



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 remotely.

On the town website click on the "Government" dropdown tab, then "Agenda & Minutes"

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

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

**First and Third Tuesday
Nov. 4 and 18 @6:00 PM**

Wheelock Town Hall
or attend remotely (see link above)

Wheelock Community Initiative



Thurs. Nov. 6, 2:30 PM
In person at Town Hall
All are welcome!

WHEELOCK PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT DEADLINE

Fri. Nov. 7 9AM - Noon

Town Clerk's Office in Town Hall
Or pay online at:

<https://townofwheelockvt.org/property-taxes/>

SHEFFIELD FOOD PANTRY



**Holiday Food Baskets
distribution dates
replace the regular
Pantry schedule**

**Fri. Nov. 21
Fri. Dec. 19**

Sheffield Town Hall
Tammy Jacoby, Manager

Selectboard News and Notes

On occasion there is a stroke of good luck linking a thorny challenge to a creative solution. Restoring the flood-damaged **Fall Brook Road bridge** is one of those fortunate times.

The first step to address the destruction and seek grants to repair the bridge is to **complete an engineering study**. Pat Moulton, an officer with Vermont's Disaster Recovery office, and a Norwich University engineering professor have proposed a student capstone project to create a design. Students conducted a site visit on Oct. 9 and will return to survey the site. The project would take two semesters to complete. A licensed engineer must provide a stamp on the finished design. Some FEMA 'alternate project funding' resources may be applied to the project.

The Selectboard recently selected Geo Design's proposals to complete the remaining work on the embankments of Boulay and S. Wheelock roads. FEMA already obligated some monies towards the Boulay engineering costs and the engineering and construction costs for the S. Wheelock Rd.

Wheelock Planning Commission Takes Shape

Four Wheelock residents have volunteered to serve on the town's planning commission. (A commission usually consists of three to nine members; an odd number is best.) Their primary duty is to amend the municipal plan. Our current **2019 Town Plan** will expire soon <https://bit.ly/3VPaYL3>. The Selectboard is seeking a Municipal Planning Grant to **hire a planning specialist** to help the commission members. They have appointed Carol Amos, Kim Hathaway, Meaghan Rinehart, and Theresa Stimpson and are still **seeking additional members**.

Appointment Confirmed

Vermont's Health Commissioner recently confirmed the Selectboard's appointment of **Dr. Peter Miller** to a 3-year term as the town's health officer. Contact information at:

<https://townofwheelockvt.org/town-contacts-copy/>



Town Report Photo Contest!



Town Clerk Erin Swigart is inviting Wheelock residents to enter photos to be considered for the cover of our 2026 Town Report. Photos must be taken in Wheelock. The photographer's name, contact information, and the location of the photo **must be submitted no later than December 1**.

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 Moor's Charity School

The connection between Wheelock and Dartmouth College has been covered in several earlier columns, but Wheelock was also supporting the Moor's Charity School which was connected to the College.

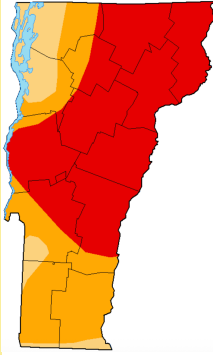
The school's founding principles, outlined by **Rev. Eleazar Wheelock**, reflect an attitude offensive to today's understandings about race and class:

First, separation of a sufficient number of Indian boys & girls from their tribes to be trained, clear of all pagan environment, & educated not only in literature, but in industrial art & handicrafts of civilized life, as well as in domestic arts & economy, thus to form a nucleus & basis of civilization upon return to their own people; And secondly, a joint education of English & Indian youth as missionaries to the tribes, both projects helping & sustaining each other.

The school's formal dissolution in 1829, however, had little to do with its mission, but rather concern for its dwindling enrollment, financial management, and location. In 1832, **Judge Asa Aikens**, the first native Vermonter to sit on the Superior Court, was appointed by the Governor to review and report on the school: "...the monies expended on Indian boys has in most instances been almost wholly lost. It is also a generally received opinion that the immediate vicinity of a College is a bad location for a secondary school. Young men of fortune combined with habits of extravagance & gaiety, are not infrequently the inmates of Colleges, whose example is deleterious to boys at school. And parents feel a reluctance to putting their children in the way of such example, till maturer years shall have given them strength & consideration to resist its influence."

By this time, academies (high schools) on both sides of the river existed to prepare (male) students for Dartmouth.

**Town of Wheelock, Vermont's Gift to
Dartmouth College** E.J. Hutchinson, 1961



Rain Welcome, Drought Persists

Since the federal government shut down, the drought.gov website monitoring drought conditions is not being updated. The State of Vermont, however, is keeping track and lists resources for homeowners, businesses, and agricultural operations. The Agency of Agriculture has requested a federal agricultural disaster declaration for the entire state. If awarded, this will allow additional loan programs to be available.

Wheelock has not been spared and continues in "extreme drought". The town's website lists some resources such as:

Drought Reporter: <https://bit.ly/47jq9L4>

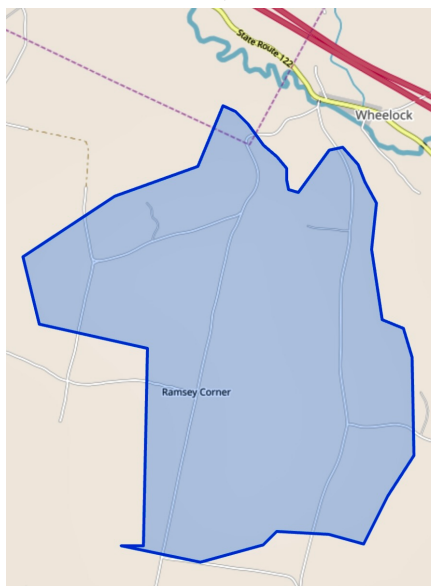
Drought Resources: <https://anr.vermont.gov/disaster/drought>
find bulk water, private well support, and financial assistance, and a feed finder marketplace (for livestock)

Roadside springs are not considered a safe source of water for drinking and cooking. It is okay to use water from them for bathing, washing clothes, and flushing toilets. Note that even after boiling it, there could be health risks, especially for infants, older adults, and people with weakened immune systems.

New Fiber Optic Broadband Zone Opening Up

The NEK Broadband team is now ready to begin expanding the fiber optic network serving Wheelock residents. They are calling and scheduling installations for **those who have already picked a service package** and will contact them to schedule their fiber installation.

If you haven't ordered a service package yet, or you want to explore pricing and services, go to: <https://get.nekbroadband.org/> That's where you can start the process of getting high-speed internet service, which includes scouting your property, putting in the "drop" (the fiber optic cable from the pole to the side of your house), and scheduling your final installation.



Map includes addresses on Peak, Vertical Mile, and Buchler Roads.

If you have an **underground utility conduit** on your property, please call **(877) 635-3423** for scheduling an installation. You can either use the website or call that number to confirm whether your address is included in this area.

NEK Broadband is our community-run internet service provider, bringing high-speed, reliable fiber internet and phone service. Wheelock's representative to the NEK Broadband board is Eileen Boland, ebolandvt@gmail.com.