

May 2025

Greetings Westmore Association Members and Westmore Residents,

Once again, it is time for the Westmore Association Annual Spring Newsletter. Ideally, it would be a notably informative as well as sincerely heartfelt collective thank you note to all our members, however near or far, who, again and again, generously align in our mission to preserve and protect the sweet village, magnificent lake, and surrounding mountains entrusted to our care.

On the back, you'll find highlights of the many wonderful achievements made possible by the generosity, support, creativity, and extraordinary diligence of our dedicated members and board—'extraordinary' truly is an apt description. At the forefront of our efforts are Water Quality, Land Preservation, and Ecological Integrity, alongside a variety of other initiatives. These include invaluable partnerships, concerts, scholarships, the Westmore Farmers Market, exciting collaborations at the Northwoods Stewardship Center, volunteer opportunities, and life-enhancing community programs. With your support, we have made over \$19,000 in investments in Westmore in 2024 alone. For more details about our initiatives, upcoming events, merchandise, and more, please visit our website at www.westmoreassociation.org.

Whether you are new to the area or a present/former member of the Association, we invite you to join us. Everyone who enjoys Lake Willoughby and the beauty of Westmore is welcome. The annual dues begin at the basic membership level of just \$25, which is a small investment compared to the valuable work our volunteer organization does. We offer three levels of membership to suit your preferences. You can easily join online through the membership option on our website, or you can mail in the included membership form along with a check. For more details about both options, please visit https://www.westmoreassociation.org/join-us/. We hope you will consider becoming a member and supporting our organization. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

We're excited to share our summer events lineup on the next page! For those participating in this year's July 4th Boat Parade and looking to start planning, the theme is "**Favorite Era**!" We hope to see you this summer, get ready to have some fun!

Deb Smith, Westmore Association President

The Westmore Association Officers include Deb Smith as President, Ellie Majchrzak as Vice President and Interim Treasurer, and Jennifer Woolard as Clerk. Board Directors include Peter Miller, Bruce Tanner, Deborah Baskin, Peggy Zimmer, Rev. Bob Leibold, Meggie Patton, and Heidi Rutz

2024 Summary of Activities

Trails & Recreation: The Association partnered with the Northwoods Stewardship Center, contributing over \$2,500 to maintain and improve hiking trails and the shoreline. The 2024 effort focuses on the maintenance and rerouting of the Pisgah South, North, and East trails, as well as the maintenance of Mt. Hor Herbert Hawkes trail, Long Pond trail, Telegraph trail of Bald Mountain, and the Wheeler Mountain rock staircase reroute efforts.

Water Quality: To support the lake's water quality, the Association contributed more than \$10,000 to the Town to support the milfoil and Greeter Program.

Scholarships: In 2024, the Association expanded the scholarship opportunity to make educational programs accessible and affordable for individuals and families across the lifespan. Two scholarships were provided in 2024. Scholarship applications are now open and can be found on our website or by reaching Deb at drichards065@gmail.com.

Beautification: One of the Westmore Association's goals is to beautify our lovely town and lake. The Association continues to fund the maintenance of the two flower triangles located at Peene and Hinton Hill and the flower box at the waterfall on Route 5A.

Community Events: In 2024, the Association hosted several of our community event favorites! Additionally, we hosted yoga classes, felting and painting workshops, the Castleton Quartet concert, and more. The Association also participated in the Westmore Church Harvest Festival, the revival of the Westmore Farmers Market, the Northwoods Westmore Mountain Challenge, and the town tree lighting ceremony. Board members of the Association also continue to donate their time (and cooking skills) to support the Barton Meal site.

Additionally, the Association supported the Westmore Path Forward Community Visit Process to help identify and prioritize goals to strengthen our community and continues to support activities aimed at strengthening the community. Recent donations were made to support youth summer camp scholarships for Westmore residents, guided canoe paddles, and more.

The Westmore Association is currently looking for dedicated and committed volunteers to join our Board in both Officer and Director positions

<u>2 Officer Vacancies:</u> Treasurer and Clerk <u>4 Committee Chair Positions:</u> Trails & Recreation, Communications & Media Relations, Merchandise, Beautification

Please let us know if you are interested in joining our team of volunteers