



Watertown
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60 Main St.
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(617) 928-9000

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Club 50

Volume Issue • September 2020

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The Latest

Find Out About the Microenterprise Grants, Deadline Approaching

by the Watertown Department of Community Development & Planning



The following information was provided by the Watertown Department of Community Development & Planning:

Building on its commitment to supporting Watertown residents during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town of Watertown has established a \$175,000 emergency rental assistance program. The program will allow income-eligible tenants to apply for up to three months assistance if they have lost income and are having trouble paying rent as a result of the pandemic. **The deadline to complete the application is Thursday, September 24.**

"During this difficult time, it is important that we help Watertown residents stay in their homes and help ensure their health and safety," said Assistant Town Manager Steven Magoon. "We are pleased that the Watertown Housing Partnership was able to tap our existing affordable housing resources to fund this emergency program for households who otherwise would be unable to make their rent payments." The Town Council endorsed the program in August.

This program will provide assistance for up to three months to Watertown residents not receiving other government rental assistance and earning below 80% of Area Median Income. Assistance is for up to \$750 per month for a 1-bedroom apartment, \$950 for a 2-bedroom apartment, and \$1,150 for a 3-bedroom apartment.

Area median income for a household of one person is \$67,400, two persons is \$77,000 and 3 persons is \$86,500. Applicants will need to submit documentation that they are income-qualified and that they are having trouble paying rent as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Depending on the number of applicants, a lottery may be used to select recipients of this assistance.

Rent payments, which will be made directly to participating landlords, are expected to start in October.

Metro West Collaborative, a non-profit community development corporation, will administer the program. Those interested in applying can contact Robyn Rufo at robyn@metrowestcd.org or 617-923-3505 extension 5. Metro West Collaborative staff are available to assist individuals in completing their applications, including those with disabilities that may impede their ability to complete the application. Staff can also arrange for assistance for households with limited English proficiency.

This assistance is in addition to that offered by the Watertown Community Foundation's Community Resilience Fund.

A statewide eviction and foreclosure moratorium is currently in place across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, protecting tenants from being evicted and homeowners from foreclosure. The moratorium will remain in place until October 17 or 45 days after the state of emergency ends, whichever is sooner.

Other COVID-19 resources available in Watertown are listed in a Watertown Library's Guide at <https://sites.google.com/minilib.net/watertowncovidguide/home>.

For more information, please contact:

Steven Magoon, Assistant Town Manager and Director of Community Development and Planning
SMagoon@watertown-ma.gov
617-972-6417

Watertown Business Coalition Discusses Info on Microenterprise Grants

The WBC sent out the following announcement:

At this month's Coffee Connect we will be discussing who is eligible and how to apply for the Microenterprise Grants. This grant money is available to many small business owners and can be for as much as \$10,000. You don't want to miss this!

Our online forum is free to Watertown Residents and our Business Community. Format will include: Find a comfortable place in the home with a cup of coffee or tea! Information on Microenterprise Grants General networking breakout rooms, as time permits Let's get through these times together, Watertown!

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The Latest

Vote by Mail and Early Voting

New Options for Massachusetts Residents to Stay Safe During COVID



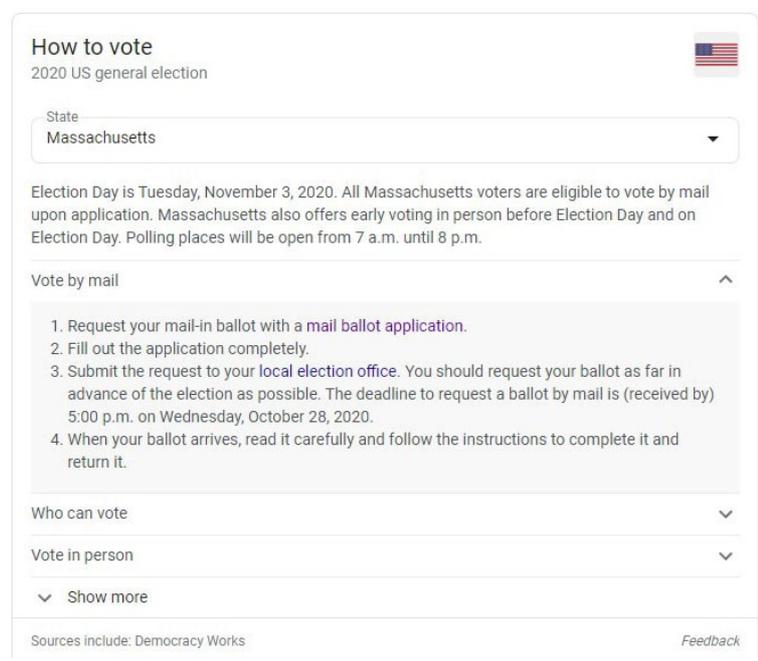
Voting By Mail:

Voter Registration and Vote by Mail Applications:

Many Massachusetts residents are receiving or have received vote-by-mail applications for the 2020 Presidential Primary. If you are not currently registered to vote, you would not have received a vote-by-mail application. However, you can download and print your own application!

How To Download the Vote-by-Mail Application:

1. Google "Vote by mail Massachusetts" and this should bring you to a results page, which should look like this:

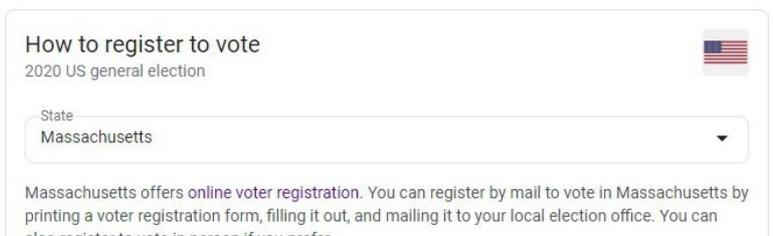


2. Click on the "mail ballot application" to view the PDF form that you can download and print.

If you need to register to vote, and you also want to apply to vote by mail, you can mail in both forms at the same time.

How to Download the Voter Registration Form OR Register to Vote Online:

1. Google "Register to Vote by mail Massachusetts" and this should bring you to a results page, which should look like this:



also register to vote in person if you prefer.

By-mail voter registration

Use the Massachusetts voter registration form

You can also register to vote using the [Massachusetts voter registration form](#). Be sure to read the instructions carefully and fill it out completely. Send the completed form to your local election official. To register by mail, the form must be postmarked by Saturday, October 24, 2020.

2. If you want to update your Voter Registration by mail, click on the "Massachusetts voter registration form" and it will bring you to a PDF that you can download and print. If you want to update your Voter Registration online, click on the "online voter registration" and it will bring you to the Secretary of State's website, where it will walk you through the registration process online. ***If you need to register to vote, and you also want to apply to vote by mail, you can mail in both forms at the same time.***

Deadline for the November General Election:

Your application for a vote-by-mail ballot for the November general election must be received by 5:00pm on Wednesday, October 28th. It is recommended to send this application as soon as possible! Once again, you can find this in the Forms section of our newsletter. Remember that this deadline is "received by" and not "postmarked by," so it is important you send it in about 2 weeks prior to the deadline. If you are running short on time, you can deliver your application in person to the local election office at your town or city hall.

Take note that the U.S. Postal Service recommends you allow at least a week for application to get to your local election office, a week for your ballot to be delivered to you, and a week for your completed ballot to get from you, back to your local election office.

Who Pays for Postage?

Once you receive your ballot, the package already has a return envelope addressed to your local election office that is already paid for. So, all you need to do is fill it out and drop it in the mail! Federal funds will cover the cost of postage for ballots!

Voting Early to Avoid the Crowds:

The IN-PERSON early voting period runs from Saturday, October 17th to Friday, October 30th 2020. Hours and dates may vary based on where you live!

To check where your polling location is, you can simply Google "where is my polling location Massachusetts" and the top result should be "My Election Info: Search" on the Secretary of State's website. From there, you can enter your information and find out where you are expected to vote, if you are registered, and if your mail-in-ballot has been accepted.

Stay updated on your local election dates for Early Voting! Beat the crowds!



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Unsubscribe from the Club 50 eNewsletter



To **unsubscribe** from receiving the Club 50 eNewsletter, [click here](#).

If that does not work on your device, scroll to the bottom of this email and click **REMOVE**. (below).

Thank you!



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Photo Contest



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Club 50's 25th Anniversary Photo Contest!

ENTER TO WIN! Every Entry Now Entered into a Raffle!



We invite all Club 50 members to celebrate our milestone anniversary by participating in our 25th Anniversary Photo Contest.

Share your favorite photo you captured during a Club 50 trip and tell us why it is special to you. **Please visit our forms section of the newsletter for more information on how to submit a photo and participate!**

****ALL ENTRIES ARE ELIGIBLE TO WIN A PRIZE! ENTER OUR RAFFLE WITH YOUR SUBMISSION!****

We will announce the Top 3 Winners in November to coincide with our 25th Anniversary. The Top 3 Winners will also receive prizes! Winners are chosen by employees of the Bank, anonymously.

Although we cannot be together at the moment, we are hoping to share stories and photos that connect us. We are so excited to be celebrating this milestone with you, all of you who have made our days together so much fun!

Currently we are researching ways to connect and continue to experience new things, *virtually!* This contest will hopefully be one of many new things to come for Club 50.

If you have any ideas or you have a destination you want to see virtually, please let us know!

We look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,

Arielle and Connie

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Shredding Day, October 17th!

at the Waltham Senior Center



9:00am - 12:00pm

Saturday, October 17th

This is a FREE event at the Waltham Senior Center, 488 Main Street! Residents are invited to bring any documents to the shredding truck that they need shredded. No appointment is necessary. **A mask is required along with social distancing rules.**

The Bank is sponsoring this event! We do expect this event to be busy, so please be patient, as the volunteers will be working hard to keep everyone safe and socially distanced.

Be safe!

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Watertown Receives BlueBike Stations!

Gifted by MetroFuture Inc., a Non-Profit Charitable Organization



From WatertownMANews.com

By Charlie Breitrose | September 11th, 2020

Watertown received more than \$200,000 in gifts to establish BlueBike rental stations in town. The move was made so that the Town did not have to own the bicycles or be responsible for the upkeep.

The Town of Watertown received a gift of \$224,257.06 worth of items to install six BlueBike Stations with 38 bicycles to be rented. The items were donated by MetroFuture Inc., a non-profit charitable organization, said Town Manager Michael Driscoll.