



**TOWN OF WINHALL  
VERMONT**

115 Vermont Route 30  
Bondville, VT 05340

Tel: 802-297-2119  
townadmin@winhall.org  
www.winhall.org

*Town of Winhall Newsletter*

May 2021

*Happy Spring!*

It was great to see everyone at Town Meeting last week. Grateful that Vermont is seeing high vaccination rates and looking forward to being able to gather this summer. At our recent Selectboard meeting, we appointed Stuart Coleman as Chair of the Board, while I will serve as Vice Chair and Bill Schwartz rounds out our trio. As the Board moves forward with several large road projects, we believed having Stuart's experience in the lead would be beneficial to the town. Please remember that there are always opportunities to become involved and you are welcome at our now in-person Selectboard meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5pm.

~ Julie Isaacs

**WARNING**

BOARD OF LISTERS  
TOWN OF WINHALL  
115 VERMONT ROUTE 30, BONDVILLE, VT 05340  
Tel: (802) 297-2151 E-Mail: winlister@gmail.com

**NOTICE OF GRIEVANCE HEARING**

The Winhall Board of Listers will hold 2021 Grievance Hearings Friday, May 21, 2021 in the Board of Listers' office, located on the second floor of the Town Hall, 115 Vermont Route 30, starting at 10:00 AM. Please call for an appointment during regular office hours: Monday or Tuesday 10:00AM to 1:00PM or email a request for appointment to: [winlister@gmail.com](mailto:winlister@gmail.com).

DUE TO COVID 19, DISTANT MEETINGS ARE PREFERRED AND PRIOR APPOINTMENTS ARE RECOMMENDED. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT EXTEMPORANEOUS PARTICIPATION MAY BE PROBLEMATIC. EMAIL NOTIFICATION AND SUBMISSION OF DATA/INFORMATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AND CAN BE SUBMITTED AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF THE GRIEVANCE HEARING. CALL-IN CONFERENCE DURING POSTED HEARING HOURS IS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT, THIS LISTER OFFICE MUST BE CONTACTED FOR APPOINTMENT PRIOR TO CLOSE OF GRIEVANCE HEARING.

Winhall Board of Listers  
Doug Poulter  
Lucia Wing  
Ray Gutoff

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

For Residents & Small Businesses of Winhall

On the Following Saturdays in 2021:

~ June 19 & September 4 ~

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Winhall Transfer Station ~ 66 Old Town Road

**Attendees must stay in their cars and wear masks at all times!**

The collections are FREE for Winhall residents.

Small businesses will be charged for the amount of material delivered; payment due at event.

Businesses must pre-register for the events at least 1 week in advance.

To pre-register, email a list of the business hazardous wastes to: [townadmin@winhall.org](mailto:townadmin@winhall.org)

## ACCEPTED MATERIALS :

Pesticides/Herbicides	Antifreeze	Kitchen Cleaners
Rust Proofer	Insect Sprays/Strips	Transmission/Brake Fluid
Floor/Carpet Cleaners	Oil-Based Paints	Pool Chemicals
Mothballs	Fluorescent Bulbs/CFLs	Paint Thinners
Flea/Tick Treatments	Gasoline/Gas Treatments	Photo Chemicals
Degreaser/Solvent	Fertilizers	Radiator Flusher
Art/Chemistry Supplies	Wood Preservatives	Rodent Killer
Roofing Tar/Asphalt	Used Oil Filters	Stains/Varnishes
Mercury Thermostats	Acid/Fluids	Mercury Thermometers
Asbestos (must be bagged)	Aerosol Containers (not empty)	Carb Cleaner
Button Batteries	Rechargeable/Alkaline Batteries	Lead-Painted Items

## MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTED :

- Latex Paint (accepted daily at various paint stores; check [PaintCare.org](http://PaintCare.org) for locations)
- Auto Batteries (accepted at auto parts stores, farm supply stores, and building supply stores)
- Used Motor Oil (accepted at auto parts stores and vehicle repair garages)
- Radioactive Materials (contact seller for disposal options)
- Ammunition/Fireworks (contact seller for disposal options or local law enforcement)

For more info, visit: [www.winhall.org](http://www.winhall.org)



A Message from Chief Tienken:

I hope this message finds you all doing well as we head into spring.

Drug Take back day, April 24th, 2021 was a success across the State of Vermont. Expired and unused medications are collected by law enforcement agencies throughout the state, weighed and then destroyed by the DEA.

The total collection on 04/24/21 was 7,165 pounds, which was the largest collection taken in Vermont since the program started in 2010. Winhall Police & Rescue submitted 60 pounds of unused and expired medications to the collection. Our drug take back collection box is available in our lobby 24/7/365. The next statewide collection date is in October 2021.

The Winhall Police and Rescue Department would like to wish Officer Corey Revett well on his upcoming deployment with the Vermont National Guard. He will be greatly missed and we look forward to his return after deployment. On May 10, 2021 there will be a send off for the Guard members at 6pm, at the Bennington Armory. Local police, fire, first responders and veterans groups will participate in the send off. Please join the send off for the Bravo Troop (Black Jack), 1st Squadron, 172nd Calvary Regiment if you are able.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Derrick Tienken, Chief of Police & Rescue  
802-297-1013 (Office) 802-297-2121 (Dispatch)  
derrick.tienken@vermont.gov

*From the Winhall School Board:*

Thank you to everyone who came to Town Meeting! It was great to have the chance to gather as a community and to welcome both new and seasoned residents to what is likely our first public meeting at the Town Garage. We are grateful to the BRSU for helping us prepare our budget, as well as for creating and distributing the informative FY 22 Budget Information Report. We are also indebted to the Town Clerk's Office and the Road Crew for creating our meeting space within the Town Garage and for ensuring that chairs, masks, and hand sanitizer were thoughtfully placed to keep us safe. Thank you all!

-- Jennifer, Dean, and Meridith

## MEETINGS

### *Select Board*

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 5:00PM

### *School Board*

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:00PM

### *Planning Commission*

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM

*Interested in joining the Winhall e-mail list?*

*Simply send an e-mail to: [townadmin@winhall.org](mailto:townadmin@winhall.org)  
with the subject line "Subscribe".*

*The Winhall website contains information, news,  
agendas, meeting minutes, and more.*

[www.winhall.org](http://www.winhall.org)

## ***PLAN AHEAD, WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU***

We are here to help. You may not be aware that Winhall has various By-Laws which help guide land development, interior / exterior renovation or altering existing structure, and new construction. Most things are possible and some may require a Zoning Permit. Minor upgrades and repairs may not require a Permit. The Planning Commission has established a simple process to obtain the required Permits.

This is the time of year many of us have either begun or are contemplating improvements to our property. I am bringing this to your attention because we are seeing that residents have begun projects that required Permits without obtaining one. This has led to problems, which resulted in non-compliance and are generally costly to remedy after the fact. These problems can be avoided.

Planning ahead is always the best way to start, so if you are planning a project the best thing to do is to inform yourself about what will be required by visiting our Town website, [www.winhall.org](http://www.winhall.org), and go to the tab titled Planning and Zoning Documents; there is also a tab for the Zoning Administrator. Having a look at the information on the website will help inform you. Once you've done that and you have questions or need more information, contact the Zoning Administrator who will help you obtain the required Permits and advise you to avoid difficulties in getting your project done.

***Marcel Gisquet***

*Winhall Planning Commission*

[wpczba@comcast.net](mailto:wpczba@comcast.net)

Winhall Memorial Library  
2 Lower Taylor Hill, PO Box 738

802-297-9741



*Our Building may be Closed, but We are still here for You!*

Outdoor Pick-up of Books, Audiobooks, DVDs and Magazines; Printing Services; Free Online Resources; Monthly Book Discussion, Free Online Classes through Universal Class; Passes: Echo Aquarium and the Clark Art Institute; Interlibrary Loans; Free 24/7 Wi-Fi (Winhall Hotspot, no password required); Virtual Events; Hoopla Digital Media Service.

**Save the date for our Plant Sale Fundraiser! We will also have maple syrup for sale by donation, and a quilt raffle. Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 10AM - 2PM in the park next to the library.**

Visit our website, Facebook Page, or Instagram to view our newest materials! Not sure what you'd like to take out? Dawn is always happy to help you find your next favorite read. Don't have a library card with us? Call or email to sign up today!

We are still purchasing the newest books! Browse our shelves online at <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/Winhalllibrary> (please note our inventory is still in process, call or email if you do not see the title you are looking for).

Visit our website at [winhallmemoriallibrary.org](http://winhallmemoriallibrary.org) for more information.

Call 802-297-9741 or Email [winhalllibrary@comcast.net](mailto:winhalllibrary@comcast.net) to reserve Books, DVDs, Audiobooks, Magazines, or to request our Printing Services (10 cents per page). Follow us on Facebook and Instagram! Email [winhalllibrary@comcast.net](mailto:winhalllibrary@comcast.net) to be added to our newsletter list.

Librarian, Dawn Santos

# The Importance of Herd Immunity

Ashley Jowett Thursday, April 15, 2021

*Reprinted with permission from Southwestern Vermont Medical Center*

As physicians interested in solving COVID-19, we talk a lot about herd immunity. That's where a minimum number of people, usually cited as 70 - 80%, give or take, get vaccinated and are able to collectively bring the disease risk down for everyone.

Lately, I have heard the same question a few different times. "Why is it important to reach herd immunity? If all of the older people, who are most at risk, are vaccinated, isn't that good enough?" It's not. Let me tell you why.

Young people do get sick. Some young people experience moderate initial symptoms and go on to have long-term effects, like diminished exercise capacity. Some experience symptoms that keep them out of school for many days to weeks. Others experience severe disease requiring hospitalization.

Illness, even among young people, causes a ripple effect. Unvaccinated people who get sick have to stay out of work or school. This may have a significant negative impact to them as individuals, but society suffers too. Businesses struggle to keep enough staff to stay open, and learning for everyone in the class grinds to a slow pace due to absenteeism.

Unvaccinated people are the virus's playground. Unvaccinated people spread the disease to others at a much higher rate than vaccinated people and are a greater source of viral mutation and variant development.

Vaccination is highly effective, but not 100% preventive. Vaccines are amazingly powerful and provide incredible protection. That's why vaccinated people can socialize freely with other vaccinated people with little to no risk. But the vaccines are not 100% effective. A population with a high percentage of unvaccinated individuals will have a relatively high prevalence of circulating virus. That means that vaccinated people who interact with those who are not vaccinated will still get sick occasionally.

Think of it terms of statistical chance, like drawing a number five out of a jar filled with 20 other numbers. Let's say you and most other people are vaccinated. Then prevalence of the virus in your community will be low. You will only occasionally bump into the virus, maybe a few times per year. And you are protected by the vaccine, so the chances of getting COVID is extremely low, just as it is unlikely you would choose the number 5 out of the jar if you picked a number only a few times each year.

However, let's now say you and only half of the population is vaccinated. Then prevalence of the virus in your community will be moderately high. You will bump into the virus often, at least several times per week. Even with a 90 - 95% effective vaccine, your chances of getting COVID is high. Because you are encountering the virus often, you would eventually get COVID, just as you would eventually choose the number 5 out of the jar if you picked over and over again.

One good caveat to mention is that if you are vaccinated and do have the unfortunate chance of contracting the virus, it is likely to be only mild illness. The vaccine protects you from becoming severely sick.

Immunity doesn't last forever. Immunity in those with prior infections and those vaccinated will wane over time. While we will have booster shots, it will be a while longer before we know what frequency will be necessary. Herd immunity will help bridge the gap between when our vaccine or naturally occurring immunity begins to wane and when boosters are ready.

That's why "good enough" means reaching a vaccination rate of 70% or higher, a minimum percentage of vaccination necessary to keep the virus prevalence low. If we can get there, COVID-19 will have an effect on the population similar to influenza. If we can't, the virus will wax and wane, spiking to significant levels in the winter months, and disrupt life for years to come.

*Trey Dobson, MD, is an Emergency Physician at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health and the Chief Medical Officer at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center in Bennington, VT.*