

# **WELCOME TO CHARLTON, MA**



## **A HELPFUL GUIDE FOR NEW RESIDENTS**

This guide is being provided to make your move to Charlton a little bit easier as you get adjusted to the area. Enclosed you will find important phone numbers and general information.

A little history on the Town of Charlton:

## **History**

Charlton was first settled in 1735. It was established as a District separated from Oxford on January 10, 1755, and became a Town on August 23, 1775 by a law that made all Districts into Towns to help for the cause of the Revolutionary War. It was named after Sir Francis Charlton. During the 1800s, farming continued to be the major occupation, but woolen mills were being built along some of the town's brooks by the turn of the twentieth century.

## **Geography**

According to the United States Census Bureau, the town has a total area of 43.8 square miles (113 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 42.5 square miles (110 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and 1.2 square miles (3.1 km<sup>2</sup>) (2.86%) is water.

The town is bordered on the west by Sturbridge; on the north by East Brookfield, Spencer and Leicester; on the east by Oxford; and on the south by Dudley and Southbridge.

Charlton is bisected by north–south Route 31, which runs through the historical villages of Charlton Center, Charlton City and Charlton Depot. North-South Route 169 connects Charlton City with Southbridge. East–West routes include Route 20, a major commuter road, and the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90), which crosses through Charlton but does not have an exit in the town. While there is no exit for the town, there are two rest stops on the Mass Pike that are in Charlton.

## **Government**

Charlton has an open town meeting form of government, with a five-member Board of Selectmen.

Annual Town Election – first Saturday in May – 8am – 8pm – Heritage School, 34 Oxford Rd.

Annual Town Meeting – third Monday in May – 7pm – Charlton Middle School, 2 Oxford Rd.

Special Town Meeting – held in the fall – 7pm – Charlton Middle School, 2 Oxford Rd.

## **Some Points of Interest**

The Grave of John “Grizzly” Adams in Bay Path Cemetery

John Spurr House located on Main St.

Rider Tavern located on Stafford St.

No. 2 Schoolhouse located on Northside Road



## **Municipal Buildings**

Charlton Town Hall  
37 Main St.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-2200  
Hours: Mon, Wed, Thur – 7:30am – 5:00pm  
Tuesday – 7:30am – 7:00pm  
Friday - Closed

Charlton Senior Center  
37 Main St.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-2231  
Hours: Mon – Thurs – 7:30am – 4:30pm

Charlton Public Library  
40 Main St.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-0452  
Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri – 9:30am – 5:00pm  
Tue & Thurs – 9:30am – 8:00pm  
Saturday – 9:30am – 3:00pm

Charlton DPW  
100 Flint Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-2212  
Hours: Monday – 7:00am – 3:30pm  
Tue – Fri – 7:00am – 3:00pm

Charlton Police Department  
85 Masonic Home Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-2250 (non-emergency)  
9-1-1 (emergency)  
Hours: 24/7

Municipal Animal Shelter  
15 Old Town Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-2250  
Hours: as needed

Charlton Fire Department  
10 Power Station Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-2299 (non-emergency)  
9-1-1 (emergency)  
Hours: 24/7

Charlton Arts & Activities Center  
4 Dresser Hill Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-3747  
Hours: vary

Charlton Water/Sewer Department  
8A Worcester Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-4953  
Hours: Mon – Thurs – 7:00am – 3:30pm  
Friday – 7:00am - noon



Visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net) for more information  
The Town of Charlton also maintains a facebook page.

## **Charlton Town Departments and Functions**

### **Animal Control Officer/Animal Inspector - (508) 248-2250**

Responsible for enforcement of State and Local laws and regulations related to animal control. Responds to dog, cat and wildlife calls and can provide numerous valuable resources appropriate for each situation.

### **Arts & Activities Council - (508) 248-3747**

Develop diversified year-round activity programs for all ages.

### **Board of Assessors - (508) 248-2233**

The Mission of the Assessors' department is to value real and personal property fairly and accurately in accordance with Massachusetts general laws and the regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Department of Revenue which govern such activities. Also in accordance with such laws, rules and regulations, to administer motor vehicle excise, boat excise, exemption and abatement programs; and to address questions or concerns of property owners and the general public in an efficient courteous fashion.

#### *Key Dates for Property Owners:*

- January 1: This is the assessment date for the following fiscal year. The taxable unit, ownership and values are all determined as of this date. The 3rd quarter tax bill is supposed to be mailed by this date. This is the bill which shows assessment and new tax rate information.
- February 1: The 3rd quarter tax bill and abatement applications are normally due on this date.
- May 1: The 4th quarter tax bill is normally due on this date.
- July 1: This is the beginning of the fiscal year. The physical characteristics of improvements are determined as of this date, i.e. % completion for new construction of any type. This is also the beginning of the period for filing exemption applications, which may be filed until 90 days after the 3rd quarter tax bill is mailed. The 1st quarter tax bill is supposed to be mailed by this date.
- August 1: The 1st quarter tax bill is normally due on this date.
- October 1: Land use exemption (chapter land) applications are due in the Assessor's Office.
- November 1: The 2nd quarter tax bill is due.

### **Board of Health – (508) 248-2210**

The mission of the Board of Health is to develop and maintain innovative programs to safeguard and improve the general health of the citizens of the Town. Responsibilities include developing and promoting disease prevention and wellness programs as well as improving health education and environmental awareness. The Board of Health is also responsible for interpreting and enforcing the provisions of the State Public Health Code, State Sanitary Code, State and Local Environmental Code.

#### *Services*

- Coordinate availability and disbursement of vaccine
- Enforce Title 5; State Sanitary Code (Septic System Regulations) as well as involvement with all new septic systems, failures and repairs

- Inspect food establishments, ice rinks, camps, pools, beaches, housing. Enforce tobacco, massage and body art regulations
- Issue beaver trap permits
- Issue permits for drinking water wells as well as monitoring the safety of drinking water

**Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator – (508) 248-2206**

The *Board of Selectmen* (BOS) consist of a five member elected board responsible for:

- Appointing Authority: letters of interest or a Talent Bank Form should be submitted to the BOS office
- Coordinates activities of other Boards, Committees, etc.
- Follows Massachusetts General Laws relative to Selectmen’s Duties
- Licensing Authority
- Overseers of all Town properties
- Sets policies and strategic directions
- Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month

The *Town Administrator* works under the administrative direction and policy direction of the Board of Selectmen. Duties include but are not limited to:

- Administers and directs activities of the office of the Board of Selectmen; oversees and monitors the performance of principal departments on behalf of selectmen; supervises daily operations of the office and maintains liaison with the Board of Selectmen
- Assists the Board of Selectmen with the development of policies, carries out the policies and instructions of the Board of Selectmen and informs the board about the effectiveness of policies; attends all meetings of the Board of Selectmen; assists in preparation of the meeting agenda, researches issues for the board, and keeps the board informed concerning matters affecting the town
- Acts as the agent for the Board of Selectmen and represents the interest of the Board of Selectmen and the town in negotiations with other governmental agencies, town vendors and other parties in accordance with established policies and priorities
- Acts as personnel director and manages the personnel processes of the town which include issuing oral warnings, written warnings, and suspensions with prior knowledge of the Board of Selectmen
- Coordinates preparation and execution of department budgets under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen, reviews warrants for payment and advises the board of any problems; keeps abreast of local aid policies and impact of the Town; prepares the town’s capital improvement program
- Analyses financial reports - in partnership with the Town Accountant
- Carries out the duties of the Chief Procurement Officer
- Oversees or prepares grant applications; and keeps the Board of Selectmen informed concerning the fiscal condition of the town
- Negotiates collective bargaining contracts; administers collective bargaining contracts; and participates in the grievance process

- Works with both elected and appointed boards, commissions, and committees
- Performs community liaison functions by accepting complaints and solving citizen problems; listens to criticism and suggestions of citizens, businesses, builders, state agencies and others
- Meets and negotiates with vendors and contractors; monitors the progress of vendors or contractors as required
- Parking Clerk - View [MGL Chapter 90, Section 20A](#)

### **Building Inspectional Services – (508) 248-2241**

- Enforces the Massachusetts Building Codes, 780 Code of Massachusetts Regulations (C.M.R.)
- Assists homeowners and contractors in obtaining the proper permits for particular projects
- Oversees from start to finish all permitted projects including, conducting necessary inspections and the issuance of completion and/or occupancy certificate
- Works closely with the Zoning Enforcement Officer

*A Building Permit Is Required for:*

- Additions and Repairs
- Decks of All Sizes
- Pools Both Above ground and In-ground
- Roofing of Any Kind
- Sheds of All Sizes
- Siding of Any Kind
- Windows Both New and Replacement
- Plumbing & Gas Permits
- Wiring Permits

### **Cemetery Department – (508) 248-2208**

The Cemetery Department lays out cemetery plots and sales of same, maintains 9 cemeteries, serves funeral homes for burials and installs monuments.

Please be advised that groups that use the Municipal Recreation Fields that are between the Library and the Westridge Cemetery that parking within the **cemetery** is **not** allowed and individuals who do park there may have their vehicles ticketed or towed.

### **Conservation Commission – (508) 248-2247**

The Conservation Commission oversees any work that involves removing, filling, dredging or altering:

- An Area Within:
  - 100 Feet of a Wetland
  - 200 Feet of Any Perennial Rivers or Streams

- Flood Zones
- Other Protected Areas

Permits Issued:

- Order of Conditions
- Determination of Applicability
- Order of Resource Area Delineation

### **Council on Aging/Senior Center – (508) 248-2231**

The Charlton Council on Aging mission is to provide social, supportive and referral services to all senior citizens in an effort to maintain and improve quality of life so that they may stay in their homes for as long as possible.

The Senior Center is open Monday through Thursday with activities scheduled each day. Our meal program is a vital part of our mission serving home-cooked lunches daily at noon for a minimum cost. We ask that people sign up or call at least a day ahead for lunch.

### **DPW Department – (508) 248-2212**

The following are serviced by the Highway Department:

- Drainage
- Repaving
- The reviewing of complete work
- Roadside and right-of-way brush clearing
- Sanding
- Snow and ice removal
- Storm sewers
- Street sweeping
- Town parking lots

Permits issued:

- Driveway permits and bonds
- To apply to become a private Snow Plow Contractor, print out application on website and return to DPW Garage
- Road opening permit

Private roads can only be worked on if a petition is signed by a majority of the residents on the road. Contact DPW for more information.

### **Fire Department – (508) 248-2299 (non-emergency), 9-1-1 (emergency)**

It is the mission of the Charlton Fire Department to provide the best possible service to our customers, whether harmed by fire, accident, sickness or natural disaster. We will mitigate the incident with competence, compassion, and care, with the highest level of professionalism regardless of the status of the customer.

Permits issued:

- Burn Permits
- Propane Storage Tank Permit
- Oil Burning Equipment Install
- Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detector Certificates and
- House Numbers

### **Library – (508) 248-0452**

The mission of the Charlton Public Library is to provide free and open access to the citizens of Charlton to the accumulated wisdom of the world. Recognizing that public libraries are one of the cornerstones of the American tradition of equal opportunity, the library's goal is to support an informed citizenry by serving their cultural, educational and informational needs through the use of traditional and emerging technologies.

### **Planning Board – (508) 248-2237**

The Planning Board is responsible for guiding and reviewing matters related to the physical growth and development of the Town of Charlton – being governed by Federal and State Statutes, Local Zoning Bylaws, Subdivision Rules and Regulations. The Board also administers the Scenic Roads Act. The Master Plan is the primary guide for managing the towns' growth.

### **Police Department – (508) 248-2250 (non-emergency), 9-1-1 (emergency)**

The mission of the Police Department is to join in partnership with the residents of Charlton to promote a safe and secure community and improve the quality of life for all. We shall be vigilant caretakers and will apply the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and accountability while enforcing the laws equally and impartially to protect the rights of all citizens.

Forms available:

- Alarm Registration Form
- Dog Complaint
- House Check Request Form
- Instructions/Application for License to Carry and Firearm Identification Card Applications
- Notice of Trespass
- Request a Police Detail
- Application for License to Carry

### **Town Clerk – (508) 248-2249**

The Town Clerk oversees matters related to:

- Birth/Death/Marriage Certificates
- Business Certificates
- Dog/Kennel Licenses
- Notice of Intention of Marriage
- Presidential Elections

- Raffle Permits
- State Elections
- Town Elections
- Voter Registration/Voting

**Town Treasurer/Collector – (508) 248-2239**

The Town Treasurer/Collector is responsible for collecting all payments due to the Town of Charlton such as excise, real estate, personal property bills, sewer, water, etc.

Payment due dates for Real Estate and Personal Property bills as established by the Commonwealth are: August 1, November 1, February 1 and May 1.

Payments can be made at the office located at the Town Hall or placed in the secure drop box located next to the handicapped entrance. Payments may also be made online.

**Veterans Services – (508) 248-2244**

For more than 100 years, a Veterans’ Service Officer (VSO) has been available in every Massachusetts city and town to provide an array of services to veterans and their dependents. VSOs are municipal employees with expert knowledge of federal, state, and local recourses and benefits for veterans. Your VSO is your first point of contact to access state Chapter 115 benefits.

**Water/Sewer Commission – (508) 248-4953**

The Water/Sewer Commission is a five member committee responsible for overseeing all matters related to public water and sewer in the Town of Charlton.

Permits issued:

- Drainlayers
- Sewer Connection Application packet
- Application for Metered Billing
- Application for Water Tie In
- Grinder Pump Policy
- Senior Citizen Sewer User Abatement Exemption Form

**Zoning Board of Appeals – (508) 248-2214**

The duties of the Zoning Board of Appeals is to:

- Hear/decide applications for expansion of nonconforming uses in accordance with provisions of Section 3.4.3.4, application for Special permits in accordance with Section 7.2 and Special Permit for development of flood plain zones as specified in the Charlton Zoning Bylaw, Section 6.4.
- To hear/decide on petitions for variances in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40A.

## **ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

### **ELECTED**

Board of Assessors  
Board of Health  
Board of Selectmen  
Cemetery Commissioners  
Constables  
Dudley/Charlton Regional District School Committee  
Housing Authority  
Moderator  
Planning Board  
Recreation Commission  
Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District  
Town Clerk  
Tree Warden  
Trustees of the Free Public Library  
Water/Sewer Commission

### **APPOINTED**

Activities Council	Sealer of Weights & Measures
Animal Control Officers/Animal Inspectors	Student Selectperson
Boston Post Cane Committee	Town Counsel
Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer	Veterans Grave Marker
Cable Access Committee	Wiring Inspector
Central Mass Regional Planning Commission	WRTA Advisory Board
Conservation Commission	Zoning Board of Appeals
Council on Aging	
Cultural Council	
Dam Monitors	
Economic Development Commission	
Emergency Management	
Finance Committee (appointed by Moderator)	
Gas Inspector/Plumbing Inspector	
Historical Commission & Historic District Commission	
Lakes & Ponds Task Force	
Library Charitable Trust Fund Trustee (1 member)	
LNG Advisory Committee	
Marijuana Advisory Committee	
Memorial Day Committee	
Municipal Building Ad-Hoc Committee	
Old Home Day Committee	
Personnel Board	
Records Access Officers	
Registrar of Voters	
SCM Elderbus	

Please visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net) for more details

**Talent Bank Form**

Town government needs citizens that are willing to give their time serving the **Town of Charlton**. A Talent Bank Form has been established as a means of compiling a list of interested citizens willing to serve on a voluntary basis on a variety of boards and committees. Some boards meet often – some require less time – and some are busy at different times of the year. From time to time, there are also needs for advisory committees or sub-committees appointed to work on specific projects.

If you are interested in serving, please indicate your preference below and return the completed form to:  
**Selectmen’s Office, 37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507, FAX (508)248-2374 or via email to [mary.devlin@townofcharlton.net](mailto:mary.devlin@townofcharlton.net)**

**Must be a registered voter to be considered for the following:**

- Conservation Commission
- Council on Aging
- Cultural Council
- Economic Development Commission
- Historical Commission/District
- Personnel Board
- Registrar of Voters
- Zoning Board of Appeals

**Registered Voter NOT required:**

- Activities Council
- Boston Post Cane Committee
- Cable TV Advisory Committee
- Dam Monitors
- Lakes & Ponds Task Force
- Memorial Day Committee
- Old Home Day Committee

**Other committee of interest not listed:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address: (if different)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Interests and skills:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Education and experience:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Reasons for wanting to serve:** \_\_\_\_\_

This list describes each committee's purpose. For more information, please visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net)

**Activities Council** – to develop a diversified year round activity program for all ages in the Town of Charlton.

**Boston Post Cane Committee** - The Selectmen activated the Boston Post Cane Ad-Hoc Committee, a five member board, on April 8, 2008 and charged them with the responsibility of creating the criteria needed so that the cane can be presented fairly to the eldest citizen of the Town of Charlton. This committee created the criteria as directed to do so. Further it presented its recommendation to the Board of Selectmen and asked the Board to consider making this committee an appointment per the Town's bylaw so that there will always be someone charged with finding the oldest resident in town when needed.

**Cable Access Committee** – provides public access station. TV Charlton has a studio located at the Community Center, 4 Dresser Hill Rd. The Cable Access Coordinator and volunteers tape municipal board meetings live.

**Conservation Commission** – Oversees any work that involves removing, filling, dredging or altering an area within 100 feet of a wetland or within 200 feet of any perennial rivers or streams, flood zones or other protected area.

**Council on Aging** – Responsible for representing and serving all the elders in the community. The COA plays a unique and essential role in building a better future for these seniors. They work with different agencies to provide the best possible services to the seniors and encourage them to use these services and benefits available to them so that they will stay as independent as possible allowing them to stay in their homes as long as possible.

**Cultural Council** – to enhance the cultural and artistic enrichment of the community.

**Dam Monitors** – responsible for directing drawdowns and ensuring the integrity of local dams.

**Economic Development Commission** – Charged with encouraging and facilitating properly-planned economic base growth in town, in accordance with the Town's long-range planning goals and objectives, the annual EDC goals and the Town Master Plan. In addition, the EDC constantly bears in mind its obligation to maintain the integrity and heritage of the town. The commission works to achieve the goals and objectives of an adopted EDC Action Plan, which includes strategies for Economic Site Development, Interagency Cooperation, Route 20 Development, Marketing and Business Assistance Funding.

**Historical Commission / District** – Five member committee that promotes the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places, significant in the history of the Town of Charlton, or their architecture and through the maintenance and improvement of settings for such buildings and places along with the encouragement of designs compatible therewith.

**Lakes & Ponds Task Force** – This committee will adopt a global approach and utilize best practices for the health, betterment and appropriate use of all waterways in Charlton including but not limited to: Moorings/Docks on Town Owned Land; Stormwater Management; Weed Control and Drawdown; Public and Boat Access and Safety and Education.

**Memorial Day Committee** – responsible for preparing Veterans graves for Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

**Old Home Day Committee** – prepares and readies the event held in Charlton, MA on Labor Day weekend at the end of each summer. Established in 1897, the event brings friends, neighbors, family and visitors together with a true community spirit. It is a tradition begun years ago when the citizens of Charlton gathered at the end of summer, before the beginning of the fall harvest and the onset of winter.

**Personnel Board** – consists of five (5) registered voters of the Town who hold no other elected or appointed Town office nor are employed by the Town. This board conducts research into wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment in comparable Massachusetts municipalities. Prepares documents for submission to town meeting such as a salary plan, classification plan and personnel rules and any other provisions of the Personnel Bylaws.

**Registrar of Voters** – responsible for registering voters, managing elections and keeping voting related records. Two members recommended for appointment by the Democratic Party and one member recommended for appointment by the Republican Party.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** – to hear/decide on petitions for variances in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A; to hear/decide applications for expansion of nonconforming uses in accordance with provisions of Section 3.4, 3.5 application for Special Permits in accordance with Section 7.2 and Special Permits for development of flood plain zones as specified in the Charlton Zoning Bylaws.

## Schools

### Dudley/Charlton Regional School District

Superintendent's Office  
68 Dudley-Oxford Rd.  
Dudley, MA 01571  
(508) 943-6888

Shepherd Hill Regional High School  
68 Dudley-Oxford Rd.  
Dudley, MA 01571  
(508) 943-6700  
Grades 9 – 12

Charlton Middle School  
2 Oxford Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-1423  
Grades 5 – 8

Heritage School  
34 Oxford Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-4884  
Grades – 2 – 4

Charlton Elementary School  
9 Burlingame Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-7774  
Grades – Preschool – 1



### Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School  
57 Old Muggett Hill Rd.  
Charlton, MA 01507  
(508) 248-5971  
Grades 9 - 12



## Services in Charlton, MA

### Trash/Recycling:

Charlton doesn't provide curbside Trash/Recycling pick up. Residents are required to maintain their own services. The following are Trash Haulers in Charlton:

A J Letourneau, Inc.	524 Southwest Cutoff, Millbury MA	508-791-4239
LeBoeuf Rubbish Removal, Inc.	P.O. Box 820, Southbridge, MA	508-764-6677
Little River Recycling d/b/a Pratt Trucking	22 Town Forest Rd., Oxford, MA	508-987-1187
Casella Waste Management	49 Sword St., Auburn, MA	508-860-2102
Republic Services	1 Hardscrabble Rd., Auburn, MA	508-826-3062
Tim's Rubbish & Cleanouts	82 Oxford Rd., Charlton, MA	774-437-2430
Waste Management of Mass	124 Hartwell St., W. Boylston, MA	774-261-9210

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The Town of Charlton does have an agreement with **Casella Waste** to provide Charlton Residents and Town Employees Residential Convenience Drop-Off on Saturday's only from 7:00am – Noon. Drop off location is 200 Leicester St. (Rt. 56), Oxford. Proof of residency required.

Items accepted at no charge:

- MSW/Trash – two 30 gal. trash bags or four 15 gal. bags
- Recycling – Single Stream
- Bulky Item – Only ONE per week
- Scrap Metal

For more information on this program, please visit: [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net), Board of Health page.

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Charlton Residents are invited to the Household Hazardous Waste Days at the Casella Landfill located at 165 Barefoot Road in Southbridge.

These days are held on the last Saturday of March, June and September and the first Saturday of December each year.

The Charlton Board of Health offers **FREE** \$30.00 vouchers for each event. This will get you in for ½ carload or 25 pounds or less of Household Hazardous Waste for free. You will be charged for appliances as stated on the flyer found on the town's website at [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net) which is posted before each event. Vouchers are available by visiting the Board of Health office about a month before the event. If you have any questions, please call 508-248-2210.

## **Utilities**

Residents maintain their own utilities. Some contact information that may be helpful:

**Electric** – National Grid 1-800-322-3223

While residents maintain their own utilities, Charlton Community Electricity Aggregation is the Town's electricity supply program that brings more choices for Charlton electric ratepayers for their electricity supply. Periodically, they send enrollment letters to new electricity customers in town who are eligible for the program. If you receive a letter and wish to participate in the program, no action is required. If you DO NOT wish to participate in the program, you will need to opt out. Information on how to do this is in the letter.

For more information on the program, visit [Charlton-cea.com](http://Charlton-cea.com).

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For all other utilities, residents are urged to do their own research on who fits best for their needs.

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## **Food Pantry**

Charlton has a Food Pantry – CHIP-In (Charlton Helping It's People In Need) which is open the third Saturday of every month from 9:00am – 12:00noon and located behind the town hall at 37 Main St.

Chip In Food Pantry is open to Charlton and Dudley residents in need of food assistance.

Contact Darlene Emco-Rollins, Director at 508-248-3292.

## **CodeRED**

The Town of Charlton uses CodeRED to send EMERGENCY notifications by phone, email, text and social media to keep citizens informed of emergencies such as an evacuation notices, utility outages, water main breaks, fire or floods, chemical spills, or other emergency situations.

The Town may also activate CodeRED to send GENERAL notifications to registered subscribers to communicate non-life safety matters, such as planned road closures, water main repairs, water and power service interruptions, etc. By selecting the box for GENERAL alerts, you can also receive these types of notifications.

There is no charge to register for or use CodeRED and your personal information will be kept confidential. Registering for CodeRED is quick and easy:

- To sign up for CodeRED, visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net)
- Add the CodeRED phone number, 866.419.5000 to your caller ID – this is for EMERGENCY CALLS
- Add the CodeRED phone number, 855.969.4636 to your caller ID - this is for GENERAL CALLS

### **Things to Know About CodeRED**

- CodeRED delivers notifications by phone, email, text, social media, and/or mobile alerts
- CodeRED is compatible with TDD/TTY devices for those with hearing impairments
- Individuals and businesses may add as many phone numbers, email and texts numbers as they choose

### **CodeRED Mobile Alert App**

Residents and visitors can now receive enhanced public safety alerts no matter where you are located via the CodeRED Mobile Alert app, a free public safety app for both Android and iPhone users. The CodeRED Mobile Alert app delivers community and emergency alerts to individuals targeted within an impacted geographical area. The app enables you to receive timely notifications when you are on the road, away from home.

If you are currently a CodeRED subscriber that has already registered your mobile phone to get notifications from the Town of Charlton, you will continue to receive calls. However, if you download the app, you will also be able to get alerts to your smartphone anywhere in the country, including Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Alaska.

## Events

**Old Home Day** is an event held every year in Charlton, MA on Labor Day Weekend at the end of each summer. Established in 1897, the event brings friends, neighbors, family and visitors together with a true community spirit. It is a tradition begun over 120 years ago when the citizens of Charlton gathered at the end of summer, before the beginning of the fall harvest and the onset of winter.

The essence of Old Home Day consists of a tradition, which reminds us all that we are part of a community. It offers a chance for folks to join and reflect on the important things required to be a citizen here in a small town in Massachusetts. This day celebrates the town, the people and the past and it's so much fun.

The entertainment and many of the activities vary from year to year, but are free of charge. It is a day filled with exciting entertainment, traditional events, friendship and fun to the residents of Charlton, neighboring towns, extended families, acquaintances and anyone who wants to know what Charlton is really all about.

For a full listing of events, visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net), Old Home Day.

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**Parades** are held on Memorial Day and Veterans Day to honor those that have lost their lives fighting for our country.

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**Charlton's Earth Day** is held each spring. An informal group called the Earth Day Festival Planning Group plans and assists with the Earth Day Festival.

All are urged to sign up for a road to clean. Remember, keep "Charlton" beautiful.

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**Fay Mountain Farm** is town owned but contracted out to a farmer that maintains the area, grows crops, provides apple picking, blueberry picking and other items. This is located at 12 Cemetery Road. This is also home of Snow Pond which is a great fishing pond.

## Sports

There are a variety of sports in town for children and adults. Although not sponsored by the town, each group publicizes when tryouts are. Some of the groups are:

Girl Scouts

Boy Scouts

Football/Cheer

Basketball

Baseball/Softball

And so much more.

Charlton has a skate park, basketball court and playground located behind the Charlton Library at 40 Main St.