



The Pelham Slate

WWW.PELHAMMA.GOV

SPRING 2025

FROM THE SELECT BOARD

Annual Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025 beginning at 9:00AM in the Pelham Elementary School gym. Additional parking is available at the Community Center/Library parking lot. The warrant will be sent inside the Spring Slate newsletter to all residents at the end of April/beginning of May so please check your mail. The Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 beginning at 11:00AM and ending at 7:00PM in the Ramsdell Room inside the Community Center building. Parking is available next to the Library. If you have questions about voting please reach out to the Town Clerk, Melissa Hibbard, townclerk@pelhamma.gov.

The Select Board submitted a letter of support for Senator Comerford's legislation regarding towns surrounding Quabbin receiving additional funds from the MWRA for water usage and land that is protected by the Quabbin. Thank you to Judith Eiseman and Alexandra Dewey for shedding light on this important work and for your passionate commitment.

The Pelham Select Board and Planning Board met to review the final design and planning stages for sidewalks along Amherst Road from the Amherst town line to South Valley Road in March. We appreciate the input from residents who attended the public hearing in November and the Select Board meeting in March. Thank you to Berkshire Design who continues to work and support the town with this project.

Also in March, the Select Board submitted an Expression of Interest for the Sewer Extension project which will extend lines down Cadwell St, Jones Rd, and lower South Valley Rd in the Village Center. Phase 1, set for completion in the Spring 2025, will extend from Amherst Rd to the two sites on Cadwell

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Street where Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity will build two new affordable houses. Future work will include extension of the sewer into the remainder of the Village Center District on Jones Road and Cadwell Street with a portion of South Valley Road receiving water infrastructure upgrades. The Select Board is grateful to the Town of Amherst DPW Superintendent Guilford Mooring and Engineer Jason Skeels for taking the lead on this grant. We hope to be successful in obtaining additional state funding to support the remainder of the project.

Sincerely,

Robert Agoglia, Chair 2027

Tara Loomis, Vice-Chair 2026

David Shanabrook, Clerk 2025

Electrify Pelham Announces Heat Pump Coaching

97% of Pelham's energy consumption and green house gas emissions are generated by residential homes and vehicles

Electrify Pelham (EP) is a new program from the Pelham Energy Committee to help Pelham's residents:

- understand your opportunities for installing energy efficiency and electrification technologies including weatherization, rooftop solar, heat pump heating and cooling, hybrid water heaters, electric and plug-in electric vehicles, batteries, and clean energy appliances;
- take advantage of the financial incentives available to install these technologies;
- work through decisions about your priorities, available efficiency and electrification options, and qualified installers.

Electrify Pelham's goal is to quicken residential adoption of energy efficiency measures and electrification technologies, decrease overall energy consumption, and reduce Pelham's carbon footprint to help our planet combat climate change.

First Step...get a free Mass Save Home Energy Assessment (HEA).

This qualifies your home for attractive weatherization rebates and a variety of substantial energy efficiency incentives. If your home has not undergone a recent Mass Save HEA in the last five years, please consider scheduling yours as the first step toward your clean energy goals.

Next Step...Beginning in 2025, Elec-

trify Pelham (with training from the [HeatSmart Alliance](#)) will be offering Pelham residents free coaching for transitioning their home heating and cooling system to electric heat pumps. [Contact us](#) if you are considering installing heat pumps and want help navigating the options and logistics of this process.

Stay in touch...Periodically we will email Electrify Pelham notices and information to interested town residents. If you would like to receive EP news and information, please send us an email requesting to be added to our distribution list. In the coming months, members of the Electrify Pelham team will attend community events to discuss the MassSave HEA process with you and talk about your clean energy aspirations and questions. Come talk with us!

The Electrify Pelham page on the <https://pelhamma.gov/> has information about Electrify Pelham, and links to many energy efficiency and electrification resources. Stay tuned for future Electrify Pelham outreach initiatives focused on home weatherization, rooftop solar, home heating and cooling with heat pumps, all-electric and plug-in electric vehicles, batteries, hybrid water heaters, induction stoves, energy efficient appliances, and more!

Join Our Team...Electrify Pelham's volunteer team members are Tony Rogers (Co-Chair, Pelham Energy Committee), Rick Coleman and Steven Botkin. As a group, we have successfully incorporated many of these energy efficiency and electrification technologies into our own

homes.

We are looking for volunteers to help grow Electrify Pelham in the following areas:

- ♦ Manage the Electrify Pelham web page
- ♦ Grow and maintain our email list.
- ♦ Collect baseline data and measure progress for Pelham's energy use and GHG emissions.
- ♦ Compile and update residential energy efficiency and electrification resources.
- ♦ Become a qualified heat pump coach.

Clean Energy Resources and Additional Information:

Mass Save Home Energy Assessments:

<https://www.eversource.com/content/residential/save-money-energy/energy-efficiency-programs/massachusetts-home-energy-assessment>

Home Weatherization and Clean Energy Technologies for You

<https://goclean.masscec.com/>

Compare Different Types of Heat Pumps

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3iL172VjAc>

How Air Source Heat Pumps Work

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QykwWs3L1W8>

How Ground Source Heat Pumps Work

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5Tbsx3R2T8>

Contact Electrify Pelham - electrifypelham@gmail.com

CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

The Pelham Community Garden is open to receiving applications for the 2025 season. Whether you are interested in growing food, flowers, or herbs, the garden is available for organic gardening. The garden supplies a 20ft. X 10 ft plot, on-site water, some gardening tools, and a wheelbarrow. We also have a pollinator garden on-site to promote pollinating insects to improve plant productivity. We ask for a \$20 donation per plot.

To register, please go to the Town of Pelham website, <https://pelhamma.gov/>, download a registration form or pick up one at the Pelham Library. Plots are assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

Also, don't forget to check out the **free seed catalog in the Library**.

Garden questions can be directed to Theresa Smith via email at Theresa.e.smith@gmail.com.



Community Garden Plots
Picture Courtesy of Cyd Reiman



COUNCIL ON AGING NEWS

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs has been renamed the **Executive Office of Aging and Independence**. Find them, and links to many resources, at www.mass.gov. If you don't have access to a computer, Pelham librarians are happy to help you find what you are looking for using the library computers.

Looking for some **special equipment** to help in your recovery from surgery or injury or to help prevent falls? The Hampshire County Sheriff's office may have just what you need. Call 413-582-7787 with your request for a wheelchair, walker, rollator, etc. They will bring the item to your home. The service is free; donations are welcome.

Amherst Neighbors (which includes Pelham) creates neighbor to neighbor connections. Volunteers help in a variety of ways, everything from providing companionship, going for walks, help with small fixes around the home, assisting with a computer, smartphone, or iPad, providing a ride, or anything else you can think that you might ask a neighbor for. Check the website www.amherstneighbors.com or call 413-345-2555 and consider becoming a volunteer or requesting services. Membership is free.

The **Personal Technology Resource Center** at www.aarp.org/tech has technology news, "how to" articles and videos that can help you solve issues with tech devices. And

The **COA information table** at the Pelham Library has lots of resources to assist adults in thriving as we grow older. Not seeing what you are looking for? Call Tracy Osbahr at 413-531-9678.

Real Estate Taxes Due: May 1

Just a few things to keep in mind when paying taxes:

- 1) No staples/clips please.
- 2.) Make sure to check the amount you are paying matches the amount on your bill. Checks payable to: **Town of Pelham**. Please remember to sign your check.
- 3.) If you need a copy of your bill, please call

or email.

- 4.) If you are planning to visit the office on a particular day or at a particular time, please call ahead to make sure I am there.

Questions? Please contact:

June Masee, Collector/Treasurer
(413) 253-2267 or
collectortreasurer@pelhamma.gov

NOW HIRING: FULL TIME POLICE OFFICERS

The Pelham Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full-time police officer for a non-Civil Service agency. We are seeking a motivated, disciplined, professional officer to join our department with a community policing philosophy. Pelham is a rural community with approximately 1,322 residents. The department is currently budgeted for 3 full time officers. Pelham provides a competitive benefits package to include competitive wages, paid time off, uniform allowance, and regional road work detail access. The Officer will be assigned to a rotating schedule (mix of day and evening shifts, no overnights). Position requires officer to work with a minimum level of supervisor while performing the standard duties associated with a Police Officer position. Those duties include, but are not limited to, maintaining the security and safety of the Town of Pelham, enforcing the laws of the Commonwealth, active patrol, traffic enforcement, responding to emergencies, etc.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Education/Experience Requirement: Preferred candidates should be an active Law Enforcement officer with a minimum of one year of full-time police officer experience. Candidates are preferred to have successfully graduated from a Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Council (MPTC) Basic Police Full Time Police Officer Academy, in accordance with MGL Chapter 41, Section 96B or has successfully completed MPTC Bridge Academy Training to include 2400-hour requirement. A high school diploma or its equivalent is required. Candidates must be a U.S. citizen and have a valid driver's license. Higher education and/or military experience is preferred, but not required.

AGE REQUIREMENT:

- Applicants must be at least 21 years of age by the date of appointment.

QUALIFYING CREDENTIALS:

- Pass an oral interview
- Pass a background investigation that includes a check of school records, credit history, inquiry as to character and reputation, past and current neighbors, employment references and a fingerprint based criminal records check.
- Pass physical, psychological evaluation and successfully pass a drug test.
- Meet all certification requirements for Massachusetts police officers.

STARTING ANNUAL RATE: \$56,285 (Beginning July 1)

Submit letter of interest, and copy of resume, to Lt. Derick Lamoureux at 2 South Valley Road, Pelham, MA 01002 or via email to policeadmin@pelhamma.gov. Pelham is EEO/AA. DEADLINE: **ROLLING APPLICATION**

May 25 Sunday 10AM
Quabbin Park Cemetery
Memorial Day Observance

Meet at the Quabbin Park Cemetery to honor individuals removed from their original resting places for the building of the Quabbin Reservoir. Refreshments beginning at 10 am will be followed by a parade at 11 am. Parade with us behind the Pelham banner. *For more info contact Cynthia Weigel 413-256-4606.*

June 1 Sunday
Museum Opens 1:30 – 4:30 pm
Pelham Historic Complex
Weaving Demonstration
2:00 – 4:00 pm

The museum opens for the season. Come visit to explore old and new exhibits. Master weaver Laurie Autio, active participant in local and international weaving guilds and organizations, will demonstrate weaving from 2 to 4 pm. Find out how cloth is woven. Weavers are welcome to bring a loom or project. *For more info contact Cynthia Weigel at 413-256-4606.*

July 20 Sunday 1:30 pm
Meet at the Springfield Armory National Historic Site <https://www.nps.gov/spar/planyourvisit/directions.htm>
A Ranger-Led Tour of the Springfield Armory

For 174 years the Springfield Armory was the epicenter of United States small arms research, development, and production until its closure in 1968. Employees worked to provide our military with the best infantry weapons necessary to safeguard the nation and its interests. Take a walk through Armory history on a tour led by National

Park Ranger Susan Ashman. Learn the importance of this location to Daniel Shays Rebellion. *For more info contact Susan Ashman at 413-427-6558.*

*Co-sponsored with Pelham Library

August 24 Sunday 1:30 PM
Meet at the Corner of North Valley Rd. and Brewer Rd.
A Visit to Former Pelham Mill and Shop Sites

Visit a former Pelham Sawmill and Broom Handle Shop on a tour led by Karl Martini. If time permits, we will visit the sites of additional former Pelham Mills and Shops. *For more info contact Karl Martini at 413-256-4606.*

September 27 Sat. 5:30 PM
Pelham Historic Complex
Harvest Supper & Howard D. Barnes Memorial Pie Auction

Join us for a traditional New England boiled dinner of corned beef, cabbage and vegetables catered by David Jean. Following dinner, bid on a homemade pie auctioned off by Stan Rosenberg, whose wit and humor have delighted us for decades. Purchase your tickets at the Pelham Library, Historical Society Museum or online at pelhamhistory.org. **Tickets** go on sale June 1, 2025 and **must be purchased or reserved before** the Harvest Supper. We were sold out last year. *For more info or to contribute a homemade pie, contact Susan Ashman at 413-427-6558.*



JOIN US FOR OUR PELHAM SCHOOLS OF YESTERYEAR PROGRAMS

(3rd Graders - Fall)

Field Trip to Historic Complex (5th Graders - Spring)

In addition to the above activities at Community Hall and the old Town Complex and Museum, we hope to expand our programming over time to other grades, including teens. Anyone willing to join us, *contact David Boyden at 860-653-4140 or Linda Campbell Hanscom at 413-323-7377.*

MUSEUM Located in Pelham Historic Complex, Corner of Amherst Road and Daniel Shays Highway
FREE! FREE! FREE!

OPEN Sunday Afternoons (1:30 to 4:30 pm) from June 1 to September 28, 2025

-Be a Museum greeter. *If interested contact Susan Ashman, at 413-427-6558.*

-Check out our website for updates on programming and museum activities!

BECOME INVOLVED!

If you would like to help with program planning, research a historical object, share your knowledge of Pelham history or otherwise volunteer, *contact Cynthia Weigel, 413-256-4606.*

Officers:

President: Cynthia Weigel
 Vice President: David Boyden
 Secretary: Susan Ashman
 Treasurer: Bruce Klotz

Trustees:

Linda Hanscom
 George Naughton
 Sharrie Reydak
 Virginia Servos
 Sharyn Wentworth

FROM THE TOWN CLERK

CENSUS

The 2025 Annual Street Listing forms has been mailed. Please complete the form according to the instructions provided and return at your earliest convenience. Election law requires that the Board of Registrars, each year, verify the residence of voters for the purpose of keeping the voter registration rolls accurate. The Annual Street List is the primary tool for doing this. If a voter does not respond to the first or second Annual Street List mailings, they will be placed into INACTIVE status and a Confirmation Card will be mailed to them. If the voter fails to return the Confirmation Card they will remain in Inactive Status. If they are in inactive status when they go to the polls to vote, they will be required to complete and sign an affidavit of current and continued residence and to show official documentation that confirms their residential address.

DOGS

2024 Dog Licenses expire on March 31, 2025 and must be renewed by May 31, 2025 to avoid a late fee. Any dog license renewed on or after June 1 will incur a late fee. All dogs 6 months or older must be licensed annually.

DOG LICENSE FEES

- o \$6 for a spayed or neutered dog.
Proof of spaying or neutering must be provided if procedure was done since the previous license was issued.
- ⇒ \$10 for a non-spayed/non-neutered dog.

*BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, NEW FEE SCHEDULE

TO LICENSE BY MAIL:

- ◆ **A copy of the current rabies vaccination certificate for each dog if done less than a year ago**
- ◆ **Proof of neutering or spaying if procedure done less than a year ago**
- ◆ **A #10 size SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to return the license and tag**
- ◆ **Check payable to "Town of Pelham"**

Send the following items to:

Town Clerk
351 Amherst Road
Pelham, MA 01002

HAPPY SPRING FROM THE PELHAM LIBRARY!

In this issue we're spotlighting our Library of Things, a sustainability initiative allowing the community to borrow items you might only need once in a while and might not need to own. Why buy new when you can borrow? This growing collection includes:

- ◆ *Knife sharpener, a coffee urn and 2 large buffet servers with warming trays*
- ◆ *Flatbed scanner, a portable DVD player and an external CD drive*
- ◆ *Car error code reader, a Kill-a-Watt electric usage meter and a radon detector*
- ◆ *Sewing machine, a mending kit and a button maker*
- ◆ *Film-to-digital converter and a cassette-to-digital converter*
- ◆ *Telescope*
- ◆ *Pack-n-Play portable crib*
- ◆ *Plethora of puzzles, games, science kits and arts kits for all ages*

Of course, we also have lots of new books, movies, audiobooks and magazines arriving weekly, and lots of programs happening all the time, many of them in collaboration with other groups in town and including a monthly Ask a Nurse drop-in session, monthly open office hours with State Representative Aaron Saunders, a monthly Reiki circle, weekly playgroup and Storytime for littles, and yoga classes for adults. Be sure to sign up for Wowbrary for a weekly newsletter with our latest news and new books each week. Sign up at wowbrary.org/signup.aspx. Visit our website, pelham-library.net and our Facebook page, Pelham Library MA to be in the know about all the latest happenings and all of our electronic offerings. Let us know if you'd like to receive our email newsletter as well.



Town Offices 351 Amherst Rd

Main Phone #
(413) 253-7129

**Assessor's
Clerk**
Extension 101
Lori Turati
Wednesdays
9am-12pm
& by appointment

**Collector/
Treasurer**
Extension 102
June Masee
Monday-
Thursday
8am-3:30pm

Town Clerk
Extension 103
Melissa Hibbard
Monday-
Thursday
8am-2pm

**Select Board
Executive
Assistant**
Extension 100
Susannah Carey
Monday-
Thursday

State Representatives

Representative, Aaron Saunders

7th Hampden District
(617) 722-2425 x7300

STATE HOUSE

AARON.SAUNDERS@MAHOUSE.GOV

State Senator, Jo Comerford

(617) 722-1532

STATE HOUSE

COMERFORD@MASENATE.GOV

Stay Informed!

*Do you want to be notified by your
local emergency response team in
the event of emergency situations or
critical community alerts?*

SIGN UP ONLINE:

pelhampolicema.com

Click on CodeRed icon. Enter information.



Board/Committee Meeting Schedules

REGULAR MEETINGS

Assessors, Board of

3rd Tuesday
7:30 PM
Rhodes Building,
351 Amherst Rd

Cemetery Commission

2nd Tuesday
7:30 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Conservation Commission

2nd and last Thursdays
7:00 PM
Rhodes Building,
351 Amherst Rd

Community Preservation Committee

3rd Thursday
7:00 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Council on Aging

2nd Wednesday
2:00 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Energy Committee

As needed
7:30 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Health, Board of

2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM
Rhodes Building,
351 Amherst Rd

Historical Commission

3rd Tuesday
7:30 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Housing Committee

2nd Monday
4:30 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Library Trustees

2nd Wednesday
7:30 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Planning Board

2nd Tuesday
7:00 PM
Rhodes Building & Library

School Committee

1st Tuesday & as needed
6:00 PM
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Select Board

1st & 3rd Mondays
& as needed, 7:00PM
Rhodes Building,
351 Amherst Rd

Public Bodies that meet

AS NEEDED:

- Anti-Racism Advisory Committee
- Cable Advisory Committee
- Capital Planning Committee
- Community Garden Committee
- Community Hall Committee
- Cultural Council
- Finance Committee
- IT Advisory Group
- Regional School District Planning Committee
- Sustainability Committee
- Zoning Board of Appeals

**Please note that these are
only anticipated meeting
times & locations:**

By law, definitive meeting
information is posted 48
hours in advance on

[https://
mytowngovement.org/
01002](https://mytowngovement.org/01002)

Town of Pelham
Rhodes Building
351 Amherst Road
Pelham, MA 01002

PRESORTED
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AMHERST, MA
PERMIT NO. 31



PELHAM SLATE

Spring
Edition

Photo:
*Entering Pelham,
Daniel Shays
Highway,
Northbound Lane*

