

OCTOBER 2025



# TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

## TOWN MANAGER'S OPERATIONAL REPORT

Welcome to October'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.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Town Manager's Office .....	<u>Page 3</u>
Human Resources .....	<u>Page 5</u>
Finance Department .....	<u>Page 7</u>
Fire Department .....	<u>Page 9</u>
Police Department .....	<u>Page 11</u>
Public Works Department .....	<u>Page 12</u>
Health Department .....	<u>Page 14</u>
Building Department .....	<u>Page 15</u>
Elder Affairs .....	<u>Page 16</u>
Community & Economic Development .....	<u>Page 18</u>
Bridgewater Public Library .....	<u>Page 19</u>
Parks & Recreation .....	<u>Page 21</u>





# TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

66 Central Square  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0919  
[townmanager@bridgewaterma.org](mailto:townmanager@bridgewaterma.org)

## **Message from the Town Manager**

First, I hope you enjoy our refreshed operational update. I hope you find this information useful in becoming informed about the latest happenings in our respective Town departments. As part of this update, I will be launching an “Ask the Town Manager” component to this operational update. Every month, we will select a question we have received and address it as part of our organizational update. This is another way we will communicate with you, and I look forward to receiving your questions. Questions can be sent to the following email: [townmanager@bridgewaterma.org](mailto:townmanager@bridgewaterma.org).

As we transitioned to Fall, I have had the pleasure of attending some of the wonderful community events in Town, which include Autumn-Fest. I want to thank the Bridgewater Business Association, Bridgewater State University, and the various vendors for hosting such a wonderful event. Furthermore, I was very honored to attend the 78th ROC Plymouth Police Academy graduation for recruits, Officers Ryan Conboy, Andrew Nelson, and Nicholas Mantalos. I would like to congratulate them, their families, and friends on this accomplishment, and I am confident that they will serve the Town well and become excellent officers. I look forward to some of the other community events occurring in October, such as the “Stuff a Cruiser” event in partnership with the Bridgewater Police Department, Saint Thomas Aquinas’ Youth Group, and My Brother’s Keeper on October 11th, as well as Trunk or Treat on October 25th.

At Council meetings in September, there were several Town Manager updates that included our strategy regarding the Hale Street property, the Town’s municipal energy aggregation program (more info on the following page), an update regarding the work being done on the Town’s new website design, which is expected to launch in the winter, collaboration with the UMASS Collins Center regarding conducting an organizational review of the Town’s departments and processes (more information provided below), as well as efforts to secure grant funds to address pedestrian crosswalks and safety in the downtown area amongst other topics. I encourage residents to review the documents and/or video associated with these Council meetings to hear about some of the work we are doing. At upcoming Council meetings in October, we will address water infrastructure challenges and opportunities, as well as the Town’s continued work regarding the FY26 budget and collective bargaining agreements.

## **Organizational Review**

During my three months with the Town, I have quickly come to realize how great a team we have here in the Town of Bridgewater. Despite that, there are always ways we can improve as an organization. I am committed to supporting our staff and community in ensuring that we provide the best possible service to the Town, in a climate where there is increased demand for service from the Town on our staff, along with significant capital improvement projects on the horizon. I believe it is prudent for the Town to undergo a comprehensive organizational review that will help us meet the demands and challenges we face in the current climate and in the future. This organizational review will assess all Town departments, collaborate with our department heads, and identify any structural, procedural, or technological improvements that can be implemented within the organization. It will also provide recommendations on staffing levels, as more of our staff have been asked to do more with less because of our current budgetary constraints. The Collins Center is expected to present its report and findings to me and the Council sometime early next year.

# TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

## Municipal Electricity Aggregation

I am pleased to say that I have executed an agreement to launch the Town's municipal aggregation program. Essentially, Municipal Aggregation allows us to use the Town's collective buying power to secure a competitively priced, fixed electricity supply for our residents and small businesses, while keeping the same utility service you rely on every day. It allows consumers to have options and make the most cost-effective decisions for themselves. The highlight of the program is that it's an opt-out program, where residents can opt in or out based on meter reads with no fees or penalties. The Town's standard default rate will be \$0.14123, effective December 2025, and will remain fixed for 35 months. In comparison, the National Grid basic service rate is \$0.15484 through January 31, 2026. So, while residents will initially realize savings through our program, basic service rates change twice a year, generally, so while the Town's default rate is lower than National Grid's, the aggregation rate may not always be lower than the Basic Service Rate. The Colonial Power Group (which is our Town's aggregation consultant) and I will be hosting several community outreach meetings, so we can talk more about the program and answer any questions that you may have. The Town will launch a dedicated page that provides more information about the program, including a FAQ section and other relevant details about our program.

## 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 **Citizen Advisory Committee**, which has two (2) vacancies. The Citizen Advisory Committee advises the Town Manager on the selection of appointees for the Town's multiple-member bodies. They usually meet once a month in the evening to conduct interviews with interested volunteers and serve as part of an integral process to the Town manager's recommended appointments.





# HUMAN RESOURCES

66 Central Square  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0971  
HR@bridgewaterma.org

The HR team continues to support and celebrate Town employees in meaningful ways. This month, we welcomed new team members, recognized promotions, said farewell to those moving on, and hosted events that foster employee engagement. From celebrations and milestones to appreciation across departments, HR remains committed to ensuring our workforce feels valued, connected, and supported.

## Welcoming New Team Members:



### ***Kajelyn Beardsley – Executive Assistant to the Town Manager***

Please join us in welcoming our new Executive Assistant to the Town Manager's Office, Kajelyn Beardsley! Kajelyn brings valuable experience and a collaborative spirit. In this role, she will support the Town Manager and help ensure efficient communication and coordination across departments and residents. We're excited to have her on board and look forward to the positive impact she will make.

## Promotions:

We are pleased to announce that three of our Police Cadets have been officially promoted to the rank of Patrol Officer. Please join us in congratulating Officer Nelson, Officer Conboy, and Officer Mantalos on this significant achievement.

Each of them has demonstrated exceptional dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving our community throughout their time as cadets. Their promotions are well deserved, and we are confident they will continue to uphold the highest standards in their new roles.



We wish them great success and look forward to their continued contributions to the department and the Town.

## Farewells:



### ***Julia MacDougall – Assistant Librarian***

Please join us in wishing Julia MacDougall all the best as she embarks on an exciting new chapter. Julia has accepted an opportunity to pursue her graduate studies in London!

During her time as Assistant Librarian, Julia has been a dedicated, resourceful, and thoughtful member of our team. Her support for staff and patrons alike has made a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed.

# HUMAN RESOURCES

## Employee Engagement:

We recently hosted an informative session featuring two guest presenters: Vito DeSimone from Empower Retirement and Chris LaFlamme from Plymouth County Retirement Association. Employees had the opportunity to learn more about their retirement options, ask questions, and gain a better understanding of the benefits available to them.

Thank you to Vito and Chris for sharing their expertise, and to all staff who attended and participated in the discussion.



## Celebrations and Appreciation:



We're excited to recognize our employees who celebrated birthdays this month! Please join us in wishing a very **Happy Birthday** to: Austin A., Yamaris T.M., Andrew D., James L., Kevin K., Ryan B., Kajelyn B., Brian M., Gregory T., Jesse A., Gary B., James C., Jeffrey G., Jeffrey D., Richard C., Gerald W., David F., Chris C., Lisa M., Michael R., and Peter B.

We'd also like to congratulate our employees celebrating work anniversaries this month! Thank you for your dedication, hard work, and ongoing commitment — your contributions make a real difference. Andrew F., Christine S., Gary S., Jolie S.M., Andres O., Christopher P., Kevin K., Ryan O., Julianna C., Jane B., Christopher C., Caleb T.S., Michael C., Jesse A., Troy A., Joseph M., Ryan B., and Katelyn P.



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](mailto:HR@bridgewaterma.org). Thank you for your continued dedication and support to this Town!



# 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

It's been a busy start to the new fiscal year! Over the summer, the Accounting team wrapped up FY2025. The Town's annual financial report for the state has been completed, and "Free Cash" has been certified, our available savings, which will be shared with the Town Council.

The GASB report, which sets the rules for how towns must present their finances, has been completed and approved. Following these standards, Bridgewater's reports are clear, consistent, and easy to compare with other communities. The Worker's Compensation Audit for FY25 has been submitted and is under review pending final approval from the insurance company auditors.

This November, our independent auditors will be back in Bridgewater to take a close look at last year's activity and help prepare the official financial statements.

Meanwhile, our day-to-day work continues processing payroll, paying vendors, and making sure every department has the reports and support they need to stay on track with their budgets.

We're also keeping a close eye on the many capital projects happening around town, including:

- New Fire Station Headquarters
- Roadways and Drainage Improvements
- Planning and engineering Water infrastructure
- High Street Dam Drainage

We're committed to keeping Bridgewater's finances on track and transparent, while making sure resources are in place for the projects that improve our town every day.

### Assessing Operational Update

The assessor's office will be mailing out real estate tax exemption applications to all taxpayers who filed last year in the last week of September. The applications are due by **April 1, 2026**, or three months after the mailing of the actual tax bills for the fiscal year, whichever is later.

**We encourage taxpayers to submit their applications starting October 1 through the first week of December, so the exemption appears on the tax bill.**

Any taxpayer who has not received an application and applied last year, or any new taxpayer who would like to inquire about exemptions, please contact the assessor's office at 508-697-0928.

The assessor's department also committed motor vehicle commitment #5 to the collector on September 16, 2025, in the amount of \$164,214.62.

**Commitment #5 has an issue date of September 24, 2025, and a due date of October 23, 2025.**



# FINANCE DEPARTMENT

## Treasurer/Revenue Collecting Operational Update

Department activities followed the standard monthly cycle, with no tax due dates or unusual matters this month.

**The Town offers in-person payment at the Collector office and on-line option for payment**

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/310/Online-Payment-Center>

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**More updates to come as the year unfolds.**

**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

22 School St.  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0900  
bridgewaterfire.org

## Fire Department – Objectives and Updates September 26, 2025

**New Fire Station (1185 Pleasant St.)** – The new Fire Station at 1185 Pleasant Street is coming along and is expected to be open by the end of the year or beginning of next year.

**Remembrance Ceremony (9/11/25)** - A remembrance ceremony was held for the 24th Anniversary of September 11, 2001. Our on-duty personnel assembled at attention in front of Headquarters. Lt. Thomas Luckman III rang the bell: 5-5-5-5 (4 sets of 5 chimes each). Chief John Schlatz read a prayer and Deputy Chief Glen Grafton read the Firefighter's Prayer. A moment of silence was held to remember the 343 Firefighters that died in the line of duty & the total of 2,977 people that were killed in the terrorist attacks that day!

**Bridgewater Firefighters 4th Annual Golf Fundraiser (9/15/25)** – The Bridgewater Firefighters Local 2611 held their 4th annual golf tournament at Olde Scotland Links Golf Course. Thanks to all who participated and donated! It was a great day!

**Fire & Life Safety Education Conference (9/17-9/18/25)** – Firefighters Jason Anacki & Billy Lieb attended the 30th Anniversary Fire & Life Safety Education Conference. This year's theme was "Stay the Course: 30 Years of Navigating Fire & Life Safety Education". Thank you to the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services for this excellent conference! We truly enjoyed the speakers & workshops offered!



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Training:

- Communications - All groups participated in a communications exercise utilizing portable radios. Talking on the radio during a major emergency requires a certain cadence and brevity that is difficult to replicate under training conditions. This training scenario was conducted by splitting the duty group up into four teams, that corresponded to their primary apparatus assignments for the day. Each time was split into two smaller groups, one group was given a Lego instruction booklet, and the other group was given the pieces. The challenge was for all four groups to attempt to build their Lego set while talking on the same radio frequency. This drill highlighted the importance of using objective terminology and keeping radio transmissions as short as possible to get the point across, as well as trying to work around the other teams also talking on the radio.
- Automotive Extrication - Chuckran's Auto Parts continued their longstanding tradition of supporting the Fire Department by dropping off several junk cars behind Station 2. With Chuckran's help we were able to train on our vehicle extrication tools, otherwise known as the "Jaws of Life". Groups were able to practice removing a trapped victim from a car by removing the doors, roof and "rolling" the dashboard. They also trained in stabilizing a vehicle using rescue struts and moving the vehicle without being able to use its own power.

## Community Engagement/Events:

- Bridgewater State University Job & Internship Fair (9/18/25) – Firefighter/Paramedics Jason Akstin & Mike Murano participated in the Job & Internship Fair held at Bridgewater State University. They were able to interact with many college students & provide information on how to become a Firefighter. Thank you to Bridgewater State University for inviting us to participate!
- Department of Fire Services - Opening of Class A Burn Building (09/25/25) – Chief Schlatz attended the Opening of the New Class A Burn Building at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Bridgewater Campus.

## Upcoming Events:

- Autumn Fest (9/27/25)
- Bridgewater Raynham Educational Foundation Touch-A-Truck, Edward O'Donoghue Middle School, 166 Mt. Prospect St (10/4/25)
- 2025 National Night Out – BSU Tinsley Center (10/9/25)
- Bridgewater Fire Department Open House (10/25/25)

## Calls for January - August 2025:

	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	YTD Totals
Fire	7	6	14	13	6	8	5	7	66
EMS	314	299	291	278	346	316	285	287	2416
False Alarm	46	45	46	55	63	80	83	61	479
Other	54	41	72	57	45	52	50	43	414
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>3375</b>





# POLICE DEPARTMENT

220 Pleasant St.  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-6118  
bridgewaterpolice.org

## Police Update

1. On Wednesday, Sept. 3 we attended a Town department head meeting with the Town Manager.
2. On Friday, Sept. 5, we attended graduation ceremonies for the 78th ROC Plymouth Police Academy for new recruits Officers Ryan Conboy, Andrew Nelson, and Nicholas Mantalos. All 3 served as police cadets prior to attending the academy and are now going through field training with another officer. All three will be excellent officers and are local people.
3. During the week of Sept. 8, members of the command staff attended the New England Association of Chiefs of Police Training Conference in Connecticut.
4. On Wednesday, Sept. 10, we attended a hearing at the State House in Boston.
5. On Thursday, Sept. 11, we attended a breakfast at the Senior Center.
6. On Friday, Sept. 12, we met with Gov. Healey and staff of the Executive Office of Public Safety as well as other police chiefs in Framingham.
7. On Monday, Sept. 15, we met with representatives of the Plymouth County District Attorney's office regarding the Plymouth County Community Court program.
8. From Sept. 16 - 18, members of the command staff attended the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police in-service training conference in Norwood.
9. On Thursday, Sept. 18, K9 Sgt. Steve Kingsley represented the department at the Bridgewater State University career fair.
10. On Wednesday, Sept. 24, we attended a disaster planning meeting with representatives from National Grid in Grafton.
11. On Wednesday, Sept. 24, we attended a Project Safe Neighborhood roundtable discussion with Gov. Healey at the Brockton Police Department.
12. On Thursday, Sept. 25, we attended a meeting of the Massachusetts Law Enforcement Policy Group in Boston.
13. On Friday, Sept. 26, we attended a meeting of the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District Safety & Security committee.





# PUBLIC WORKS

25 South St.  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0932

## Department of Public Works Operational Report Summary and Highlights for September 2025

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

The **month of September saw** a continuation of the various work activities and projects that were started in previous months across all the DPW Divisions, focusing on public safety related maintenance work on the town's roads, water supply, sanitary wastewater collection and treatment (*including the upgrade work that continues at the Morris Ave Wastewater Treatment Plant for Nitrogen Treatment; and AECOM the firm that we selected to assist the town with the Phase II Design work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for phosphorous removal/treatment has fully mobilized and initiated work on the pilot test program*), repairs and replacement of water main and service line breaks at several locations, including Plymouth Street. The Highway Division's repair of countless potholes on several roads, as well as mowing roadsides and town cemeteries; trimming of trees; painting crosswalks and pavement markings for traffic control remain ongoing.

### DPW Main Projects Overview:

Ramco Construction Company of West Bridgewater was selected as the successful qualified bidder for the High Street drainage rehabilitation work, and they have mobilized and started work on the project. We expect the work to be substantially completed by December 2025.

South Street sidewalk and roadway pavement resurfacing work from Central Square to Crescent Street has been successfully completed, followed by the completion of the pavement and crosswalk marking/painting on the street.

Murray Reclamation Services has completed the pavement grinding, and adjustment to grade, of water main and stormwater transmission appurtenant structures and castings on Flagg Street. And the installation of new pavement binder course on the street by T L Edwards Paving Company has commenced and is expected to be completed over a two-day period leading into the onset of the month of October.

The Highway Division staff assisted with safety operations over several roads during the annual road race sponsored by the Bridgewater Police Department.

In cooperation with the HR Department, the DPW commenced its search for a Sewer Superintendent and a Water Superintendent, following the retirement of Jonas Kazlauskas, who served the dual role of Sewer and Water Superintendent. Again, we thank Jonas for an outstanding service to the Residents of Bridgewater!

# PUBLIC WORKS

The Engineering Division continues to move the town's technical level of operations to a high professional-grade level, focusing on creating digital as-built record data for the town's water, sewer, and storm drain infrastructure, along with safety audit and planning for several dams around the town. The development of the digital as-built record plans will facilitate future infrastructure management and development/improvement work. The Division also provides technical review assistance to the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission for several projects and is currently overseeing several private site development and subdivision development work across the town, including, but not limited to Ace Hardware Store facility on Bedford Street, and a medical facility at Lakeshore Center across from the Nip.

The Water Division continues to very closely monitor our water supply levels in the active wells and encourages residents to manage their outside water use so that the necessary safety operating levels of the water towers are maintained. We continue our preliminary discussions with other source suppliers in hopes of improving and supplementing our water supply.

The Facilities Division has been very busy during the month with numerous maintenance and service work management across several public buildings, including painting of damaged interior walls at the Memorial Building; HVAC maintenance work, roof repair work bidding for the Police Station, and negotiation of service contracts with vendors.

Some of the Water and Sewer Division staff, as well as the Highway Division staff attended relevant safety training workshops during the month of September.

We truly appreciate the cooperation of the town's residents in managing their water consumption/use, as together, we will preserve and stabilize our fragile natural resources. We continue our efforts toward ensuring safe water levels in the water towers at Great Hill and Sprague Hill for firefighting capability of the Fire Department. During the month of September, we turned on well 10B in order to stabilize water levels in the towers.





# HEALTH DEPARTMENT

66 Central Square  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0921

## Health Department Operational Report: 9/2/25- 9/29/25

### **Septic:**

Percolation test- 261 Cross St.  
Percolation test- 313 Plain St.  
Percolation test- 170 Boxwood Ln.  
Percolation test- 489 Flagg St.  
D-Box replacement- 55 Edgehill  
Percolation test- 1075 South St.  
Bottom hole/final- 477 Cherry St.  
Bottom hole/final- 10 Lilac Ln.  
Percolation test- 125 Walnut St.  
D-Box replacement- 25 Twin Diamond  
Percolation test- 745 Vernon St.  
Percolation test- 885 South St.

### **Plan Reviews:**

250 Boxwood Ln.  
80 Laurie Ln.  
141 Spruce St.  
215 Whitman (final review)  
Hampden Ave.  
Hillside Ln.  
Jennifer Circle (lot 3&4)

### **Well Reviews:**

85 Stoneybrook

### **Housing:**

Burrill Ave- Trash complaint

### **Food inspections:**

Hetty Sweets Bakery (Mobile)  
KFC/Taco Bell  
Bridgewater Bagel  
Bridgewater Liquors  
MaryLou's News  
The Hut Island Vybes (Mobile)



# BUILDING DEPARTMENT

66 Central Square  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0904

The Building Department  
Monthly Statistics  
September 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025

From September 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025, the Building Department saw a total of \$69,445.50 in revenue associated with the following:

Building Permits reviewed and issued – 149  
Building Inspections performed – 94

Electrical Permits reviewed and issued – 64  
Electrical Inspections performed – 185

Gas Permits reviewed and issued – 13  
Gas Inspections performed – 35

Plumbing Permits reviewed and issued – 33  
Plumbing Inspections performed – 95

	Permits	Inspections	Fees
<b>Building</b>	149	94	\$51,043.50
<b>Electrical</b>	64	185	13,907.00
<b>Gas</b>	13	35	825
<b>Plumbing</b>	33	95	3,670.00



# ELDER AFFAIRS

10 Wally Krueger Way  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0929

## Bridgewater Senior Center Monthly Report September Highlights & October Preview

### SEPTEMBER IN REVIEW

**September at the Center was bustling with activity**, with highlights including a relaxing Sound Bath and the always-popular Barn Babies event at Alice Café. We also hosted an informative and hands-on First Aid training in partnership with TRIAD and held two well-attended flu clinics. One of the month's most enjoyable outings was a trip to Big Apple Farm, where we picked fresh apples and enjoyed delicious cider donuts. This month truly showed how the Center serves the entire town and wider community — not just a small group of seniors, but people of all ages and interests.



### LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER

By 2030, 1 in 5 Americans will be over the age of 65. It's a powerful reminder of how important it is — at every stage of life — to keep showing up, staying curious, and building meaningful connections. At the Center, we believe that everyone has something valuable to offer. We're here to support everyone to continue to grow, discover, and thrive. We're always looking for new ways to better serve our community. That means offering programs that reflect the diverse interests and needs of today's older adults — and tomorrows. We also know that strong communities are built by people who are willing to share their time, skills, and passion. If that sounds like you, we'd love to connect.



# ELDER AFFAIRS

## Health & Wellness Programs

### **At Home Hearing Healthcare: Hearing Clinic Thursday, October 16th, 10am to 12pm**

At Home Hearing Healthcare offers free hearing screenings, hearing aid cleanings, and video ear exams.

### **TRIAD: MassDOT - Shifting Gears Tuesday, October 21st, 1pm**

TRIAD in conjunction with Elder Affairs and the DA's Office will be hosting the MassDOT Registry of Motor Vehicles is offering a "Shifting Gears" workshop to help older drivers improve safety and assess their driving skills.

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## **Special Events & Entertainment**

### **Coffee with a Cop!**

#### **Wednesday, October 1st, 10am**

Join us for a warm cup of coffee and a friendly chat with our local law enforcement officers! Coffee with a Cop is a relaxed, informal event where you can get to know the officers who serve our community, ask questions, share concerns, or just enjoy good conversation.

### **AI ChatGPT: What to Know**

#### **Tuesday, October 14th, 11:15am**

Curious about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it's changing our world? Join us for a fun and informative workshop designed especially for older adults! Learn what AI is, how it already helps in daily life—like with smart speakers, travel apps, and health tools—and discover tips for staying safe while using it. Presented by Massachusetts Councils on Aging Communications Manager Paula Hersey, a web developer and technologist since the 1990s, who has seen—and worked through—the incredible changes in technology over the years. Paula will share real-world examples and practical resources so you can confidently explore the benefits of AI in your everyday life.

### **Halloween Party!**

#### **Wednesday, October 29th, 11:30am**

Join us for a Halloween costume contest, arts and crafts, and Bistro. Must call to sign up by October 24th! Please see Cafe page for more details.



## COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Conservation | Planning | Zoning | Stormwater | Health

66 Central Square  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0950

### September Operational Update

#### Planning

- Held Preconstruction Meeting - Broad St (Friendly's Site)
- Attended September OCPC JTC Meeting
- Performed Site Visit for Planning Board project at Lakeshore Center (Encompass Health proposal)
- Route 104 Corridor Study Public Meeting Here - September 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Attended **MassDOT Materials Procurement Project for AWSC** webinar discussing the materials procurement program to convert two-way stop-controlled (TWSC) intersections to all-way stop control (AWSC).

#### Conservation

- 167 Oak Street ANRAD site visit on September 10, 2025
- Conservation Commission Meeting on September 11, 2025
- 167 Oak Street ANRAD approved 9/11/2025
- 16 Wood Street Violation - Enforcement Order sent out 9/17/2025

#### ZBA

- 45 Prospect Appeal – Denied
- Scotland Meadows mod approved

#### CED

- Interdepartmental meetings with DPW, Town Manager on water capacity
- Interdepartmental meetings with Town Manager, Town Assessor, Town Attorney regarding TIF Agreement
- Fire Station Project (see September Status Report Attached)
- Amendment to MBTA Communities legislation
- Site visit to fire station
- Site Visit at Summer Street gas station to walk through - w HGA



# BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

115 South St.  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-3331  
bridgewaterpubliclibrary.org

## August 2025 Operational Update

### Monthly Statistics - August 2025

Category	Count
<b>Visitors</b>	5,889
<b>New Library Card Registrations</b>	84
<b>New Items Added to Collection</b>	263
<b>Physical Item Check-Outs</b>	8,245
<b>Digital Item Check-Outs</b>	3,851
<b>Total Circulation</b>	12,096
<b>Museum Passes Borrowed</b>	109
<b>Computer Sessions</b>	415 sessions / 271 hours
<b>Programs</b>	Adult Programs: 20 / 383 attendees Children's Programs: 31 / 257 attendees Total Programs: 51 / 640 attendees
<b>Website Visitors</b>	10,284
<b>Reference Transactions</b>	113

### Narrative

August was another month of strong community engagement with the Bridgewater Public Library. Despite significant road construction that closed the main driveway entrance for much of the month—directly impacting both foot traffic and physical circulation—the library still welcomed nearly 6,000 visitors, circulated over 12,000 items, and hosted 41 programs with a total of 640 attendees.

Adult programming was vibrant, drawing 383 attendees across 20 programs, including well-attended offerings like Book Club, Therapy Gardens, Vikings and Mocktails, and the BRHS Class of 2026 T-Shirt initiative. Children's services also remained active, with 31 programs serving 257 attendees. The Summer Reading Program concluded successfully, with strong registration and participation across both children and teens.

Technology access continued to see steady demand, with 415 public computer sessions totaling 271 hours, alongside regular use of 3D printing, digitization services, and Wi-Fi printing. The Museum Pass program remained popular, with 109 passes borrowed, and digital borrowing grew further with thousands of items accessed through Libby and Hoopla.

Behind these numbers are dedicated staff working diligently to meet high community demand, even as the team remains lean. This month, we also bid farewell to Julia MacDougall, who left to pursue her Master of Library and Information Science at the College of London. While we are sad to see her go, we are proud of her pursuit of this opportunity and wish her every success.



# BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Looking ahead, the library faces a significant fiscal challenge: the Town of Bridgewater did not meet the Municipal Appropriation Requirement (MAR) for FY2026. This makes the library ineligible for state aid without a waiver. In FY2025, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners awarded Bridgewater Public Library \$73,862.37 in state aid. The director is in the process of applying for a one-year waiver; if granted, the library will receive a reduced disbursement. A hearing will be held later this year to determine the outcome.

Even with these challenges, August's numbers once again highlight the community's reliance on the Bridgewater Public Library as a central hub for learning, connection, and enrichment.



# PARKS & RECREATION

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## Parks & Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy throughout September as the Badgers Football season has kicked off! The Badger football teams are practicing every weeknight on several of the Legion fields. The Bridgewater Little League started up Fall Ball and has instructional leagues for young children and a competitive team for the 10U age group. Legion Field was busy every weekend throughout September. Both the Girl's and Men's Softball leagues continued into September as well.

The Men's Senior Baseball League finished its season in September.

The two basketball courts at Legion Field are being repaired and repainted. The courts should get the final paint in early October and should be ready for use in mid-October.

Annual fall maintenance continues on all fields to ensure our fields are in top shape next spring. Thanks to everyone for your contribution in keeping our fields and courts free from debris and litter.

