

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Governor declares September College Fire Safety Month

STOW – Governor Maura Healey proclaimed September College Fire Safety Month in Massachusetts as thousands of students return to campus and move into dormitories, apartments and other student housing.

Fire officials are offering guidance to help prevent fires and injuries during what is traditionally the leading month for fires in student housing.

“Massachusetts is proud to welcome thousands of students to our colleges each fall and we want every one of them to have a safe and successful year,” said Governor Maura Healey. “Most fires in student housing can be prevented. Simple steps like staying in the kitchen while cooking, keeping exits clear and using batteries and chargers safely can save lives.”

“Move-in day comes with a long checklist and fire safety needs to be on it,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “Before families unpack the last box, check the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, identify two ways out and make sure everyone knows what to do if a fire starts.”

Massachusetts fire departments reported more than 2,500 fires in dormitories, fraternities and sororities between 2021 and 2025. These fires caused six civilian injuries, 10 fire service injuries and approximately \$2.7

million in damage.

Fire officials are also emphasizing the importance of safety in apartments and other off-campus housing. Two Massachusetts college students died in separate, unrelated off-campus fires in 2013.

“College Fire Safety Month is an important reminder that keeping students safe is a shared responsibility,” said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine. “Colleges and universities, property owners, families, and students all have a role to play. As students return to campus and settle into new housing, we encourage everyone to review basic fire safety, make sure alarms are working, and know what to do in an emergency.”

Massachusetts law requires landlords to provide working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Students should test their alarms when they move in and immediately notify their landlord if an alarm is missing, damaged or not working.

Students should also check the manufacturing date printed on the back of each alarm. Smoke alarms should generally be replaced after ten years.

Carbon monoxide alarms should be replaced after five, seven or 10 years, depending on the make and model.

About 90% of fires in student housing are related

to cooking with unattended cooking the most common factor. Students should remain in the kitchen when using the stovetop, use a timer when cooking in the oven and never cook while drowsy or impaired.

Sept. 1 marks the primary move-in date for students across Massachusetts, fire officials are also reminding students to keep escape routes clear. Boxes, furniture, bikes and other belongings should not block windows, doorways, hallways or stairwells.

Students should know two ways out of their building and, when possible, two ways out of each room. If an alarm sounds, occupants should leave the building, stay outside and call 9-1-1.

Students can also reduce the risk of fire by following these precautions:

Smoking. There is no safe way to smoke, but if students must smoke then do it responsibly. Don’t flick cigarettes on the ground, where they can smolder and ignite debris or grind them out on porches or steps. Use a heavy ashtray on a sturdy surface and put it out, all the way, every time.

Electrical. Always plug appliances like air conditioners and space heaters into wall sockets that can handle the current, not power strips or extension cords. Don’t overload outlets with multiple

devices.

Heating. Turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Never leave a space heater unattended.

Cooking. Stand by your pan. Don’t leave pots and pans unattended on a lit stovetop, and keep flammable items away from burners. In the event of a grease fire, smother the flames with a lid and then turn off the heat. Only cook when you’re alert, not when you’re drowsy or impaired.

Candles. Never leave candles burning unattended. Extinguish them before leaving the room. Even better, switch to battery-powered candles.

Lithium-Ion Batteries

Use the charging equipment provided by the manufacturer and disconnect it when the device is charged. Charge phones, laptops, e-cigarettes, e-bike batteries and other devices on a hard and stable surface never a bed, couch, or pillow. If you notice an unusual odor, change in color, change in shape, leaking or odd noises, stop using the device right away. If they are able to do so safely, move it away from anything that can burn and call the local fire department.

For more fire safety tips for both on and off campus, people may visit www.mass.gov/dfs.

COLLEGE NOTES

University at Albany welcomes new students

ALBANY, NEW YORK – The University at Albany welcomes more than 3,500 students to make up the Class of 2030, making it part of the largest first-year class in UAlbany’s history.

Mirabella Prefontaine of Westfield and Nora Roy of Westfield are incoming students.

Approximately 18,000 students are enrolled at the University this year. The incoming class was selected from more than 36,000 applications and represents a 20% increase in first-year enrollment compared with last year.

Students in the Class of 2030 come from 40 states and 35 countries, bringing a wide range of backgrounds and experiences to UAlbany.

More than 1,280 students are from New York City, 558 students from the Capital District, 512 students from Long Island and 451 students joined the University’s Honors College.

In addition to the new freshmen, UAlbany is welcoming more than 1,000 transfer students this fall.



PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Huntington will hold a public hearing on **September 28, 2026 beginning at 6:00 pm** in Stanton Hall.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for **6:00 pm** for the Special Permit Application of Chloe McLeod DBA Cryptic Captures of 7 Old Chester Road to open a photography studio and teaching space at 13 Main Street, Parcel # H1-54-0.

The Special Permit Application will be available to view **by appointment** in the office of the Selectboard during regular business hours, as well as at the Public Hearings.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON**
09/10, 09/17/2026

TOWN OF BLANDFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC NOTICE DEER HUNTING PERMITS- 2026

The Blandford Conservation Commission will be available on **September 22, 2026 between 6:00 and 7:00 PM** at the Blandford Town Hall to receive deer hunting Permit Applications for Town –owned Conservation properties. The Conservation properties include the Knittel Conservation Area on Herrick Road, Shepard Farm Conservation Area on Route 23 and the Long Pond Conservation Area on North Blandford Road. If more applications are received than the allotted number of permits for each area, the permits will be selected on a random basis. If additional permits are available after September 26,

they will be issued on first come-first serve basis by contacting the Conservation Commission. Applications will only be accepted from those that present a valid Massachusetts hunting or sporting license at the time of application and the license/customer number must be entered on the application. Each applicant must personally submit his or her own application. Successful Applicants will be issued a permit to hunt in only one of the above Conservation properties. Permits issued will only be valid for the **2026 Deer Hunting Seasons**. Permit Applications will be available at the Town Hall on September 22, 2026 at the Conservation Commission Office at 6:00 PM. For further information or questions, please contact the Conservation Commission at (413) 848 4279 x 202.

09/10/2026

TOWN OF HUNTINGTON TRAFFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

Approved by Selectboard on 8/12/2026

The Huntington Selectboard, acting under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 22, hereby adopts and makes the following rules and orders for the regulation of vehicles used in the Town of Huntington.

A. Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusion

1. Restricted Streets. The use and operation of heavy commercial vehicles having a GVWR of more than 10,000 pounds is hereby restricted on the following named streets, or parts thereof, and in the manner outlined and during the period of time set forth.

County Road -- Excluded from entire road at all times

2. Signage. The Selectboard shall cause to be placed at each opening to the above named

streets, or affected parts thereof, a sign indicating “NO TRUCKS” in conformance with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division’s Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

3. Exemptions. Paragraph 1 of this Section shall not apply to heavy commercial vehicles going to or coming from places upon said streets for the purpose of making deliveries of goods, materials, or merchandise to or similar collections from abutting lands or buildings or adjoining streets or ways to which access cannot otherwise be gained; or to vehicles used in connection with the construction, maintenance and repair of said streets or public utilities therein; or to federal, state or municipal public service corporation owned vehicles.

4. Penalty. Violations of this Regulation may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition of the violation as provided in the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 40, Section 21D. Penalty: \$50.00. Enforcing Persons: Police Officers.

Jennifer Peloquin
Town Administrator
09/10/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Matthew F. Montague and Happy Montague to Peter E. Montague and Mary P. Montague, Trustees of the Peter and Mary Montague Living Trust, said mortgage being dated June 6, 2014, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 11659, Page 145, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same

will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, September 30, 2026**, upon the premises described in said mortgage, namely 61 Chesterfield Road, Westhampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land in Westhampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, with the improvements thereon, located on the easterly side of Chesterfield Road, and being shown as Lot A on a plan of land entitled, “Plan of Land in Westhampton, Massachusetts Prepared for Peter E. Montague,” prepared by Holmberg & Howe, Inc. dated May 17, 2013 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 229, Page 121, to which plan reference may be made for a more particular description.

Containing 6.50 acres of land, more or less

Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagors by deed from Peter E. Montague and Mary P. Montague, Trustees of the Peter and Mary Montague Living Trust, Dated July 2, 2009, recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds immediately prior hereto, and subject to the right of first refusal in said deed.

Said premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax title, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, rights of parties in possession, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the Deed.

No representations, express or implied, are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises which will be sold “as is”.

The successful high bidder will be responsible for paying the Massachusetts State Documentary Tax Stamps, all closing costs and all recording fees.

TERMS OF SALE: The highest bidder in the sale shall be required to deposit cash, bank treasurer’s check or certified check in the amount of **TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000.00)** at the time and the place of the sale of the premises to qualify as a bidder (the present holder of the mortgage is exempt from this requirement) to be held by the Mortgagee. The successful bidder will also be required to deposit an additional sum equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid less the \$25,000.00 deposit (but no less than \$25,000) with the Mortgagee’s auctioneer, Aaron Posnik & Co., Inc., 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089 or the Mortgagee’s attorney as may be directed within five (5) days of the date of the sale to be held by the Mortgagee, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank treasurer’s check at the closing which shall occur within thirty (30) days after the date of foreclosure sale, time being of the essence, unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The successful bidder at the sale will also be required to pay a buyer’s premium of 5% and shall sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the auction sale.

In the event that the successful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee’s Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion, may require (1) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (2) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale, and (3) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of the essence unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The Mortgagee reserves the right to sell any parcel or any portion thereof separately, or in any order that Mortgagee may choose and/or to postpone this sale to a later time or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of the sale.

The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Peter E. Montague and Mary P. Montague, Trustees of the Peter and Mary Montague Living Trust
Present Holder of said Mortgage
By /s/ David A. Lavenburg
David A. Lavenburg,
Its Attorney
BACON WILSON, P.C.
33 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
413-781-0560
09/03, 09/10, 09/17/2026

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon,
Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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• Produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

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• Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo.

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