

AUGUST 2026



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

TOWN MANAGER'S OPERATIONAL REPORT

Welcome to August's Town Manager's Operational Report, providing an update on key projects, upcoming initiatives, and important community news. Inside, you'll find detailed progress on infrastructure improvements, budget highlights, and opportunities for resident engagement.



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TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

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townmanager@bridgewaterma.org

Water Update

The Town continues to make significant progress on the construction of a new treatment facility at the Plymouth Street well site. The site is expected to be fully operational and receive MassDEP approval (PFAS, Iron & Manganese treatment) in September. The Town received state approval for an emergency waiver to proceed with the emergency procurement of interim winterization enclosures for the Plymouth Street Treatment facility this month. This approval will ensure the facility can operate during the winter months, and then we will proceed with the long-term construction of the treatment facility buildings.

Some other additional updates:

1. Alternative Sources of Water

- a. Vernon Street Well Site Development - Initial water quality sample results have returned; our engineering partner, Apex, has initiated the process to prepare for pilot testing and the design-build bid selection process.
- b. My office has had communication with the City of Brockton as well as the Town of Middleborough regarding additional water supply agreements. My expectation is that I will be able to present potential agreements at a September Council meeting for the Council's consideration.
- c. Alternative Land Acquisition – The Town will continue to explore any opportunities regarding land acquisition related to water, and the Council is apprised of any discussions that have occurred at this point regarding any acquisitions of property. Further information regarding the work done regarding this will be provided at a September Council meeting.
- d. The Town met with MassDEP to discuss other areas of opportunity to move forward on water infrastructure plans. One item discussed that I wish to bring to the Council's attention is that my office will reach out to the state to explore opportunities to acquire access to, and/or lease property to access water aquifers and any well sites located on state property within Town. The initial discussion with MassDEP was well received, and I will now work with our state legislative team to advance that conversation with state officials.

2. Additional Water Infrastructure Improvements

- a. The Town is currently working on two reports that will highlight (a) overall water operations for the Town, and (b) Carvers Pond infrastructure improvements. Once those reports are completed, they will be shared with the Council, as they will help guide some of the future infrastructure improvements the Town undertakes.
- b. Carvers Pond Treatment Facility – Late August, the Town completed the following repairs at the facility: control valve replacement and approximately 20 feet of pipe that was significantly tuberculated. These repairs have provided significant improvement regarding our water capacity. Before the repairs were undertaken, the treatment facility was producing 120 gpm with only two wells able to be active; now we are seeing approximately 400 gpm with three wells active. This is a significant increase in our water capacity, and we'll provide more of an update at the September Council meeting.

Water documents/presentations previously linked to previous updates:

[Water Master Plan](#); [October Water Update](#); [Emergency Water Memo](#); [Water Dashboard](#)

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

FY27 Budget

As part of the fiscal year-end close, the Finance Director transmitted a report to the Council outlining the Town's preliminary year-end financial position. As reflected in that report, approximately \$3.1 million in revenue was received above the amount allocated through the FY26 budget. This result is consistent with the goals established in the FY26 budget resolution adopted by the Council and reflects both favorable revenue performance and prudent expenditure management during the fiscal year. In addition, the Town received a modest increase in unrestricted government aid above the amount assumed in the FY27 budget, as well as grant funding related to prison mitigation (removed from the FY26 budget), which is discussed further in the Grant Funding section of this update. These resources, together with operational decisions made during the prior fiscal year—including leaving certain positions vacant and delaying some hiring—provide the Town with limited flexibility to address several FY27 budget issues that we knew would require further attention.

In light of these circumstances, I intend to propose several budgetary adjustments to address immediate staffing and organizational challenges. I will outline these proposals more fully at the Council meeting. These proposals include a budget transfer to cover the costs of the significant volume of public records requests the Town has received in recent months, including legal and other expenses necessary to respond appropriately and in a timely manner. I will also propose adjustments to address priority operational staffing needs that we knew would have to be addressed within the fiscal year. Finally, consistent with the resolution unanimously adopted by the Council, I will submit an order that would provide sufficient funding to the Library so that a waiver request would not be necessary for the forthcoming fiscal year. While the Council previously approved a budget transfer to restore the Library's operational hours beginning in September, that action alone does not eliminate the need to seek a waiver. This additional budget action would address concerns related to the waiver process and the potential risk of decertification. I want the Council to have the opportunity to consider both options and determine its preferred approach.

It is important to emphasize to the Council and the public that these budget adjustments do not resolve the Town's underlying revenue challenges. They are short-term measures made possible by favorable prior-year results and other one-time resources, intended to address immediate operational needs during FY27. They should not be interpreted as an ongoing source of funding or as a solution to the structural imbalance between the Town's recurring revenues and growing operating costs. Personnel, contractual obligations, services, and other municipal expenses will continue to increase. Without additional recurring revenue or corresponding reductions in expenditures and services, the Town will again face difficult budget decisions as we develop the next fiscal year's budget.

You can find all of the relevant budget information, which includes the Town Manager's budget message, which is a part of the General Fund Booklet, along with other supplementary budget documents, on the Town's [Budget Dashboard](#).

Town Hall Hours

As a reminder, as part of the FY27 budget passed by the Council, most non-public-safety-facing positions had their hours reduced, and hours for various buildings were also reduced. Summer hours at Town Hall were reduced to Monday through Thursday 8-4, and closed on Friday. Beginning on September 8th, new hours for Town Hall will be Tuesdays (8-7); Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday will remain (8-4), and Town Hall will remain closed on Fridays.

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

While we have reduced hours, we collaborated with our Town Hall staff to extend hours on Tuesdays, allowing individuals who may not have had access to Town Hall during our customary hours to receive service on these extended Tuesday days.

Town Hall Hours beginning on September 8th:

Monday (8-4)

Tuesday (8-7)

Wednesday (8-4)

Thursday (8-4)

Friday (Closed)

Personnel Updates

Animal Control – The Town currently procures animal control services. Unfortunately, the company that has provided this service to the Town for the past couple of years will no longer provide animal control services for the Town and other area communities. The Town is currently working on a regional approach to animal control with some of our neighboring communities, including East Bridgewater and Raynham. Our hope is to have an intermunicipal agreement in place that ensures we can provide these essential services and operate within our existing budgeted funds. The Town Manager's office is working in collaboration with Chief Delmonte and the Police Department on this transition.

Health Agent – Unfortunately, our current agent is transitioning from his role. The Town will move forward with filling the position. In the interim, we are working with neighboring communities to secure temporary assistance and ensure that essential Health Department services are maintained during the transition.

Assistant DPW Director – In anticipation of the DPW Director's upcoming retirement, we are promoting Paul Decosta to Assistant DPW Director to address organizational priorities and needs outlined in the Collins report. Mr. Decosta has provided exemplary service to the Town for over a decade, and I am very confident that he will excel in this role.

These staffing transitions also underscore the broader organizational and financial challenges facing the Town. The UMass Collins Center recently completed an organizational review of Town departments and operations. Phil Lemnios of the Collins Center presented the findings to the Town Council on April 14th, outlining both organizational challenges and opportunities for the Town. The presentation is available online, along with a copy of the Collins Center's report [here](#).

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Grant Funding

Prison Mitigation Funds – as the Council is aware, the Town did not receive prison mitigation funds as part of the FY26 budget. My office applied for extraordinary emergency services funding, with the support and advocacy of our state representatives. I am happy to report that the Town received \$249,038 in funding for the past fiscal year. These funds will be a part of our end-of-year free cash certification.

Plymouth Street Facility - Town staff collaborated with MassDEP to secure an additional \$50,000 grant to offset costs for cybersecurity upgrades at the new facility.

Summer Street Park – Despite several challenges with this project, I am pleased to report that, largely through the advocacy of the Finance Department and the Finance Director, Laurie Guerrini, along with CED staff, working in collaboration with the state. The Town will receive a \$261,245 grant reimbursement for this project. The Town will need to appropriate additional funding and ultimately decide how to proceed with this parcel. Town staff is currently working on the necessary next steps related to the required conservation restriction.

Town River Landing Pavilion – working in collaboration with Al Lacerda and Fire for Effect, DPW town staff completed initial base work for this project and will now work with the Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School to complete the pavilion. The Town received \$30,000 in grant funding related to an earmark in the FY26 budget for this project. This is in addition to the \$30,000 received earlier in the year, bringing the total reimbursement for this project to \$60,000.

Municipal Aggregation

As a reminder for residents and businesses in Town. The Town's Community Choice Power Supply Program (municipal aggregation program) is able to provide relief to residents and businesses on their electric bills this summer. Ratepayers will continue to enjoy the stable rate of \$0.14123/kWh, which is 18 percent lower than National Grid's Residential Basic Service rate of \$0.17185/kWh and 9 percent lower than National Grid's Commercial Basic Service rate of \$0.15568/kWh, effective August 1, 2026. Residents can expect to see average savings of \$18 per month (based on an average usage of 600 kWh/month) from August 2026 through January 2027.

The Town launched its electricity program in December 2025. From inception through March 2026, ***the program has saved residents and small businesses over \$242,000 in electricity costs as compared to National Grid Basic Service.***

The Town also offers two optional products -- the first is 100% renewable, provides 37% National Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) above the state's then-current minimum requirement for renewables, at a rate of \$0.14223/kWh which is 17 percent lower than National Grid's Residential Basic Service rate; and the second includes an additional 10% MA Class I RECs at a rate of \$0.14504/kWh which is 16 percent lower than National Grid's Residential Basic Service rate. This is an average savings of \$18 and \$16 per month (based on average usage of 600 kWh/month), respectively, for the months of August 2026 through January 2027.

To join Bridgewater's Program, you can do one of two things:

1. Visit colonialpowergroup.com/bridgewater and click the OPT-IN button, then fill out and submit the Opt-In Form.
2. Call Dynegy at (866) 220-5696 and ask to join the Town of Bridgewater's Program.

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

For both of the above options, you should have your National Grid bill handy in order to provide some required information. Enrollments can only be processed on meter reads so it may take one or two billing cycles before taking effect. If you are currently contracted with your own competitive supplier, you should confirm with them that you will not incur any early termination fees or penalties for leaving their supply. You may OPT-OUT or OPT-IN at any time in the future with NO CHARGE.

Basic Service rates change twice a year or more, depending on rate class. As a result, the aggregation rate may not always be lower than the Basic Service rate. The goal of the aggregation is to deliver savings over the life of the program against National Grid's Basic Service. However, future savings cannot be guaranteed.

National Grid has several programs to help income-eligible families and customers needing special assistance meet their energy needs. To learn more visit nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs.

Residents and businesses may also contact Colonial Power Group, the Town's aggregation consultant, at (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 with questions about Bridgewater's Community Choice Power Supply Program or to OPT-IN or OPT-OUT, or to change product selection.

Bridgewater Little League

I want to personally congratulate the Bridgewater Little League team on their successful Little League run this summer. The entire Town was behind you, and you represented this Town, your family and friends, and most importantly yourselves very well. I was proud that we were able to coordinate with our Police and Fire Departments to welcome you back home, and I look forward to seeing you at a forthcoming Council meeting, so we can celebrate you appropriately.

Board/Committee Vacancies

We want to remind residents that there are numerous vacancies across our 29 boards, commissions, and committees, to which the Town appoints volunteers to serve, contributing their time and expertise to various Town functions and priorities. More details regarding vacancies and the mission of each committee can be found on the Town's website at: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/198/Boards-Committees-Commissions>

Residents who wish to apply for appointment consideration may complete the online application at: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/FormCenter/Citizens-Advisory-Committee-9/BoardCommitteeCommission-Application-57>.

The committee we will highlight this month is the Finance Committee, which has one vacancy. The Bridgewater Financial Committee is an advisory body that provides financial guidance and recommendations to the Town Manager and Town Council on the annual operating budget for all Town agencies, long-range financial planning, and advises on the development of the Town's annual capital improvement plan.



HUMAN RESOURCES

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

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HR@bridgewaterma.org



As we continue into the new fiscal year, we're taking a moment to connect, recognize our employees, and share a few highlights from around the Town. Thank you for the work you do each day to support our community and one another.

Carolyn Wood, Human Resources Director
Marisa Kurey, Human Resources Generalist

Promotions:

Paul DeCosta – Assistant DPW Director

Please join us in congratulating Paul on his promotion to Assistant Director of Public Works!

After serving as our Highway Superintendent, Paul brings valuable experience, leadership, and knowledge to his new role. As Assistant DPW Director, he will help oversee and coordinate operations across the Department of Public Works, supporting everything from roadways and facilities to fleet, water, and wastewater operations.

We're excited to see Paul take on this new opportunity and look forward to all he will accomplish in his new role. Congratulations, Paul, and best wishes in your new position!

Ed DeMolles – Roadways Foreman

We're excited to recognize Ed on his promotion to Roadways Foreman!

After serving as a Heavy Equipment Operator, Ed is stepping into a new leadership role within the Highway Department. His hands-on experience and knowledge will help guide crews, coordinate daily work, and keep projects moving safely and efficiently.

Congratulations, Ed! We're looking forward to seeing you take on this next chapter with the Town of Bridgewater.

Recruiting:

The Town of Bridgewater is actively recruiting for several exciting opportunities! Our HR team has been busy working to attract talented individuals to join our organization, including recruitment for DPW Director, Grants & Procurement Manager, and Community & Economic Development Director.

[Click Here](#) to explore the current career opportunities with the Town of Bridgewater.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Birthdays and Milestones: Celebrating Our Team:



It's time to celebrate! Join us in wishing a very happy birthday to all of our employees celebrating this month. We hope your special day is filled with plenty of joy, laughter, and time with the people who matter most. Thank you for all you bring to the Bridgewater community! Here's to another wonderful year ahead! Maddy J., Christopher P., Brian H., Michael S., Meredith R., Kelly K., Billy L., Ryan F., Brad D., Scott H., Greg P., Eric B., Joseph M., Azu E., Christopher M., Dan L., Thomas M., Nicole S., Jed P., Elizabeth M., Jolie S-M., David M., Michael B., Donald S., Marisa K., Allyson J., Craig N. and Marc S-H.

This month, we're celebrating the employees reaching service milestones! Your dedication, hard work, and years of service have helped shape our organization and strengthen the community we serve. Congratulations on this achievement and thank you for all you've contributed along the way! Matthew F., Eric B., Matthew M., Amy B., Laurel C., Renee R., Ashley P., Nicholas M., Josh M., Gino S., Brian L., Adam S., Theodore B., Carolyn W., David H., Timothy A., Katelyn O., John B., John F., Michael S., Ryan C., Sean C. and Daniel N.



Should you have any questions or require assistance with any HR-related matters, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at HR@bridgewaterma.org.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Accounting | Assessing | Revenue Collection | Treasury

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0926

Finance Departments Update – Laurie Guerrini/Finance Director

Accounting Operational Update

During the months of July and August, the Accounting Department remained focused on completing the FY2026 year-end closeout and required year-end reporting - while continuing to support the Town's ongoing financial and administrative operations. Accounting is finalizing the reconciliations and review of multiple accounts and is preparing the Department of Revenue (DOR) Combined Balance Sheet year-end reporting required for Free Cash certification.

The Department also completed the required CP-3 reporting ahead of the September 15 deadline, while simultaneously submitting the CP-1 and CP-2 reports through Gateway. These year-end reporting requirements required careful review and coordination to ensure financial information was accurate and submitted in accordance with state requirements.

To prepare for the upcoming Tax Recap submission, Shelley, Michelle B., Michelle R., and Ashley attended DLS's (*Division of Local Services*) Board of Assessors Tax Rate Training at the new Fire Station. The training provided an opportunity to review the tax-rate process and prepare the Department for the Tax Recap submission anticipated later this fall along with many other attendees from various communities around the Commonwealth.

The Accounting Department continues its collaboration with many town Departments including the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and Facilities Department with the procurement process for the Cemeteries Assessment and Landscaping project. Following a competitive procurement process, Ellis Landscaping was selected for the landscaping portion of the project. The Cemetery Assessment has been extended to 9/16/26.

In addition to these major year-end and reporting initiatives, the Department continues to manage its daily financial responsibilities, including posting cash receipts, reconciling accounts, researching and correcting financial discrepancies, and responding to public requests in a timely manner. Laurie M. continues her weekly review of invoices as part of the Accounts Payable process, while Julie maintains the weekly payroll process to ensure employees were paid accurately and on schedule.

Throughout July and August, the Accounting Department continued to provide financial guidance and operational support to Town departments, assisting with questions, transactions, reporting requirements, and other financial needs as they arose. Despite the demands of the fiscal year-end process, the Department remains committed to maintaining accurate financial records, meeting required deadlines, and providing responsive service to both Town departments and the public.

FY2026 Financial Reporting for June 2026 can be found on the town website:
FY2026 Financial Reporting – June 2026:
June 2026 - FY26

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Assessing Operational Update

A friendly reminder that the assessing department mailed out a second mailing for Fiscal Year 2027 confidential information request under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59 S. 38D the second week of July and are due immediately.

When determining commercial and industrial property values, the Board must weigh financial as well as physical attributes. Completing and returning this form will help ensure the development of a sound basis to estimate the Income Approach to value. This information will only be used to generate "market" income and expense levels for commercial and industrial properties. INCOME AND EXPENSE INFORMATION IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION and the office staff will take every precaution to prevent its disclosure.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 508-659-1272 or 1273.

The assessor's office is preparing a mailing of all real estate tax exemption applications to all taxpayers that filed last year in the first week of October. The applications are due by April 1, 2027, or three months after the mailing of the actual tax bills for the fiscal year, whichever is later, but we encourage taxpayers to submit their applications as soon as received through the second week of December, so the exemption appears on the tax bill.

Treasurer/Revenue Collecting Operational Update

Fiscal Year 2027 Quarter 1 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills were Due 8/3/26.

REAL ESTATE

More than 8,300 Real Estate tax payments were processed totaling approximately \$16M in revenue.

- 55% of payments were received electronically via mortgage and escrow companies.
- 18% of payments were received at Town Hall.
- 14% of payments were mailed to the Collector's P.O. Box.
- 13% of payments were made through the Town website.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

More than 240 Personal Property tax payments were processed totaling approximately \$571K in revenue.

- 60% of payments were mailed to the Collector's P.O. Box.
- 25% of payments were made through the Town website.
- 15% of payments were received at Town Hall.

The Town offers in-person payment at the Collector office and online option for payment
<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/310/Online-Payment-Center>

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

THANK YOU to residents, staff, and the Council for staying engaged and supporting the Town's financial health.

Finance Contact Information

Assessing

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/161/Assessing>

Phone: 508-697-0928

Accounting

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/160/Accounting>

Phone: 508-697-0926

Treasurer/Revenue Collecting

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/1483/TreasurerRevenue-Collecting>

Phone: 508-697-0923



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1185 Pleasant St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0900
bridgewaterfire.org

Fire Department – Objectives and Updates August 27, 2026

Training

- **Standpipe Operations** - This month, all groups utilized the department's training tower to conduct drills on standpipe operations. Standpipe systems are permanently installed piping systems found in larger and multi-story buildings that allow firefighters to connect hose lines at various floors rather than stretching lines from the street. Training focused on locating and identifying standpipe connections, properly charging the system, and advancing hose lines from the standpipe outlet to the fire floor. The training tower provided an ideal environment for members to work through these evolutions hands-on and build familiarity with the equipment and procedures before encountering them on an actual incident.
- **4-Gas Meter Scenarios** - Building on the classroom training completed last month, all groups participated in a series of mock call scenarios designed to put their 4-gas meter knowledge into practice. Scenarios were simulated as being dispatched by radio without prior crew briefing, requiring members to respond, investigate, and make mitigation decisions as they would on an actual call. Each evolution was followed by a group debrief to reinforce key decision points and discuss what went well and where improvements could be made. This type of scenario-based training ensures that the fundamentals covered in July translate into confident, effective action in the field.

Community Engagement

- Falmouth Road Race (8/16/26) The Bridgewater Fire Department is proud of FF Chris Hamilton and FF Mike Rosa, who took on the Falmouth Road Race as members of the Tiny Transplant Titans Team. Chris and Mike ran in honor of Mia, the daughter of fellow firefighter FF Ben Garlington, who is currently awaiting a liver transplant. Their dedication, strength, and willingness to support Mia and the Garlington family is what being part of the fire service is all about. Congratulations, Chris and Mike, on an incredible race—and thank you for running for such an important cause!



FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Bridgewater Little League Wiffle Ball Tournament (8/16/26) – Our firefighters took the Tower truck to Legion Field during the Wiffle Ball Tournament fundraiser. It was great to see the community come together to support the 12U Team that was headed to the Little League World Series.
- Welcome Home to Bridgewater Little League 12U Team (8/24/26) – We were happy to participate in the welcome home parade for the Bridgewater Little League 12U team who were returning from the Little League World Series. What an amazing experience for this team and we are so proud of these boys!
- BSU Resident Assistant Training/Fire Safety Presentation (8/25/26) – Lt. Thomas Luckman III & FF Cori Handorff presented at the Resident Assistant Training held at Bridgewater State University. They went over fire safety risks in large residential communities, evacuation procedures during a fire alarm or fire emergency, what information Residents Assistants should provide to the fire department, and how the RA's can effectively support first responders.



Upcoming Events

- 25th Anniversary of 9/11 Ceremony (9/11/26)
- 2nd Annual Public Safety Mass (9/12/26)
- 31st Annual Fire & Life Safety Education Conference (9/16-9/17/26)
- BSU Job & Internship Fair (9/17/26)
- BFFA Local 2611 Golf Tournament (9/21/26)
- BSU National Night Out (9/24/26)
- Autumn Fest (9/26/26)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for January – July 2026:

	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	YTD Totals
Fire	12	5	6	13	4	12	7	59
EMS	308	313	268	306	316	304	328	2143
False Alarm	11	5	16	6	69	75	99	281
Other	131	111	126	100	44	47	43	602
Totals:	462	434	416	425	433	438	477	3085



ELDER AFFAIRS

10 Wally Krueger Way
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0929

Bridgewater Council on Aging Monthly Operational Report – August

August was another active month at the Bridgewater Senior Center, with a continued focus on providing meaningful programs, opportunities for connection, and access to information and resources for older adults and the broader community.

On August 12, the Center welcomed members of the Charter Review Committee, who met with residents to explain the Committee's role and answer questions about the charter review process. Hosting this discussion at the Senior Center provided residents with an accessible opportunity to learn more about an important town process and have their questions addressed directly.

On August 18, the Bridgewater Senior Center welcomed the TRIAD program and District Attorney Tim Cruz for a presentation on financial scams and ways older adults can protect themselves from becoming victims. Members learned about common scams, warning signs, and steps they can take to protect their finances and personal information. Following the presentation, members enjoyed an ice cream social. We sincerely thank TRIAD and District Attorney Tim Cruz for taking the time to visit the Senior Center and provide this important information to our members.

On August 25, the Center welcomed Tara Hammes, Registered Dietitian and Healthy Aging Manager for the Massachusetts Councils on Aging, for a presentation on Cooking for One. The educational program addressed some of the unique challenges older adults may face when preparing meals for themselves and provided practical strategies for healthy meal planning, nutrition, and overall wellness. The program supported the Center's continued commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles, independence, and well-being among older residents.

On August 26, the Center concluded the summer season with its annual End of Summer Bash. Participants enjoyed an afternoon filled with entertainment, food, and plenty of laughs. The event provided another opportunity for older adults to build friendships, stay connected, and reduce social isolation while celebrating the end of summer in a fun and welcoming atmosphere.

Overall, August programming reflected the Center's continued role as a place where older adults could gather, learn, participate, and remain connected to their community.



ELDER AFFAIRS



District Attorney Tim Cruz
& TRIAD



End of Summer
Bash

ELDER AFFAIRS

September 2026

The Bridgewater Senior Center continues to focus on providing meaningful opportunities for connection, education, community engagement, and support for older adults. September programming will highlight National Senior Center Month, while also offering educational presentations, social activities, community outings, and opportunities to connect with local public safety and community partners.

Every Wednesday, our wonderful volunteers prepare a Bistro lunch that is open to everyone in the community. For just \$5.00, participants receive a full home-cooked meal, dessert, and, most importantly, great company. Everyone is welcome to join us. We simply ask that participants call approximately one week in advance so our volunteers can make sure we have enough food for everyone.

National Senior Center Month – Spirit Week

The Center will celebrate National Senior Center Month with Spirit Week, September 14–18. Each day will feature a different theme and activity designed to encourage participation, build connections among members, and celebrate the many experiences, backgrounds, and interests that make our senior community unique.

- Monday – Sports Day: Sports Trivia at 10:30 AM, giving participants an opportunity to test their knowledge of athletes, teams, records, and memorable sports moments.
- Tuesday – Tie Dye & Bright Colors: Participants will create their own tie-dye designs beginning at 9:30 AM.
- Wednesday – Wacky Wednesday: Bingo at 10:30 AM will provide a morning of friendly competition, conversation, and prizes.
- Thursday – Town of Bridgewater Day: “Hidden History” at 11:30 AM will explore Bridgewater’s history, local stories, landmarks, and memories shared by residents.
- Friday – Rock Your Roots: An all-day opportunity for participants to share stories about their hometowns, family traditions, cultures, favorite memories, and the places that have shaped their lives.

LGBTQ+ Senior Lunch

The LGBTQ+ Senior Lunch is returning from its summer break. The next gathering will take place on September 3 at 12:00 PM and will feature Mighty Music Bingo. This monthly program provides an opportunity for LGBTQ+ seniors and friends to enjoy lunch, music, conversation, and community connection in a welcoming environment.

TRIAD Presentation – Plymouth County Registry of Deeds

On Tuesday, September 15 at 12:30 PM, the Center will host Register of Deeds Buckley for an educational TRIAD presentation focused on issues that may affect older homeowners. The presentation will cover the Homestead Act, the Registry’s Property Fraud Alert program, and recording issues that may impact older residents. An on-site workstation will also be available so participants can check the status of a mortgage discharge, print a copy of their deed, and see demonstrations of Registry technology. The program will include a question-and-answer session, with informational pamphlets available for attendees.

ELDER AFFAIRS

Van Trip to C.N. Smith Farm

On Monday, September 21 at 10:00 AM, participants will have the opportunity to join Scott for a van trip to C.N. Smith Farm. Transportation will be provided at no cost to participants. Attendees will be responsible for purchasing their own produce. Sign-ups are required by September 16.

Looking Ahead

The Center is also planning several community-focused programs for the coming months.

October 7 at 10:00 AM – Coffee with a Cop

Residents will have an opportunity to join Police Chief Chris Delmonte for coffee and an informal conversation about the Bridgewater Police Department. This program will provide an opportunity for seniors to ask questions, learn more about local public safety, and strengthen connections with the department.

November 4 at 11:30 AM – Veterans Day Luncheon

The Center will host its annual Veterans Day Luncheon to recognize and thank local veterans for their service. Sign-ups will begin October 5, with Bridgewater residents receiving priority.



PUBLIC WORKS

25 South St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0932

Department of Public Works Operational Report Summary and Highlights for May 2026

In addition to the reporting that follows, there are many ongoing projects at various stages that the Department of Public Works is involved with, which are too numerous to detail herein. We are happy to provide further information on request.

Executive Summary - Azu Etoniru, P.E., P.L.S., Director

The Department of Public Works (DPW) and its Divisions (Administration, Engineering, Highway, Sewer, Water, and Facilities) continue to deliver engineering, highway, sewer, water infrastructure development and management services, public buildings and facilities operations maintenance and management, ***with the health, safety, and welfare of the public always held paramount above all else.***

As with the prior months, during the **months of July and August**, the DPW staff focused on numerous roads and public lands cleanup and maintenance work, remnants of the harsh winter storms, primarily on repairing of potholes and sinkholes; removal of fallen trees and tree branches that pose public hazard; repairing damaged mailboxes, curbs, lawns, and signs; equipment maintenance and repairs by the fleet maintenance group; replacement of flooring and wall painting at the Roadways Division building.

The DPW's Water Division continued with the effort to stabilize the town's water supply and treatment – the inter-municipal agreement for temporary water supply by the Town of Middleborough has been extended to October 2026; work on the installation of treatment vessels for wells 10A and 10B has progressed very well and nearing finalization and completion for activation. Several damaged hydrants were replaced. Water line breaks were repaired. Maintenance work on Carver's Pond Treatment Plant raw water main(s) and treated water main(s) and several wells were performed. Work has continued with the sewer plant upgrade work; continued work on the SCADA integration for the wastewater treatment plant; continued to address facilities maintenance work; Work on the reconstruction of Winter Street (from Bedford Street to Conant Street) commenced and it is progressing very well.

The Engineering Division continued with their review and inspections of several projects under construction, as well as performing several surveying and engineering design work for town-initiated projects, and stormwater compliance work under Federal MS4 mandate. The Highway Division oversaw the maintenance and cleaning of 1976 catch basins throughout the town. The installation of a new roof at the Police Station was completed, and masonry repair work at the Station commenced. Kudos to the Highway Division personnel who worked very diligently to keep the roads clean and safe for the 4th of July parade and fireworks!

The Highway Superintendent who has served the DPW exceptionally as the lead person for the Highway Division has assumed the role of Assistant DPW Director, congratulations to Paul DeCosta!



POLICE DEPARTMENT

220 Pleasant St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-6118
bridgewaterpolice.org

Operational Update for the Police Department:

1. On July 23, we met with Elm Street business owners regarding continuing problems with the Amazon Distribution Center and delivery drivers. We also met with local Amazon managers to convey concerns and issues, however, no further communication was received from Amazon after the meeting.
2. On July 27, we met with Department of Mental Health coordinators of the Jail Diversion Grant program regarding our regional co-response clinician. Our clinician, Alyssa March, works with Bridgewater, West Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, and Whitman Police Departments and responds with officers to calls for mental health or substance abuse. Although we are the fiduciary of the Jail Diversion Grant administered by Lt. Hile, Alyssa does follow-up referral and co-response for all our regional partners.
3. During the week of July 27 – 31, School Resource Officer John Pestana, Detective Kevin Kearns, and local peer leaders chaperoned a delegation of Bridgewater kids as part of the Plymouth County District Attorney's DARE Summer Camp at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School. Lt. Scott Hile also participated in the cookout and graduation on July 31.
4. On August 5, we participated in an after-action debrief at the Department of Corrections complex at Bridgewater following an escape drill.
5. On August 6, we participated in a meeting with representatives of National Faith & Blue. This is an organization created to connect local faith-based groups with law enforcement in a positive way. The department will again participate in activities at our station on Saturday, October 10 to include a clothing drive to benefit My Brother's Keeper of Easton, and a blood drive to benefit Dana Farber Cancer Institute.
6. On August 18, we attended a senior TRIAD meeting and presentation by the District Attorney at the Senior Center. TRIAD is a nationally based but locally activated safety initiative that combines public safety, community groups, and seniors. Ofcr. Chris Paze and retired Lt. Anne Schuster represent the department on the working group.
7. On August 26, we hosted a regional meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (SEMLEC), a regional mutual aid collaborative combining the resources of 30 police departments in our area.
8. In the month of August, we met with representatives of East Bridgewater and Raynham on developing and sharing a regional Animal Control Officer.
9. In the month of August, we met with several Town Councilor's and presented at a subcommittee meeting on the use of ALPR technology and its value in criminal investigations locally.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Upcoming events:

1. 25th Anniversary Memorial Service of 9/11 on Friday, September 11, 2026 at Fire Station Headquarters.
2. Public Safety Mass on Saturday, September 12 at 4 p.m. at St. Aquinas Parish Church on Center Street.
3. 29th Citizens Police Academy Class starting on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at Police Station.
4. 12th Annual Bridgewater Police 5K & 1 Mile Kids Fun Run on Saturday, September 26, 2026 at Police Station.



Twelfth Annual BRIDGEWATER POLICE 5K & 1M KIDS FUN RUN



**Registration for the 12th Annual Bridgewater
Police 5K & 1M Kids Fun Run on
Saturday, September 26, 2026 is now open!**

Enjoy a beautiful run through historic downtown Bridgewater, followed by awards and raffles. This is sure to be a fun time for families and runners of all ages. The course is relatively flat, and fast! This event starts and ends at the Bridgewater Police Station. All participants must adhere to COVID guidelines in effect at the time of the race.

tinyurl.com/12th-Annual-BPD5k

The Kids 1M Fun Run will be a timed event and will begin PROMPTLY at 8:30am, followed by the 5K PROMPTLY at 9:00am. Kids participating in the fun run must be accompanied by an adult or guardian for the duration of the event. Parents need to register the children in advance for the race but it's free. Please bring a donation of a nonperishable food item for the local food pantries, which we will distribute.

**OUR 2026 RACE
WILL SUPPORT**



The PC CISM Team (Plymouth County Critical Incident Stress Management Team) provides peer to peer support and guidance in post traumatic incidents. The team is comprised of first responders across multiple agencies from law enforcement, fire services, dispatchers, EMS, ER staff and licensed clinicians. You can donate directly to the team via Venmo below.



[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BRIDGEWATERPOLICESK](https://www.facebook.com/BRIDGEWATERPOLICESK)

POLICE DEPARTMENT



A commemorative poster for the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. The top half features a large American flag on the left and a city skyline with searchlights on the right. In the center, the text reads "25TH ANNIVERSARY 9 ★ 11". Below this, a firefighter's helmet with the number 343 and a police officer's cap are shown. The text "WE REMEMBER ★ WE HONOR ★ WE UNITE" is centered. Below that, a paragraph invites people to join in honoring the 2,977 lives lost and the heroes who continue to serve. The bottom half of the poster has a dark blue background with the text "NEVER FORGET. FOREVER UNITED." in white. Below this, three logos are displayed: Bridgewater, MA Fire Department; Bridgewater, MA Veterans Office; and Bridgewater, MA Police Department. At the bottom, the date and time of the event are listed, along with the location and parking information.

25TH ANNIVERSARY 9 ★ 11

WE REMEMBER ★ WE HONOR ★ WE UNITE

Join us as we honor the 2,977 innocent lives lost on September 11, 2001, and the heroes who continue to serve and protect our community and our country.

NEVER FORGET. FOREVER UNITED.

BRIDGEWATER FIRE DEPARTMENT

BRIDGEWATER, MA FIRE DEPARTMENT

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER VETERANS OFFICE

BRIDGEWATER, MA VETERANS OFFICE

BRIDGEWATER POLICE

BRIDGEWATER, MA POLICE DEPARTMENT

FRIDAY, 9/11/2026

9:00 AM

BRIDGEWATER FIRE HEADQUARTERS
1185 Pleasant St
Bridgewater, MA 02324

PARKING AVAILABLE ON SITE
WITH OVERFLOW PARKING ON DRIFTWOOD DRIVE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

29th Citizens Police Academy Class

Bridgewater Police Department | 220 Pleasant St. | Bridgewater, MA 02324

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

10 WEEK PROGRAM

START DATE: WED., SEPT. 23RD 2026

WHERE: Bridgewater Police Station

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS from 6-9 p.m.

WHAT: Bridgewater Police Officers teach classes designed to familiarize residents with the daily operations of the police department.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

Constitutional Law, Motor Vehicle Law, Community Policing, Use of Force, K-9 Unit, Domestic Violence, Patrol Procedures, Officer Survival, ALICE, Defensive Tactics, Police Simulator, Drone Operations, OUI Liquor, Mock Trial & Courtroom Procedures and Drug Enforcement.

Participants will also have the opportunity to ride-along with officers on patrol, tour the Old Colony Correctional Institution at Bridgewater and observe the judicial process at Brockton District Court.

****Applications are available on our website at bridgewaterpolice.org and can be emailed to Sergeant O'Connell at: roconnell@bridgewaterma.org or dropped off to the Police Station**