

THE W WHO WHAT WHERE WHEN WHY WELLESLEY

News to Kno W - May 2025



Thanks for signing up and for your feedback on *The W*! Our subscriber list continues to grow. Please continue to send ideas to [our editors](#) as we fine tune *The W*. Encourage friends and neighbors to [subscribe](#). And make sure *The W* isn't going to your SPAM folder!

Wellesley's Wonderful Weekend is May 17 & 18

Celebrate the [27th Annual Wellesley's Wonderful Weekend](#), a favorite event for our community organized by the Wellesley Celebrations Committee. This year's theme is the 250th Anniversary of the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, and Navy.



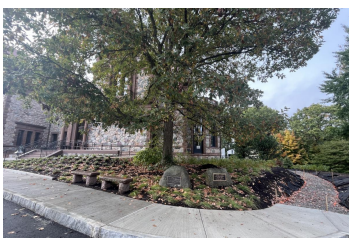
Activities begin on Monday, May 12 with a presentation at Wellesley Town Hall, "Untold Stories from the Cold War to Today's Battlefields" featuring local Veterans sharing first-hand accounts from recent conflicts that shaped history and continue to define America's role in global security. At 7:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. All are welcome.

Other weekend highlights on **Saturday, May 17** include the DPW "Touch a Truck" event, municipal open houses at the Wellesley Council on Aging, Fire Headquarters, Municipal Light Plant, Police Department, and Town Hall, and the Veterans Ecumenical Mass at St. Paul's Church.

Events on **Sunday, May 18** include the "Wheels of Wellesley XII" car show on Central Street, the 57th Annual Wellesley Veterans Parade, Picnic and Concert at Hunnewell Field, and the traditional fireworks spectacular!



Visit the Celebrations Committee website for details



Tour the Newly Renovated Wellesley Town Hall

As part of Wellesley's Wonderful Weekend, Town officials are hosting an open house at Town Hall (525 Washington Street) on **Saturday, May 17 between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.**

Wellesley Town Hall has reopened following a nearly two year interior overhaul. Please join us for a brief ribbon-cutting, learn about the renovation process for this iconic historical building, take a tour, and enjoy fun giveaways.

Mode Shift Challenge

To recognize National Mobility Awareness Month in May, we've created the **Mode Shift Challenge** to help you get out of the car and explore new ways to get around Wellesley.



Between May 1 and June 16, ride public transit, walk, and bike. Take pictures while traveling and submit them for the chance to win a \$200 cash prize and fabulous swag bags! Specific guidelines apply. **You must be at least 12-years old to participate without an adult.** [Read the complete Mode Shift Challenge information.](#)

REMINDER: Bike and E-Bike Safety

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC), Select Board, Wellesley Police Department, and Wellesley Public Schools are reminding all park and trail users to be respectful and cautious. Follow best practices for the [proper use of bikes, e-bikes and e-scooters](#). And mark your calendars for our Rules of the Ride event on June 8, 2025! More information in the June issue of *The W*.



***Report any concerning or dangerous bike, e-bike, or e-scooter behavior to the Wellesley Police Department at 781-235-1212 ***



NEW! Mandatory 1-Day Per Week Outdoor Watering Restrictions

Under new DPW regulations, Wellesley homes and businesses must follow a one-day per week outdoor watering schedule based on street address numbers. Non-essential watering **is prohibited**

between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. These new rules are due to continued drought conditions and to comply with state regulations. The one-day per week schedule is in effect now.

Depending on your address, non-essential outdoor water use **IS ALLOWED** according to the following schedule:

- Odd numbered addresses on Tuesdays only
- Even numbered addresses on Fridays only
- Non-essential outdoor use of water on all other days is prohibited

- Watering is restricted to BEFORE 9:00 a.m. and AFTER 5:00 p.m.

Read more about essential and non-essential watering on the [Water & Sewer webpages](#).

Health & Recreation Departments are Moving!

Wellesley [Health](#) and [Recreation](#) Departments are temporarily moving while work is done to upgrade the Warren Building. Beginning on May 6, these departments will be located at 888 Worcester Street (eastbound side of Route 9). The building may look familiar...it was the temporary home for Town Hall for almost 2 years. Recreation programs and summer camps will be held at Upham Elementary School (35 Wynnewood Road).



2025 Town Meeting Recap

Wellesley's [2025 Annual Town Meeting](#) was dissolved on Tuesday, April 15 following six nights of discussion. Meeting highlights included:

- Approving the nearly \$213 million Omnibus budget for Fiscal Year 2026;
- Funding a new fire engine;
- Funding a feasibility study for air conditioning at Wellesley Middle School, and Bates, Fiske, and Schofield Elementary Schools;
- Funding for rehabilitation and repairs to Weston Road;
- Funding construction and remodeling of the Hunnewell Tennis Courts, including painting pickleball lines on two courts and the hitting wall;
- Increasing Veteran tax exemptions according to provisions of the [Massachusetts HERO Act](#) and increasing senior tax deferral income limits;
- Adopting a "skip the stuff" bylaw to reduce single-use service ware and single-serving packaged condiments;
- And more!

A citizens petition to amend the current [Residential Incentive Overlay zoning bylaw](#) was narrowly defeated. See [Slide Presentations from Town Meeting](#) and the [Voting Scorecard](#). Thank you to all Town Meeting members for their participation and thoughtful debate.



Congratulations Boston Marathon runners!

On April 21, twenty-five individuals ran the 129th Boston Marathon as part of the [Town of Wellesley team](#) with B.A.A. invitational bibs awarded by the Select Board. They completed 26.2 miles on a nearly perfect spring day AND raised more than \$186,000 for local nonprofits. Thank you, runners for your outstanding achievements!

Dates to Know

Upcoming Public Meetings

- **May 5, 7:00 p.m.** - Babson PSI public hearing. The Planning Board will hold a

public hearing to review a special permit application for a new Executive Lodge and Conference Center at Babson College. View **project materials** on the Planning Department website.

- **May 20, 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** - Select Board Office Hours with Colette Aufranc. [Email Colette](#) to sign up for a 15-minute appointment.

View the complete [public meeting calendar](#).

Upcoming Community Events

- **May 1-June 16** - [Mode Shift Challenge](#) ([click for details](#))
- **May 3-11** - [Wellesley in Bloom!](#) ([click for details](#))
- **May 10, 10:00 a.m.** - [Dressing of the Graves](#) ([click for details](#))
- **May 17 & 18**, [Wellesley's Wonderful Weekend](#) ([click for details](#))
- **May 30, 7:30 p.m.** *Memorial Day Ceremony*. Watch for upcoming announcements.

Be in the KnoW about community events in Wellesley! Check out the complete [Community Calendar](#) on the homepage of the Town website. And submit your events using our [online event submission form](#).



Town of Wellesley | 525 Washington Street | Wellesley, MA 02482
781-431-1019 | www.wellesleyma.gov

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