

BENSON *Bulletin*

Community Newsletter
Benson, VT

MAY | JUNE 2026

Hello everyone!

THANK YOU for reading the Benson Bulletin.

We are now offering an email COLOR version of the Benson Bulletin.

We realize a lot of folks in town either don't "do" email, or don't have a good internet connection, but the goal is to reduce the size of the mailing (and therefore the cost to the town of printing and postage).

We want everyone who wants one, to get one, whether through email or regular mail.

If you would like to receive the Benson Bulletin in your email going forward send an email to benzonnews@shoreham.net.

Those names not submitted for an email version will remain on the mailing list and continue to receive the paper version.

There is a Benson Bulletin page on the website. Each edition is archived there. If you don't want email, and you don't want it mailed, you can still access it through the website. You can call the Town Office if you want your name removed entirely.



BENSON PUBLIC LIBRARY



Tuesday 10 am to 1 pm
Wednesday 4 pm to 7 pm
Saturday 10 am to 1 pm

Every 2nd Monday (Senior Lunch) 10:30 am to 1:30 pm



Follow us on Facebook: [Benson Vermont Public Library](#)

“Special Thanks to Jaci Lussier for over thirty years of dedicated service as our Librarian”

Mark Your Calendars:

May 16th 11-1PM Mid-May Day Seed Library Event (see ad)

June 21st 11:30-1PM *The Mystery Files* Author Event with Anthony Leo Ryan

Visit [Benson Vermont Public Library on Facebook](#) for book updates!

Community Wifi has come to Benson!

The new wifi is hooked up and operational at the Town Offices and the Town Garage. You can now access the public wifi if you are close to the Town Offices, and the community network is now available at the Library also. The wifi name is **BENSON** and the wifi password is **BensonStrong**.

Town of Benson Phone Number

802-456-4094

Town Office Ext 1 • Highway Ext 2 • Library Ext 3
Listers/Zoning Ext 4 • Fax Ext 7



BENSON VILLAGE SCHOOL - Go BEARS!

Benson Village School GO BEARS!

This BVS contribution comes with news for May and June. We are excited about all of the events happening during the next 2 months:

- Girls on the Run for grades 3rd - 6th April - June
- Girls on the Run 5
- STAR Spring assessment
- Recent Theater Club Performance
- 3rd grade to Echo
- K- 6th all school hike @ Mount Independence
- Grades 4-5-6 field trip to the Maritime Museum
- Grades 4-5-6 to CU for a performance
- K - 2 to the Paramount for a performance
- Staff Appreciation Week
- Middle School Step-Up Day for 6th grade
- Visit from the FHUMHS Marching Band
- BVS Family Picnic 6/17
- BVS Bike & Groove event
- BVS PBIS Celebration Day
- Last Day of School (half day) 6/19



As we head into the final stretch of the 2026 school year, it's exciting to see just how much our students have grown—both academically and personally. Over the past two months, they have continued to take greater ownership of their learning by setting meaningful goals, reflecting thoughtfully on their progress, and challenging themselves to reach new heights. Their increasing independence, confidence, and sense of pride are evident in classrooms each day, whether they are tackling complex academic tasks or supporting one another socially and emotionally. It's truly rewarding to witness how prepared they are for their next steps. Alongside this student growth, our teachers have also made meaningful progress toward their individual instructional goals, refining their practices, implementing new strategies, and thoughtfully responding to student needs. Their commitment to continuous improvement is making a positive impact on student learning across all grade levels.

With the arrival of warmer days and brighter skies, our students are eager to extend their learning beyond the classroom walls. While our nature trail is still drying out from early spring conditions, we are looking forward to getting outside very soon to explore and observe the many signs of the season. Students are excited to search for local wildlife—bluebirds, sparrows, rabbits, squirrels—and to engage in hands-on learning experiences that connect them with the natural world.

As always, we welcome our Benson community to enjoy our school grounds in the months ahead. Whether it's riding bikes, playing games, enjoying the playground, or simply spending time together outdoors, we hope families take advantage of this shared space. Our school continues to be a place of connection, joy, and community—both during the school year and throughout the summer.

We appreciate our community and thank you for your continued support!

Amy Roy M.Ed.

Principal, Benson Village School

Work Hard. Have Fun. Be Nice. Please visit our website: <http://benson.svuvt.org> and check out our [Facebook](#) page!





COMMUNITY CALENDAR



MAY

- 2 Green Up Day
- 11 Select Board Meeting 6 pm
- 11 Senior Lunch 12 noon
- 20 Reading Group (Benson Library) 4 pm
- 24 Memorial Day Ceremony 11 am
- 25 Town Offices Closed (Memorial Day)
- 26 Select Board Meeting 6 pm (Tuesday)

JUNE



- 8 Select Board Meeting 6 pm
- 8 Senior Lunch 12 noon
- 15 Sewer Payment Due
- 17 Reading Group (Benson Library) 4 pm
- 22 Select Board Meeting 6 pm

SCOTT PERRON
PLUMBING & HEATING
Benson, VT

802-558-4055 (cell)

service renovations	new installations fully insured
------------------------	------------------------------------

Bone Builders

The primary goals of the program are to empower older men and women to reduce osteoporosis risk through proper exercise and nutrition and to maintain their independence and quality of life. Resistance training can provide innumerable benefits to your health and help make everyday activities easier, such as picking up your groceries, doing yard work, and stepping out of bed without straining your back. It can also reduce disease risk, improve mental health and give you more balance and stability. For these reasons, you should consider adding resistance training to your routine.

We meet on Monday and Thursday downstairs in the community hall from 9:00 to 10:00. The program is free and weights are provided. If you wish to join our group, call 802-537-3021.

WOOD ONE, INC.
 Managed Vermont Woodlands
 and Forestry Services
Nathan Stannard, President

- ◆ LAWN AND YARD MAINTENANCE
- ◆ COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
BRUSH MOWING//TRACTOR
LOADER/BRUSH LOADER
- ◆ CLEARING/GRADING/YORK RAKE
- ◆ DRIVEWAY MATERIALS/MULCHES
- ◆ FIREWOOD DELIVERED ON TIME

PO Box 111
 Fair Haven, VT 05743
 (802) 265-4455 Cell (802) 375-5211

Doug's
TRUCKING
EXCAVATION
 DRIVEWAYS • LANDSCAPING
 DITCHING • WINTER LOGGING
802-537-2008 • 802-342-6976
 Doug Hathaway
 1080 Stage Road, Benson VT 05743



BENSON READING GROUP

The reading group will meet at the library on May 20 to discuss *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. William Waters grew up in a house silenced by tragedy. His skill on the basketball court earns him a scholarship to college, far away from his home. He soon meets Julia Padavano. With Julia comes her family; she is inseparable from her three younger sisters. Happily, the Padavanos fold Julia's new boyfriend into their loving, chaotic household. But then darkness from William's past surfaces, jeopardizing not only Julia's plans for their future, but the sisters' unshakeable loyalty to one another.

The reading group will meet at the library on June 17 to discuss *Lab Girl*, a memoir by Hope Jahren. Jahren has built 3 laboratories in which she's studied trees, flowers, seeds, and soil. She tells about her childhood in rural Minnesota with an uncompromising mother and a father who encouraged hours of play in his classroom's labs; about how she found a sanctuary in science, and the disappointments, triumphs and exhilarating discoveries of scientific work. Yet at the core of this book is the story of a relationship Jahren forged with Bill, who becomes her lab partner and best friend.

Copies of the books are available in the library. You are welcome to join us for an interesting discussion.

TEMPORARY CLOSING

Due to the MERP Grant Energy Improvements, the Benson Museum will be closed temporarily, effective immediately, for packing up and storing items until the energy improvements are completed at the town office. The Public will be made aware as soon as construction is complete and the museum is set back up. Thank you for your cooperation.



BENSON 6AM - 8PM Mon - Fri
8AM - 8PM Sat & Sun

2813 Route 22A
Benson, VT 05743

802-537-4041

THE WHEEL INN

Corner of Lake Road and Stage Road
Benson, VT 802-537-2755



Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner
Open Daily (except Tuesdays)
8am to 9pm
DINING INSIDE OR ORDERS TO GO
See our full menu and
daily specials on FACEBOOK
Beverages to go!!!
C'mon Over. 'Wheel' be happy to see you!!



Jeanne Bartholomew Realty

East Road Benson

802-537-4938

Jeannebrealty@aol.com

- **Benson** New listing in Village. Home with nice level lot and outbuilding. This older home has had many upgrades, including new plumbing, heating, wiring and new roof and more! There is a great garden area that produces plenty of vegetables. Home was formerly a 3 bedroom but reduced to 2 bedroom with renovations. Plenty of room to build on. Offered for \$175,000.
- **Benson** 2.5 acre mostly open unimproved lot with dirt road frontage. Ideal spot for your camper and family get-togethers – keep it rustic or possibly build a home. Nice level lot with trees bordering. Offered for \$35,000.
- **Benson** Perch Pond Improved lot with new power hub, septic with leachfield, docking system, new platform, great swimming, private beachfront. All set for your camper or possibly a seasonal tiny house. Offered for \$130,000.
- **Benson** 97 acres of woodland with marketable timber. Property is very private and located on a town dirt road outside the Village. Call for further info.
- **Hubbardton** 23 acres with a 70 ft. poured concrete slab. Located on Camp Road in Hubbardton. This lot can be subdivided into 2 lots. Lot comes with beach rights to nice swimming at Lake Hortonia, lots of possibilities. \$189,900.

Properties continue to sell well, and have buyers of all kinds!
Land parcels, large or small needed for 'ready to purchase' buyers!
Lake lots and homes needed!

Thank you everyone for your business and continued support.
**May 25th is Memorial Day ~ A day to remember and honor
all of our brave military who paid the ultimate sacrifice
serving our country.**

Give Jeanne a call for a "no-obligation"
confidential chat about any of your
real estate needs!



Future Benson Village Store Update

The Board of Directors and volunteers of Benson Village Trust have been hard at work behind the scenes to bring this project forward. We have lots to share:

- We have updates on our Facebook page at [Benson Village Trust](https://www.facebook.com/BensonVillageTrust). Follow us for the very latest information and updates!
- Check out our new [BensonVillageTrust.org](https://www.BensonVillageTrust.org) website!
- The building design is nearing completion! Stay tuned for an unveiling event announcement! We hope to have one soon.
- The architect and engineers are now preparing drawings for bidding this summer.
- Naylor & Breen Builders has been selected through a competitive process as our construction management contractor.
- Naylor & Breen is working with our architect and engineers to help us keep the design within our budget.
- While our architect engineers and contractor are preparing documents for bidding, we are raising money to complete the project.
- To date, we have secure \$1M in grants, and are well on our way with private fundraising. Stay tuned for more information about how you can contribute, or reach out to us directly for a private conversation.
- We hope to begin construction later this summer!
- Tentative store opening is planned for 2027!
- BVT is already seeking an operator for the store. A formal Request for Proposal (RFP) will be issued later this spring. In the meantime, anyone interested in leasing the building and running the store should reach out to us at info@bensonvillagetrust.org.
- Remember: Follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BensonVillageTrust), check out our [website](https://www.BensonVillageTrust.org) or reach out directly via [email](mailto:info@bensonvillagetrust.org)!

SENIOR LUNCH

The traditional Senior Lunch will be on May 11th and June 8th at 12 noon. It's held in the Community Hall first floor. The cost for seniors, those over 60 years of age, is \$3.50 but families and friends under 60 are welcome for \$4.00. Please reach out to Marcia Anderson to make reservations by the Friday before at 802-537-2313.

NEW DO'S HAIR SALON
 1-802-278-7002
 1995 Stage Road
 Benson Vermont 05743
 JoAnne Gates
 Mon. Tues. & Weds. 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Thurs. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 newdos00@gmail.com

CERTIFIED ORGANIC
 464 Stage Rd, Benson 802-537-2811

Maple Ridge Meats
 Commercial & Custom Cutting
 The Hathaway Family
 BENSON, VERMONT

**Beef and Pork
 Call for Pricing**
 802-537- 2811

Gary Gates
 Residential & Commercial
 Licensed and Insured

Gary's Appliance Service

Master Electrician 1-802-278-7001
 Major Appliance Repair 1995 Stage Road
 Air conditioning/Refrigeration/Heat pumps Benson Vermont 05743
 Sales and Installation

Town Office Notes

- Are you the owner of one of Benson's nearly 250 dogs? **Dog tags for 2026 are red this year!** All dogs that are six months of age or older must be licensed on or before April 1st. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required for registration. Late fee costs are \$13.00 for spayed or neutered animals and \$19.00 for all others. The first time a dog is registered in Benson a spay/neuter certificate must be shown in order to receive the lower rate. Not sure if your pet needs a shot this year? Call the office to see what we have on file or to notify us that you no longer own a dog.
- Your current **transfer station permit** expired on March 31st. New permits are now available and may be purchased from the Town Office for \$35.00 (no increase from last year). Both dog licenses and transfer station permits can be handled by mail and/or using the secure drop box. Just give me a call for the details. Sticker prices will be increasing to \$2.50 per sticker (or \$25.00 for a full sheet) on July 1, 2026.
- **Sewer Bills Due June 15th: The second payment on Benson 2025-2026 sewer bill will be due on Monday, June 16th.** There is no grace period—all payments not made at the Town Office or postmarked by that date incur a one-time penalty of 8% and immediately accruing interest charges at the rate of 1% for the first three months and 1½% per month thereafter. **If the payment is not made by June 16th you will owe an additional 9% interest and penalty.**
- **MEMORIAL DAY: Memorial Day** is a day of remembrance and mourning for the U.S. military personnel who have died while serving in the nation's armed forces. Benson will hold a brief ceremony to observe Memorial Day with a program at the Veterans Monument in front of the Town Office on the last Sunday in May (May 24th this year) at 11:00 AM. All are welcome to attend.
- The Town Office will be closed on Monday, May 25th in observance of **Memorial Day**.
- The Town Office will be closed on Friday, June 19th in observance of the Federal holiday.
- Reminder: There is a secure drop box located at the southwest corner of the Town Office building.

Heidi Chandler
Clerk/Treasurer
802-456-4094 Ext 1

Town Office Hours: Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri 9AM – 3PM
Wednesday 3 – 7PM

Advertising in the Benson Bulletin: If you are a Benson business owner and have an interest in advertising in the Bulletin (6 editions per year), please call the Town Office for information and we'll get you on board!

RRPC Receives Statewide Contract to Administer Water Quality Improvement Program (Rutland, VT)



The Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) is excited to announce that the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Water Quality Division has awarded the RRPC a contract to administer water quality improvement programs in partnership with the 11 Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs) across the State of Vermont. Funded through the 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant Program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), this initiative aims to promote water quality planning and improvements statewide.

Regional Planning Commissions will use the funding for the following initiatives:

1. River Basin Planning / Assessment Project Compilation: This task focuses on supporting statewide partners in developing and advancing water quality improvement projects for inclusion in DEC's Watershed Projects Database. Efforts prioritize projects identified through Tactical Basin Planning that demonstrate strong pollution reduction potential and are ready for implementation, helping to restore and protect Vermont's water resources.
2. Municipal Outreach and Coordination for WISPr Projects: This work involves engaging municipalities to identify and develop Water Infrastructure Sponsorship Program (WISPr) projects. It includes outreach to interested towns, helping them understand eligibility, and providing initial coordination to move viable projects toward development.
3. Enhancing Regional Planning for Water Quality Protection: This task supports regional collaboration with municipalities to improve access to water quality programs, address barriers, and advance resilience and environmental justice. It includes working with towns to identify priority projects, developing watershed or resilience plans, and incorporating community input—particularly around flooding and infrastructure needs—into planning and project prioritization.

“The RRPC is proud to continue playing a key role in supporting statewide water quality planning through the 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant Program,” said Devon Neary, RRPC Executive Director. “The 604(b) Program enables Vermont's Regional Planning Commissions to collaboratively advance tactical basin planning services. This ongoing effort is essential to safeguarding Vermont's surface waters, which are critical for protecting natural resources, bolstering our economy, and building resilience in our communities.”

As part of this initiative, RRPC will solicit water quality planning work plans from partner RPCs and administer sub-awards for eligible projects. Work under this contract is expected to be completed by November 30, 2025.

For more information, please contact Devon Neary at (802) 775-0871 or by email at devon@rutlandrpc.org.



Slate Valley Cares

Drive-Thru Meals Are Back!

Slate Valley Cares is serving up fresh meals every **2nd Saturday of the month!**

Congregational Church – Fair Haven Green from 12 PM – 3 PM
\$15 per meal

Each meal includes a main dish, sides, dessert, and water.

New menu every month — don't miss out! You can even pre-order to reserve meal(s) ahead of time on our

website: <https://www.slatevalleycares.org/events/drive-thru-meal>

Benson Planning Commission News

The Benson Town Plan was last updated in 2017. By state law, it must be updated every eight years. The Planning Commission has been working on this project for more than a year, in conjunction with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC).

Though following the original outline of the plan, there have been quite a few changes and updates made and it has been a collaborative effort. Members of the commission are Cheryl Murray, Ted Kellogg, Paul LaFond, Brad Barrett and Steve Murray.

The Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at the Town Offices on Wednesday May 27th at 5:30 pm. If you are interested in seeing the draft version prior to the meeting, there is a copy available at the Town Office and also on the website under For Residents / Documents / Other Documents.

LIVE INTERACTIVE AUTHOR EVENT
— Hosted by the —
BENSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE MYSTERY FILES EXPERIENCE
A perfect Father's Day activity for families!

- Interactive Live Reading
- Help Solve a Mystery
- Junior Detectives Challenge
- Earn Your Official Junior Detective Certificate

JUNE 21ST (FATHER'S DAY) | **11:30 AM – 1:00 PM** | **RECOMMENDED AGES 6–10**

BENSON PUBLIC LIBRARY
2724 Old Stage Road
Benson, VT 05743

Featuring Author **Anthony Leo Ryan**
Creator of *Mystery Files*
The Curious Cases of Detective Brayden

★ DON'T MISS THIS SPECIAL EVENT! ★

Townwide Reappraisal News from the Listers:

The listers would like to inform the community that the Townwide Reappraisal is set to begin in May. The appraisal firm will be going neighborhood by neighborhood and we will post each approximate area and dates as we get them. The first appraisals will be as follows:

When: May 4th & 5th

Where: Cold Springs Rd, Temple Rd, Herrick Rd, Carter St, Money Hole Rd, Root Pond Rd, Parkhill Rd, Goodrich Cross Rd & some of South Stage Rd.

Questions? Call 802-456-4094 x4 or email: listers@shoreham.net

Please note that the appraisers will leave a sticker on your door that will look similar to the one here.

The sticker will include our phone number for contact info, the website address link, and a customized code for your home, which you can use to see preliminary information regarding your home appraisal details on the town website.

The listers would like to remind you that the reappraisals will not change anything until the 2027 Grand List is approved. Before that time, you will have the opportunity to look at the website, ask us any questions you may have, and as always, you will have the right to grieve your assessment prior to finalization of the Grand List.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while we undertake this Townwide Reappraisal of all Benson properties.

NEMRC
FUND ACCOUNTING

New England Municipal Resource Center

SORRY WE MISSED YOU

An Appraiser for NEMRC visited your property for purposes of completing an appraisal for the

INTERIOR INSPECTION

We would appreciate the opportunity of completing an interior inspection to ensure the accuracy of our assessment. Please contact:

to make an appointment for a data verification interview or video interview.

DATA VERIFICATION

You can verify your data by following these steps:

- After two weeks go to:
- Enter your personal code:
- Review the data on your parcel.
- To report any changes in the accuracy of the data contact:

Date:

Thank you
NEMRC



GREEN UP VERMONT

Together We Keep Vermont Clean!

Green Up Day – Saturday, May 2nd

Green Up is something everyone can do – no matter how old you are, your political preference, where you live – the purpose of Green Up Day is to clean our natural spaces, so our surroundings are healthy and beautiful. This community service builds stewardship for our environment and pride in our surroundings. Green Up is also far more than a day it is a mindset.

Proven facts:

- Where there is litter, people will litter more.
- Litter impacts climate change. Every person has the power to help restore our climate by choosing to reduce waste, reuse and then recycle.
- If enough of us take an active part, our drastic weather patterns will start to change.
- Litter travels and affects multiple ecosystems – from roadsides to oceans.
- A plastic beverage container takes 100 years to breakdown – disposable diapers 450 yrs.

Green Up Day is a great way for businesses, school groups and athletic teams to give back to their communities in a way that builds camaraderie and pride. It's easy and takes only a little time to show a strong impact.

On Green Up Day in 2025 over 25,000 volunteers cleaned up 427 tons of litter and 14,000 tires, covering 97.5% of all city and town roads in Vermont. We challenge residents to bring a friend or Green Up an extra half mile to achieve 100% of Vermont's approx. 13,000 miles.

We walk our talk about waste reduction and reuse. Green Up Bags are the best bags for the job – made from 70% post-consumer plastic waste and offer the smallest carbon footprint compared to compostable and paper bags. All trash bags should be made from post-consumer recycled plastics.

THE BENSON LIBRARY PRESENTS.....

**A MID-MAY DAY
SEED LIBRARY EVENT!**



JOIN US! - Saturday, May 16th - 11-1pm at the library

Create & Plant: DIY seed pots & seed planting

Seed Snails - Plant a roll of seeds from repurposed material. Space saving and easy to transplant delicate seedlings when they are ready.

DIY Seed Pots - Easy to make from common household materials. Make small pots from our gathered supplies and plant your chosen seeds to bring home.

Plant & Supply Swap: option to swap & share

Plant Cuttings - Bring cuttings to share, take cuttings home, come with supplies for easy transport home; newspaper, paper towel, bag, container, etc.

Garden Supplies - If you have extra, usable supplies taking up space, bring them to pass along. Some examples; nursery pots and trays, hand tools

Please note -Cuttings/supplies that you bring will need to go home with you if not with someone else. We appreciate your attention to this.

Refreshments-Seeds-Books

- Enjoy homemade refreshments - fun option, bring your own mug!
- Check out the Seed Library - borrow seeds or bring a seed donation!
- Browse the Library - Check out a book.. find your next spring read!

All ages welcome. children should be accompanied by an adult.



Want to volunteer helping children in school or day care settings?

**** \$4.00/hr stipend (non-taxable!)**

**** Travel reimbursement to and from the site**

**** 50 paid leave days per year**

**** Monthly in-service trainings**

Requirements:

**** 10 hours per week minimum**

**** Must be at least 55 years of age**

**** Must meet income eligibility (No more than \$3192 per month for one person household, \$4328 for two person household)**

**** No education or experience requirements**

Contact: Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program

Call our office for more information at 802-468-7056.

If you enjoy being around children, have lots of patience, and the willingness to give and get hugs, give us a call!

