

JULY 17, 2026



CITY OF WATERTOWN CITY MANAGER UPDATE

OPPORTUNITIES WITH WATERTOWN

The City of Watertown is more than a workplace; it is a place where your work makes a real difference every day. From maintaining essential services to supporting our active community, our employees play a vital role in shaping the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. If you are looking for meaningful work, professional growth, and the chance to serve your community, we invite you to explore the opportunities currently available with the City of Watertown.

WE'RE HIRING!

For a complete list of all the opportunities available, visit our website:

<https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN IS HIRING!



Open Positions:

- Facility Maintenance Worker (Watertown Housing Authority)
- Lineworker I (Full Time)
- Motor Equipment Operator (Full Time)
- Municipal Worker
- Refuse/Recycle MEO (Full Time)
- School Crossing Guard (Seasonal)
- Senior Engineering Technician

Exam Opportunities:

- Police Officer
 - Application Deadline: 9/6/2026
 - Exam Date: 10/17/2026

Apply through our portal:

<https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>



Questions?: Reach out to the Civil Service Office for more information.

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR NEWEST HIRE TO THE CITY OF WATERTOWN!

Joining us as the new City of Watertown Transportation Planner is Jessica Raymond.

Welcome aboard!



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Stay updated with the meeting minutes from the July 6, 2026, City Council Meeting:

[City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Upcoming City Council Meetings – 7 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall

- Monday, July 20, 2026
- Monday, August 3, 2026

Upcoming City Council Work Sessions – 7 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall

- Monday, August 10, 2026



Upcoming Public Hearing at 7:15 pm on Monday, July 20, 2026.

- Changing the Approved Zoning Classification of 647 Flower Street, Parcel Number 4-19-101.000 from Residential to Industrial

Police Chief Charles P. Donoghue Announces Retirement



The City of Watertown extends its sincere congratulations and appreciation to Police Chief Charles P. Donoghue on his retirement effective July 31, 2026, after more than 33 years of dedicated service to the Watertown Police Department and the community.

Chief Donoghue began his career with the department in 1993 as a Patrol Officer and steadily rose through the ranks, serving as a Detective, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and ultimately Chief of Police since 2014. Throughout his career, he has been recognized for his exceptional leadership, commitment to officer training, and unwavering dedication to public safety.

In addition to leading the department, Chief Donoghue has served on numerous specialized units and regional public safety organizations while mentoring generations of law enforcement professionals. His distinguished career has been recognized with multiple honors, including the New York State "Top Cop" Award for DWI enforcement and the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions during a life-threatening incident.

The Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and City staff extend their heartfelt gratitude to Chief Donoghue for his outstanding service, leadership, and commitment to the City of Watertown. We wish him continued health, happiness, and success in his well-earned retirement.

Officer Shane Ryan Retires After 19 Years of Service

The City of Watertown congratulates Officer Shane Ryan on his retirement after 19 years of dedicated service to the Watertown Police Department and the community.

Throughout his career, Officer Ryan demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety and faithfully served the residents of Watertown with professionalism and integrity.

His years of service have made a lasting impact on the department and the community he served. On behalf of the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and City staff, we extend our sincere appreciation to Officer Ryan for his dedication and wish him good health, happiness, and continued success in the next chapter of his life.



THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERISM

Dedicated volunteers continue to make remarkable progress restoring gravestones at the Arsenal Street Cemetery. Through their hard work and commitment, they are helping preserve an important piece of Watertown's history and honoring those laid to rest there.

Their ongoing efforts are gradually bringing new life to the cemetery. The City extends its sincere appreciation to these volunteers for their dedication and community spirit.

We are grateful for their contributions and always welcome additional volunteers who would like to help preserve this historic landmark or other area around the city!



Be sure to check out these videos to see the restoration work in action and learn the fascinating history behind some of the cemetery's historic gravestones!

[Eliza B. Howk's Headstone](#)

[Baker and Polly Massey Headstone](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE CITY

WATERTOWN Farm AND Craft Market EST 1977

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF JEFFERSON COUNTY

Every Wednesday from May 27 through October 7, 2026.



41st ANNUAL BRAVO! Italian Festival

Fri., Sept. 11th Opens at 4pm
Sat., Sept. 12th Opens at 10am

ITALIAN FOOD
MISS ITALIAN PAGEANT
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FRIED DOUGH
SAUSAGE SANDWICHES
PIZZA
VENDORS

CELEBRATING 41 YEARS

Celebrate When
TRADITION MEETS TOMORROW



2026 TRINITY SUMMER CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS

SUMMER CONCERTS

6 PM THURSDAYS

FREE ADMISSION & CONCESSIONS
(donations gratefully accepted)

JUNE 18	FALL CREEK BRASS BAND
JUNE 25	THE STRAND JAZZ COLLECTIVE
JULY 2	ARRHYTHMIAS
JULY 9	GARLAND CITY FIDDLERS
JULY 16	SKIP STARR AND THE RENDITIONS
JULY 23	BAD HUSBANDS CLUB
JULY 30	REV THEATRE: JACK AND THE TURNIP ROOT*
AUG 6	10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION BAND
AUG 13	ATKINSON FAMILY BLUEGRASS BAND
AUG 20	OCEAN'S BELOW

*CHILDREN'S THEATRE ONLY. NO MUSIC AT THE JULY 30 EVENT.

TRINITY CHURCH SOUTH LAWN
227 SHERMAN STREET, WATERTOWN

BRING LAWN CHAIRS AND BLANKETS
CITY LOT PARKING AVAILABLE OFF STONE AND CLINTON STREETS
CONCERTS ARE MOVED INDOORS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

TRINITYCONCERTS.ORG



Downtown BLOCK PARTY Series

WATERTOWN · NY

Friday, July 31

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

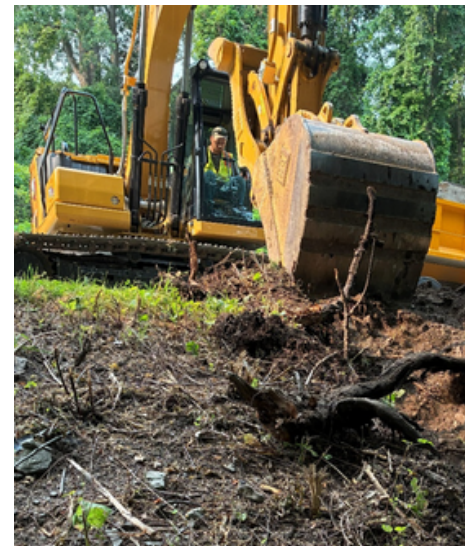
Electrical

Our dedicated and talented Electrical Division plays a vital role in supporting City operations and many of Watertown's signature community events. Crews provide electrical installation, maintenance, and on-site support for events such as the Downtown Block Party, Symphony in the Park, the July 4th Celebration, the Jefferson County Fair, the Farmers Market, and numerous other community gatherings. Their behind-the-scenes expertise helps ensure these events are safe, successful, and enjoyable for residents and visitors. Without their commitment and technical support, many of these events would not be possible.



Sewer

Work continues on the Franklin Street Storm Project, with crews extending the storm drainage system and upgrading existing drainage structures to improve stormwater runoff before roadway reconstruction can proceed. Motorists and pedestrians are encouraged to use alternate routes when possible and exercise caution when traveling through or near the active work zone.



Building & Grounds

Sewer ROWs are another important area the buildings and grounds division maintains. This allows access to important infrastructure.



Roads

Ever wonder how roadway markings are painted? This specialized striping machine allows crews to apply smooth, durable pavement markings with exceptional accuracy and precision, helping improve roadway safety and visibility for motorists and pedestrians alike.

Crews formed and poured a large ADA-compliant curb ramp on Water Street in preparation for the paving phase of the project. This work is an important step toward improving accessibility and advancing the overall reconstruction project.



Forestry

Crews are removing a storm-damaged tree on Paddock Street to eliminate a public safety hazard and restore the area following recent severe weather.



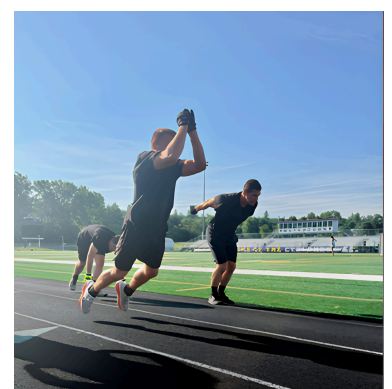
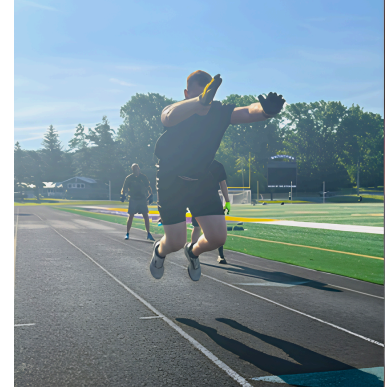
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community Interaction

WPD Officer Travis Workman and partner "Bach" visited the Carthage School District for a presentation.

Police Academy

The police academy recruits are working hard to keep in shape!



The recruits are also learning about motor vehicle crash investigations. The photos below show recruits using a "drag sled" to determine the "coefficient of drag" (friction) on the road surface. The coefficient of drag is needed to calculate vehicle speeds for crash reconstruction.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

New Apparatus Arrivals



The Watertown Fire Department continues to modernize its fleet with the addition of two new emergency response vehicles.

Our new aerial apparatus has arrived at the dealer and is currently undergoing final preparation before delivery. We anticipate the truck will arrive in Watertown within the next two to three weeks and will be placed into service shortly thereafter.



The department has also taken delivery of the new Engine 3. Fire Department personnel are currently outfitting the apparatus with equipment and completing operational training to ensure a smooth transition. The new engine is expected to be placed into service in the near future.

Structure Fire Responses

The Watertown Fire Department responded to two apartment fires in July, with both incidents quickly contained and no significant fire spread.

July 4 – Huntington Street: Firefighters responded to smoke in an apartment building and found burned food left on a stove. Crews ventilated the building after ensuring the fire had not extended beyond the cooking area.

July 13 – Multi-Family Residence: Firefighters responded to a reported apartment fire that had been extinguished by the occupant using a portable fire extinguisher. The fire, which originated beneath the kitchen sink, was contained to the cabinet area. Firefighters ventilated the building, and no injuries were reported. The incident serves as a reminder to use caution when handling open flames.



City Fire participated in this years Jefferson County Parade!



Water Rescue Responses

The Watertown Fire Department responded to several significant water-related emergencies over the past week, highlighting the importance of specialized training and strong mutual aid partnerships.

July 11 – Mutual Aid Rope Rescue (Black River)

At approximately 4:56 p.m., Watertown Fire Department units responded to the Village of Black River to assist with a low-angle rope rescue. An individual performing tree work was struck by a falling limb and fell down a steep riverbank, sustaining serious injuries. Watertown firefighters assisted Black River Fire and Ambulance personnel with patient care, packaging, and the deployment of a rope system to safely extricate the victim from the riverbank. The patient was then transferred to Black River Ambulance for transport to the hospital.

July 10 – Court Street Bridge Water Rescue

At approximately 8:48 a.m., firefighters responded to reports of a person in the Black River calling for help near the Court Street Bridge. Upon arrival, responders observed the individual floating downstream with an apparent serious head injury. Rescue boats were deployed while firefighters from the truck company successfully used throw bags to bring the individual safely to shore. The patient was removed from the river using a backboard and Stokes basket before being transferred to Guilfoyle Ambulance Service paramedics for transport to Samaritan Medical Center.

July 14 – River Search Incident

At approximately 2:24 a.m., the Fire Department responded to reports of two individuals missing in the Black River after reportedly entering the water on an inflatable float. A unified command was established with the Watertown Police Department and Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. Firefighters deployed rescue boats, conducted shoreline searches using thermal imaging cameras and lighting, and searched the river with night vision equipment. Glen Park Fire Department also assisted by searching downstream areas. The search concluded after the original caller was able to contact the missing individuals, who were subsequently located by the Watertown Police Department at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. No injuries were reported.



PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

The City of Watertown's Purchasing Department is responsible for acquiring goods, services, and construction projects on behalf of the City. The department ensures that procurement processes are fair, transparent, and competitive through a formal bidding process.

Auctions International #48115 – Miscellaneous Equipment – Ending 7/23/26

The City of Watertown is auctioning surplus miscellaneous equipment through Auctions International's online website. Please use the link to view the items: [City of Watertown-NY #48115](#)

RFP #2026-08 Legal Services (ERPO & Police Code) – Deadline 7/22/26

The City of Watertown is seeking sealed proposals from qualified attorneys or law firms to provide legal services related to Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) matters and Municipal code and ordinance violations prosecution and related legal services on behalf of the City and/or the Watertown Police Department. Please use the link below for additional information:

<https://prod3.evo.cloud/watertownny/portal/bids/542/>

Please visit our website at [City of Watertown – Purchasing Department](#) for all Bid/RFP opportunities. If you are not already in our Evobid system, you will have to create a log in to our website system to download the specifications. Once you submit your information, you will be notified of any changes on the Bid or RFP. You will also automatically be invited to view any other project related to your company and have access to our EvoBids platform to view any bids/RFPs currently open by the City of Watertown. Thank you.

CITIBUS



Welcome Jessica Raymond, Transportation Planner

CitiBus is pleased to welcome Jessica Raymond as the City of Watertown's new Transportation Planner.

Jessica provides travel training for individuals learning to use CitiBus services, serves as a transportation resource for community organizations and agencies, and is coordinating the formation of the City of Watertown Transit Committee. Residents and community stakeholders interested in serving on the committee are encouraged to submit a letter of interest and resume for consideration.

For travel training, transportation assistance, or Transit Committee information, contact Jessica Raymond at (315) 785-7884 or jraymond@watertown-ny.gov.

Regional Transit Connections



Jefferson County Public Transit

Traveling outside the City of Watertown? **Jefferson County Public Transit** (JCPT) provides public transportation throughout Jefferson County, with connections to CitiBus routes.

For schedules and route information, visit jeffcpublictransit.com.

CARRY-ON ITEMS POLICY

For the safety and accessibility of all passengers.



ALLOWED



Carts within
size limits



Items completely
contained within
carts or bags



Personal belongings
kept under the
passenger's control



Wheelchair
securement areas
available when needed

MAXIMUM CART SIZE:

30" H x 18" W x 18" D

(excluding wheels and handles)

- All items must remain under the passenger's control at all times.
- Passengers are limited to items that can be boarded in a **single trip**.



NOT ALLOWED



Oversized carts
exceeding:
30" H x 18" W x 18" D
(excluding wheels
and handles)



Items protruding
from, hanging from,
or attached to the
outside of **carts**
and walkers.



Items blocking
aisles, doorways,
emergency exits,
or walkways



Personal
belongings
occupying
additional
passenger seats



Multiple
boarding trips
to load
belongings



Items creating
a safety hazard
or interfering with
passenger
movement



- Wheelchair securement areas must be vacated when needed for passengers using mobility devices.



- Aisles, doorways, emergency exits, and walkways must remain clear at all times.



- Strollers must not block aisles, doorways, emergency exits, or passenger movement.



- CitiBus personnel will determine whether items can be safely transported.



DENIAL OF
BOARDING



REMOVAL FROM
THE VEHICLE



SUSPENSION
OF SERVICE



REFERRAL TO
LAW ENFORCEMENT

*Thank you for helping keep CitiBus safe,
accessible, and reliable for everyone.*



Questions or concerns?
Call Watertown CitiBus:
315-785-7772

PASSENGER CODE OF CONDUCT

Thank you for helping us keep CitiBus safe, respectful and accessible for all.



FARES & PAYMENT

- Pay the correct fare before taking a seat.
- Reduced fare passengers must show valid ID when requested.
- Operators do not make change.
- Use passes and transfers in accordance with CitiBus policies.



PASSENGER CONDUCT

PLEASE:

- ✓ Follow instructions from CitiBus personnel.
- ✓ Be respectful of others and our employees.
- ✓ Keep the bus clean.
- ✓ Keep hands, feet and belongings to yourself.

PLEASE DO NOT:

- ✗ Use abusive, threatening or discriminatory language.
- ✗ Fight, threaten or harass others.
- ✗ Play music or audio without headphones.
- ✗ Smoke, vape, use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs.
- ✗ Litter, vandalize or damage property.
- ✗ Distract the operator while the bus is in motion.



PRIORITY SEATING

Priority seating is for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Please move when requested.

Wheelchair securement areas must remain available.

CARRY-ON ITEMS, CARTS & STROLLERS

For everyone's safety, items must be controlled by the passenger and may not block aisles, doorways, emergency exits or wheelchair securement areas.



Items must fit on your lap, under your seat, or between your feet without blocking the aisle.



Carts may not exceed 30" H x 18" W x 18" D (excluding wheels and handles).



All items must fit completely inside. Nothing may protrude, hang from or be attached outside.



Do not block aisles, doorways, emergency exits or vehicle walkways.



Fold strollers when practical. Do not block aisles or doorways.



Do not use additional seats for bags or packages.



Mobility aids (wheelchairs, walkers, canes, etc.) are permitted in accordance with the ADA. When practical and not needed for immediate use, items should be folded or positioned to minimize obstruction.



SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals are welcome in accordance with the ADA.



FOR YOUR SAFETY

- Stay seated while the bus is in motion.
- Keep aisles and steps clear.
- Do not extend body parts or belongings out of windows.
- Do not interfere with emergency equipment.



CITIBUS AUTHORITY

CitiBus personnel determine what is safe and appropriate. You must follow their instructions.



VIOLATIONS OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT MAY RESULT IN:

- Being asked to correct the issue
- Removal from the bus or facility
- Denial of future service
- Suspension from service

Criminal activity will be reported to law enforcement.

Your cooperation helps keep CitiBus safe and reliable for our entire community.

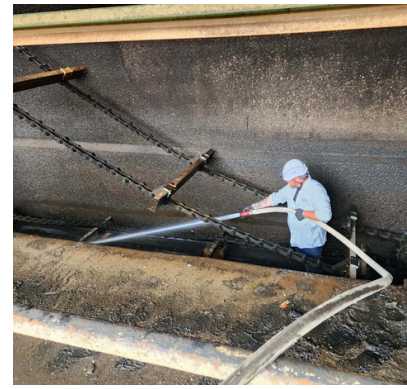
Questions or concerns? Contact Watertown CitiBus: **315-785-7772** | www.watertown-ny.gov/citibus

POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

The Pollution Control Facility (PCF) team continues to focus on preventative maintenance, facility improvements, and community outreach.

Each summer, staff drain and inspect treatment tanks to identify and address issues before they become larger problems. These inspections help ensure the facility continues to operate safely and reliably.

Recent heavy rains have also kept PCF staff busy managing increased flows while keeping pumps running and treatment operations moving. Storm events can bring additional debris into the system, including rocks, rags, and non-flushable “flushable” wipes, creating added challenges for operations.



PCF operations and maintenance staff recently completed an in-house repair of the inner hub on one of the Trickling Filters. This specialized work saved the City thousands of dollars while demonstrating the team's technical skills and commitment to maintaining reliable treatment.



The City of Watertown PCF is also proud to participate in the NYWEA Work in Water (WiW) program, which introduces high school students to careers in the water industry through paid internships. This year, the City welcomed two WiW interns, providing hands-on experience and helping inspire the next generation of water professionals.



PARKS AND RECREATION



POOL HOURS



Thompson Park Pool:

- Open daily from 12:00–7:00pm.

Flynn Pool:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday – 1:00–6:00pm
- Tuesday and Thursday – CLOSED



New Mobile Stage

The Parks & Recreation team is excited to introduce the City's new mobile stage, created by repurposing an old trailer and transforming it into a versatile event resource.

The stage features side rails, stairs, stabilizing jacks, and built-in electrical outlets, making setup safer, quicker, and more efficient. Previously, temporary stages required significant staff time to assemble and dismantle, while purchasing a commercial mobile stage was cost-prohibitive. This creative in-house project provides a practical solution while allowing staff to focus more time and resources on other City services and events.

The new mobile stage will be used at a variety of community events throughout the City.



Clearing

Parks & Recreation crews have been working to clear overgrown areas throughout Thompson Park. Areas recently cleared include sections along Gotham Street, portions of the Disc Golf Course, and an area between the Gotham Street entrance and the golf course.



50 & OVER PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT



DATE: Saturday, August 8th

TIME: 9:00 AM Start

LOCATION: Watertown Municipal Arena

FEE: \$40 Per Team

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH
9:00AM START TIME

WOMEN'S



MEN'S



**MIXED
DOUBLES**



Registration Details: June 1st - August 5th
<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>
Call 315-785-7775 if you need assistance

JUNIOR GOLF CAMP



FOR KIDS AGES 6-14 YO



Whether you're new to the game or looking to sharpen your skills, our Junior Golf Camp is the perfect place to improve your swing, make new friends, and have a blast on the course. You must bring your own golf clubs.



CITY RESIDENTS & MILITARY: \$60.00
NON-CITY RESIDENTS: \$115.00

JULY 20TH- 22ND 9AM-12PM
AT THOMPSON PARK GOLF COURSE
1 THOMPSON PARK WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601

REGISTRATION: JUNE 15TH- JULY 17TH

Camp will include:
Full swing fundamentals
Chipping basics
Putting drills & speed control
Skills challenge
Mini scramble game
& Much more!

315-785-7775 <https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>



**Watertown Parks & Rec
Presents**

Pickleball Clinic

For beginner level players

July 28th & 29th
Time: 5:30-7:00pm

Location

Fairgrounds Municipal Arena
600 William T. Field Drive

**This clinic is
FREE**

Register early - space is limited

Registration opens Monday, July 1st!

<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>

call 315-785-7775 if you need assistance

\$25

*city residents

Program Rates

- City Resident & Military : \$25
- Non-City Resident : \$45

Level Overview

Level 1A (Introductory)

- no previous experience
- introduction to water skills

Level 1B (Beginner)

- minimal experience
- learning fundamental skills

Level 2 (Intermediate)

- skills performed with assistance
- building on and improving learned skills

Level 3 (Experienced)

- skills performed unassisted
- increasing proficiency of learned skills

SWIM LESSONS 2026

Session 1: Thompson Park Pool

10:45-11:30

Week 1 - July 6-10

Week 2 - July 13-17

Week 3 - July 20-24

Session 2: Flynn Pool

10:45-11:30

Week 1 - July 27-31

Week 2 - August 3-7

To register scan QR code or go to

<https://secure.rec1.com/watertown-ny/catalog>

For Assistance call
(315) 785-7775

FLOWER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Get ready for a roaring summer! This year's Summer Reading theme, "Unearth a Story with Roswell!", is dino-mite!

For every hour you read, you'll earn one entry into our prize drawings. Here's the best part: you decide how to distribute your reading hours among the prizes in your age group! Whether you read solo, with a friend, listen to an audiobook, enjoy being read to, share stories with your dog, or flip through a picture-filled favorite, it all counts!

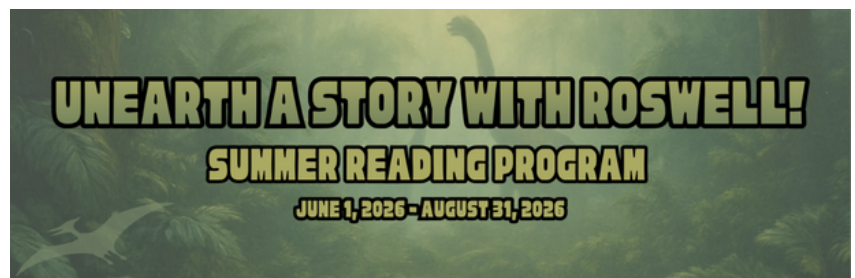
There are three age groups for this program: Children (ages 0-11), Teens (ages 12-17), and Adults (ages 18+). Participants can log reading hours online through our website or by using paper trackers available at the library. You can submit as often as you'd like — no need to wait until the end of the program!

Children can win one of the following:

- Movie Night gift basket
- Billy Beez gift card
- 4 tickets to Zoo NY
- Paint It! Pottery gift card
- LEGO Medium Brick Box
- Arts & Crafts Supplies Kit

Teens can win:

- Hydro Flask Water Bottle + Dino Nugget Pillow
- Walmart gift card + Dino Nugget Pillow
- Ulta gift card + Dino Nugget Pillow
- Adults can win:
- Stewarts Shops gift card
- Aldi gift card
- Lowe's gift card
- Ulta gift card
- Chrissy Beanz gift card
- Owala or Stanley water bottle – Winner's Choice!



All participants of any age will automatically receive one entry into our Grand Prize drawing: 4 tickets to the NY State Fair with a Parking Pass!

The fine print for all age groups: Participants may win only one prize, including the Grand Prize. If name was already drawn for a prize, another name will be drawn. Prizes will not be mailed. Winners must be able to pick up at the library. Tickets, bookmarks, and online entries must be filled out in their entirety in order to qualify.

You must enter the prize raffles for your age group. Any submissions made into other age groups will not be counted. Only one prize per person, including the Grand Prize.

KEEP WATERTOWN CLEAN & GREEN!

CITY OF WATERTOWN NY REFUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



WEEKLY REFUSE PICKUP



WEEKLY RECYCLING INCLUDED



**CONVENIENT OPTIONS
FOR EVERY HOUSEHOLD**



SCAN HERE



315-785-7842

WWW.WATERTOWN-NY.GOV/REFUSERECYCLING