



News & Reviews

February 17, 2021

Town of Pittsford - a Clean Energy Community

*See listings below for
Upcoming Activities, Town Board Meetings & Community Meetings*

COMMUNITY SOLAR VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFO MEETING IS THIS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

As a member of Monroe Community Power, the **Town of Pittsford** is increasing its support of locally generated renewable energy, while lowering the electricity costs for Town residents and small businesses. A letter mailed to all households in the Town provided information about our Community Solar program and our upcoming virtual public information meeting to be held this Monday, February 22 from 6:00 – 7:00pm. See details below.



For each enrollment in our Community Solar program, the program administrator will donate [\\$50 to a Town of Pittsford Sustainability Fund](#), which will be used for a future project for our community. By signing up to participate in our Community Solar program, Town of Pittsford residents have already helped raise \$13,500 for the fund.

Community Solar gives residents and small businesses an opportunity to get involved in the clean energy movement and benefit from solar energy without installing solar panels. By enrolling in Community Solar, **participants will save up to 10% on their electricity bill**. Please note, those who have their own solar panels already receive solar credits and are not eligible to enroll in the Town's Community Solar program. The Town of Pittsford's Community Solar program is open to all residents (owners and renters) and small business owners within the RG&E utility account area.

Please join Supervisor Bill Smith and the Monroe Community Power team remotely this **Monday, February 22 from 6:00-7:00 PM** at an online **Public Info Session** during which we will discuss the program and answer your questions live. **RSVP** and get the virtual meeting details at www.bit.ly/solar-pittsford-0222.

Learn more about the Pittsford's Community Solar program and enroll here: www.monroecommunitypower.com/enroll.

To ask questions about or get help with enrollment, call the program helpline at **(585) 244-0244**.

EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE OPENINGS - APPLICATION DEADLINE 2/24

Residents interested in appointment by the Town Board to the Town's newly-created Equity Advisory Committee should submit their resume and a cover letter to the Supervisor's office at 11 South Main Street or by email to sreddick@townofpittsford.org. In the cover letter, please describe what expertise in this area you bring or what experience you have had with advising in this area.

Four positions are open. All applicants will be interviewed by members of the Town Board, who will vote on appointments once interviews are concluded. Resumes and accompanying letters of interest will be accepted through Wednesday, February 24.

REMINDER: PLENTY OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH RESOURCES AT OUR LIBRARY

During Black History Month – and throughout the year – our Pittsford Community Library has many books and other publications that focus on and celebrate Black history and the achievements of Black individuals. Many materials are part of the Library's "Own Voices" collection – powerful and informative stories by those who write from their own experience. There are many such materials, for both children and adults – stop by to browse the displays!



The Pittsford Community Library is located at 24 State Street. Visit the Library's web page at www.townofpittsford.org/home-library for current Library hours. Please note face coverings and appropriate physical distancing are required at all times when visiting the Library.

ELDERBERRY EXPRESS OFFERS RIDES TO COVID VACCINE APPOINTMENTS FOR PITTSFORD SENIORS

Pittsford seniors can contact Elderberry Express for a ride to a COVID-19 vaccine appointment or other medical or dental appointment. Elderberry Express is able to offer COVID-19 vaccine transportation to Pittsford residents age 65 and older; transportation is available Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 3:00pm. **Seniors must call Elderberry Express at least 48 hours in advance** at (585) 248-6237 and provide their name, address, phone number, and location and time of appointment. An Elderberry Express volunteer driver will provide pickup from and return to the senior's home. The service is free. Please note all COVID-19 precautions will be followed; drivers and passengers will be required to wear a mask.

LIBRARY PROGRAM: LANDSCAPING FOR POLLINATORS AND OTHER INSECTS – THIS THURSDAY, 2/18

Part of the "Encouraging Nature in Your Own Backyard" series hosted by Penfield Public Library and the Pittsford Community Library

We depend on pollinators for much of our food, but pollinators also have a larger role in the world beyond our farms. Learn how you can support these "little things that run the world" in your own yard and beyond — and why it matters. This Thursday, February 18, from 7:00 – 8:30pm the Pittsford Community Library and the Penfield Public



Library together host via Zoom "Creating a Landscape for Pollinators and Other Insects." This online program is presented by Janet Allen of Habitat Gardening in Central New York. The program is free but registration is required to receive the Zoom link for the program. [Register online here](#) or visit www.townofpittsford.org/home-library and use the Library Program Registration link.

The **"Encouraging Nature in Your Own Backyard"** program series has continued weekly throughout February. It encourages creating an inviting and healthy backyard habitat for people and other creatures. The final topic is **First Frogs in Our Own Backyard** (2/25). To learn more and to register, visit the [Library's online program calendar](#).



THINK CONSERVATION – AND SPRING! – WITH THE COUNTY’S TREE, SHRUB AND PLANT PRE-ORDER PROGRAM

Order deadline is March 5

Winter is still here, but it's not too early to plan for your spring planting project - and you can help conservation efforts in our area while you do!

The Monroe County Soil and Water (MCSW) Conservation District's annual Conservation Tree, Shrub, and Plant pre-order program is currently underway and offers a wide variety of evergreens, hardwood trees, shrubs, wildflowers, groundcovers, seed mixes, plant variety conservation packs, and even enhancement items like bluebird nesting boxes and bat roosting boxes! Proceeds from the annual sale will benefit the MCSW Conservation District's education and preservation programs.

The catalog offers great choices for suburban conservationists, including an edible fruit multi-pack option - featuring two plants each of cold tolerant strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, and two varieties of blueberry - and a wildlife food plot seed mix for those interested in improving wildlife habitat. Packages range in unit size and price, from a bundle of 10 plants for as low as \$10, to bundles of 100 plants for as low as \$73. Native species new to the program this year include Common Hoptree, Black Walnut, Eastern Redbud, Northern Catalpa and Blazing Star.

Planting trees and shrubs is perhaps the most effective way for individuals to help keep our environment clean and green. In addition to providing shade, privacy, wildlife habitat, borders, windbreaks and snow fences, trees provide many environmental benefits not visible to the eye. They work as filters to help protect drinking water, clean the air of pollutants, help mitigate stormwater runoff and stabilize soil to prevent erosion, and reduce noise by acting as sound barriers. Trees can help cool your home in the summer, and break cold winds in the winter, helping to reduce energy use. They can even add value to your property.

Orders are due by March 5 and will be ready for pick up on April 22 - 23 at Monroe County's ecopark facility (10 Avion Drive, Rochester 14624). **To find the 2021 catalog, fillable online and printable order forms, a plant fact sheet and planting tips, visit the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District's [Tree and Shrub Program web page](#).** Order forms are also available at local Town and Village Clerk's offices. For further information, visit the MCSW Conservation District website at www.monroecountyswcd.org, email mcswcd@monroecounty.gov or call the MCSW Conservation District office Monday - Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm, at (585) 753-7380. Improve the environmental health of your property and support local conservation efforts - place your order today!

“OUT OF THIS WORLD” ETIQUETTE TIPS FOR KIDS WITH PITTSFORD REC

Our Pittsford Recreation Department offers kids ages 5 – 11 the chance to brush up on their manners in a “Galaxy far, far away” with “Out of This World Etiquette.” Participants will explore, soar and discover etiquette, mealtime manners and more – while enjoying Star Wars themed cupcakes and Galaxy punch, plus some Star Wars etiquette tips! Participants may come dressed as their favorite character if they wish. The program is Saturday, February 27 from 1:00 - 2:15pm at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center; face coverings and proper physical distancing are required for all on-site programs.



[Registration is available online](#) (see the “Family and Youth” section) or register in person at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue. For more information about all of our awesome Pittsford Recreation programs, visit the [Recreation Department page](#) on our website or click the link for a [Recreation brochure](#).



NYSDOT TO CLOSE STATE STREET BRIDGE THIS MONDAY, 2/22 AT 9:00AM

Bridge expected to remain closed for 6 months

The NYS Department of Transportation will close the State Street (Route 31) Bridge over the canal in Pittsford Village at 9:00am this Monday, February 22 to conduct needed work on the bridge. Per NYS DOT, the bridge will remain closed for up to six months as the contractor works to rehabilitate the steel floor system,

replace the concrete bridge deck, paint the lower section, and improve approaches to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Minor preparatory work on the bridge by the DOT is currently underway. This work is being performed while the bridge is open to vehicular traffic with one sidewalk closed at a time.

During construction, **NYSDOT signed detours will be posted using** I-490, NY-31F (East Ave/Fairport Road), and NY-96 (North Main Street/East Avenue). Recreational boating and the Erie Canal Heritage Trail below the bridge will remain open throughout the project.

The detour will be posted as follows:

- **Eastbound:** Route 31 (Monroe Avenue) to Route 96 (North Main Street/East Avenue) to Route 31F (East Ave/Fairport Road) to 490 East, exit Route 31 (Palmyra Road/State Street).
- **Westbound:** Route 31 (Palmyra Road), enter 490 West, exit Route 31F (Fairport Road/East Ave) to Route 96 (East Ave/Main Street) to Route 31 (Monroe Ave/State Street).
- **Pedestrian detour:** will utilize the Canal Trail adjacent to Schoen Place, between Route 96 (North Main Street) and Route 31 (State Street).

A temporary traffic signal will be installed at the intersection of Schoen Place and Route 96 (North Main Street). **Schoen Place is designed to accommodate local traffic only due**

restricted weight limit and narrow width; trucks and through traffic should follow the detours posted by NYSDOT.

Motorists will be kept informed with variable message signs and temporary work zone traffic control signs on site. Real-time traffic and construction updates can also be found by visiting www.511ny.org. **Those with questions or concerns regarding the project should contact** Kevin Cannan, Engineer in Charge, at Kevin.Cannan@dot.ny.gov, or by phone at (585) 364-0729.

Per the DOT, the bridge work is required to avoid frequent closures for temporary repairs, imposing a posted weight restriction, or permanent closure to vehicular traffic.

NEXT PITTSFORD ROTARY FOOD DRIVE IS SATURDAY, 3/6 – PYS WILL BE FEATURED
Donations will go to Pittsford Food Cupboard

The [Rotary Club of Pittsford](#), in collaboration with the Town of Pittsford, will conduct a drive-through canned and packaged food drive to benefit the [Pittsford Food Cupboard](#) on Saturday, March 6 from 9:00am to noon at Spiegel Pittsford Community Center.

Rotarians, volunteers from [Pittsford Youth Services](#) and Town staff will be collecting canned and other packaged foods, snow or shine. PYS will be offering information on the services they offer for the youth and families of our community, and will be selling limited edition 2021 Duck Drop Derby face masks. Proceeds will benefit PYS programs. Click this link for a [list of current Food Cupboard needs](#).

Volunteers working will be taking COVID-19 precautionary measures, including wearing face coverings and gloves and maintaining safe distances. The Pittsford Food Cupboard is among the many organizations that benefit from Pittsford Rotary's mission of service to our community and beyond. Please help our Rotarians help those in need if you can. The Spiegel Pittsford Community Center is located at 35 Lincoln Avenue in the Village of Pittsford.

PLEASE HELP KEEP FIRE HYDRANTS CLEAR THIS WINTER – EVERY SECOND COUNTS IN AN EMERGENCY

Property owners, home owners and snow removal operators are asked to be aware of neighborhood fire hydrant locations and to assist in keeping snow away from hydrants to maintain a 3-foot clearing around them. If you can do so, clearing a path from the hydrant to the street is also very helpful. In an emergency, every second counts and a clear path to a fire hydrant is critical - please help our emergency responders keep our community safe!

REMINDERS

SEASONAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 1, 2021

In order to facilitate snow removal, Town of Pittsford seasonal parking restrictions are currently in effect through April 1, 2021. Parking of any vehicle on public roads - including state highways and on the shoulder of all roads - is prohibited each year from November 15 through April 1 in all areas within the Town and outside of the Village. During this time, please don't park on or along public roads outside of the Village. Please note violators may be ticketed or towed.

When the snow flies, we need roadsides clear of vehicles so our plows can get through. This is especially true in neighborhoods, where the streets are narrower. Vehicles parked along the roadside can hinder plows accessing your neighborhood. Please help us keep our streets safe and accessible!

ASL INTERPRETER ALWAYS AVAILABLE AT TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The Town of Pittsford has an American Sign Language interpreter available at every Pittsford Town Board meeting, to interpret for those who need this service. Those who can't attend a Town Board meeting in person but are planning to watch the meeting's live stream can confirm their need for the interpreter by emailing comments@townofpittsford.org. Requests can be made in advance or can be emailed through the first ten minutes of the meeting. An on-demand Town Board meeting video with closed captioning will be available within 48 hours of the meeting; visit www.townofpittsford.org/home-channel12 and use the On-Demand links to view previously recorded meetings.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN PITTSFORD

- [Red Cross Blood Drive at Pittsford Community Library](#), Thursday, 2/25, 1:00 – 6:00pm, Pittsford Community Library Fisher Meeting Room, 24 State Street; [schedule an appointment in advance using this online registration link](#) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767); the Red Cross will be following all COVID-19 guidelines during the blood drive, for more information visit www.redcrossblood.org.
- [Pittsford Chamber of Commerce Mayoral & Village Trustees Forum](#), Thursday, February 25, 7:00 – 8:00pm, open to Pittsford residents and Pittsford Chamber members only; meeting will be held online, click the following [link for more information and to register](#) or visit www.pittsfordchamber.org.
- [Pittsford Rotary Food Drive](#), Saturday, 3/6, 9:00am - 12noon, Spiegel Pittsford Community Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue; canned and other packaged goods needed for Pittsford Food Cupboard (see [list of Food Cupboard needs here](#)); Pittsford Youth Services staff will be on hand to provide information and sell PYS Duck Drop masks.

TOWN OF PITTSFORD BOARD MEETINGS

- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**, Thursday, 2/18, 6:30pm, ONLINE ACCESS via Zoom video conferencing; information for accessing and viewing the meeting can be found on page 2 of the meeting agenda; the meeting agenda is posted on the Town website here: www.townofpittsford.org/home-minutes
- **Planning Board**, Monday, 2/22 7:00pm, ONLINE ACCESS via Zoom video conferencing; information for accessing and viewing the meeting can be found on page 2 of the meeting agenda; the meeting agenda is posted at least two days prior to the meeting on the Town website here: www.townofpittsford.org/home-minutes

COMMUNITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

- [Board of Education Budget Work Session](#) (6:00pm) and meeting (7:00pm), Tuesday, 2/23, Barker Road Middle School McCluski Board Room, 75 Barker Road

- [Pittsford Chamber of Commerce Mayoral & Village Trustees Forum](#), Thursday, February 25, 7:00 – 8:00pm, open to Pittsford residents and Pittsford Chamber members only; meeting will be held online, click the following [link for more information and to register](#) or visit www.pittsfordchamber.org.
- [American Legion Rayson-Miller Post 899](#) **TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST MEETINGS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE** due to COVID-19 coronavirus social distancing requirements. Eligible veterans welcome to join the Post; for [membership information](#) visit the [Rayson-Miller Post website](#)
- [Pittsford Rotary Club](#), **WEEKLY IN-PERSON MEETINGS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE** due to COVID-19 coronavirus social distancing requirements; check the Pittsford Rotary Facebook page for virtual meeting information.
- [Pittsford Art Group](#) is conducting monthly meetings for members via Zoom and typically displays artwork at the Pittsford Town Hall, Village Hall, The Friendly Home, Star Physical Therapy and the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford. For further information or to become a member, please visit www.pittsfordartgroup.com or contact PAG president [Margie Mitchell](#)

Town Facility Access

Spiegel Pittsford Community Center - building is open 8:00am - 5:00pm Monday through Friday and open during program hours evenings and weekends. Senior "Grab N Go" meals will continue every Wednesday and Friday; pickup is at the bus loop behind the Community Center. Registration for low-risk activities and virtual programs begins in advance of each session. See Program Info & Registration link at www.townofpittsford.org/home-recreation. Programs will continue to open as we receive further guidance.

Pittsford Community Library - the Library is now open for limited hours and services; enter from the parking lot entrance. The Library also has many online resources, programs and activities for all ages to enjoy. For current Library hours, services, resources, and other updates, visit the Library's update page at www.bit.ly/pclupdates. For virtual children's programming check the Library's Facebook page www.facebook.com/PittsfordLibrary/. The Book Drop return area is open; please only deposit returned books; for information on book sale donations visit www.pittsfordlibraryfriends.com. Regular due dates for all materials have resumed; check your receipt or your Library account for exact due dates. Low contact pickup of Library materials is available for Monroe County Library System cardholders.

Town Hall is open to residents by appointment only; in-person meetings will be limited and allowed only when absolutely necessary. Calls should be made to the department related to the inquiry. Town Hall remains staffed to handle business online and by mail, phone, email and the "drop slot" to the right of the front door and at the back door of Town Hall.

Town Clerk: All services of the Town Clerk are available online, by mail, phone and email. If necessary, an appointment can be arranged. Contact at 248-6210 or ldillon@townofpittsford.org, mail materials to Pittsford Town Clerk's Office, 11 South Main Street, Pittsford NY 14534. Services info at www.townofpittsford.org/home-clerk.

Town Court: Pittsford Town Court sessions are being scheduled on a limited basis. Town Court staff are available via phone and email Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 5:00pm; call (585) 248-6238 or email at pdromgoole@townofpittsford.org. Visitors must follow appropriate health safety and social distancing requirements for Court appearances and Court Office visits.

All Town Playgrounds: residents may use Town playgrounds at their own risk, as it is not possible for the Town to keep equipment appropriately sanitized after every use. Those using Town playgrounds are expected to observe COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols.

All Town Parks: Farm View Park and Hopkins Park are closed as of November 2020 and will remain closed through the spring of 2021. All other Town parks remain open; all courts are open, all athletic fields are open to groups of 25 individuals or less, and all trails and walkways are accessible. Those using Town parks are expected to observe COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols.

Thornell Farm Park: the park is open and per State requirements, all grass and turf sports fields are open to group activities of 25 individuals or less; the tennis courts, trails, walkways and the playground are open to residents. COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols are required.

King's Bend Park Lodges: the lodges are open for reservations; per State and Federal governments all COVID-19 safety guidelines must be followed while at the lodges. Lodge capacities will adhere to New York State COVID-19 guidelines. Please note COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols are required.

The Mile Post School: the building is closed to the public until further notice, as the site is being used as a Public Works crew operation center.

Building Department: As of May 15, 2020 the Governor has begun the phased reopening of New York State. The Town of Pittsford and the surrounding Finger Lakes region have met the criteria set by the Governor to reopen. Construction is included in Phase 1 of the reopening plan. As construction moves forward, all COVID-19 safety guidelines set by the State and Federal governments must be followed while on the job site. To protect the community and limit the spread of COVID-19, the Town of Pittsford has altered accordingly its inspection and permitting procedures. See the Town of Pittsford COVID-19 Building Inspection Procedures for details; additional information can be found here: New York State Construction Guidelines. For more information contact Town of Pittsford Building Inspector Mark Lenzi at mLenzi@townofpittsford.org or call the Town Building Department at 585-248-6265.

Town Public Works - Highway, Sewer and Parks Departments: All operations continue. Crews in these departments are following hygiene and social distancing protocols in light of the COVID-19 threat.

Monroe County Services at Town facilities:

The County has suspended until further notice Passport Services at Town Hall and Mobile DMV service at Pittsford Town Court. Find updated information for Monroe County DMV here <https://www2.monroecounty.gov/clerk-COVID-19>.

Further information and updates can be found at www.townofpittsford.org/covid-19info.

COVID-19 Coronavirus Information Links

Further Town of Pittsford COVID-19 coronavirus information and updates can be found at www.townofpittsford.org/covid-19info.

[Pittsford Central School District COVID-19 Coronavirus Updates](#)

You can find information on COVID-19 coronavirus at the County Health Department's website: <https://www2.monroecounty.gov/health-index.php>.

Additional information about business closure requirements throughout Monroe County can be found on the County's Website: www.monroecounty.gov

The CDC also has information on its website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/share-facts-stop-fear.html>.

In addition, the CDC has information relevant to anyone planning to travel outside of the United States: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM20785.

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