, and Debby Hopkins. All three have been appointed to the Task Force by the Selectboard.

Starting in the spring and continuing through the fall, they improved the cemetery grounds and provided much needed care and restoration for the stones. The **Village Cemetery** fence was painted with donated paint, at no cost to the town. Many flowers were planted, overgrown vegetation was cut back, corner stone borders were dug, over 150 stones were cleaned, and over 20 complicated stone repairs were completed.

The **South Wheelock** cemetery is on schedule to finish the resetting, repairing, and cleaning all of the stones needing attention within the five year timeframe estimated by the task force. The **Village Cemetery** has a larger backlog of work, but they continue to make progress. Anyone who's family stone needs attention is encouraged to contact the task force.

Roads, Roads, and More Roads

As we move into the winter months and finish our own preparations for the weather ahead, the Selectboard and road crew are both completing existing and planning new town road and infrastructure projects. Here's a quick rundown of just a handful:

Plowing Contracts: Chuck Hill plows Flagg Pond Rd.; Greensboro will do Sparhawk Rd.; AKA plows Boulay Rd. & Fall Brook Rd. Class 3 section.

Community Development Block Grant Program: A pre-application was submitted for funding to pay for the Fall Brook Road bridge hydrology study. The Selectboard may include other projects in this proposal.

FEMA approved the Alternate Project (AP) request for the town to purchase a backhoe. A second AP request was submitted for a grader blade assembly and tires for the grader and trucks. GEODesign, under contract for designs to repair embankments at the S. Wheelock and Boulay Roads, completed their test borings. Designs are to be completed in February 2026.