

Amherst



Incorporated: 1775

Hampshire County

Located in the fertile and scenic Connecticut River Valley, Amherst enjoys views of hills and mountains in all directions. Although originally a farming community, Amherst's main industry is now education, since it is the home of the main campus of the University of Massachusetts as well as two private colleges, Amherst College and Hampshire College. Consequently, the town's population varies from about 35,000 during the academic year to the mid-20's during the summer. The town's commercial, social and cultural life benefit from the liveliness and diversity stimulated by the colleges and the University. Amherst has long supported excellent public schools, libraries and town services; it has also worked hard both to preserve farming and open space and to provide affordable housing. Amherst is one of the few towns in the Commonwealth to have met the goal of having 10% of its housing stock affordable. Department of Housing & Community Development

Population: 34,874 (2000 census)

Total Area: 27.75 sq miles

Government: Select Board

Tax Rate: \$16.02 (2008)

Town Manager

Representative Town Meeting

School Superintendent: 549-5806

Colleges/Universities: Amherst College

Public Schools: 4 Elementary Schools

Hampshire College

Amherst Regional Middle School

UMass @ Amherst

Amherst Regional High School

Private Schools: Amherst Common School

Vocational School Available

Amherst Montessori School

Shopping: Downtown area shopping and small outlying shopping centers. Larger malls within a 10-30 minute drive.

Libraries: Jones Library
Munson Memorial Library
North Amherst Library

Recreational Facilities:

Holyoke Range State Park; Lawrence Swamp; Hickory Ridge Golf Club; Amherst Golf Club; Cherry Hill Golf Course; Holyoke Range Conservation; Groff Park; Mill River Recreation Area; Norwottuck Rail Trail

Utilities:

Cable: Comcast 1-888-633-4266
Electric: Western Mass Electric Co. 800-286-2000
Gas: Berkshire Gas Company 586-3677
Telephone: Verizon 800-870-9999

Child Care Providers: 413-582-4218

Child Care Focus 56 Vernon Street
Northampton, MA 01060

--provides a list of licensed childcare facilities

For More Information:

Town hall: (413) 256-4004

www.jonesgrouponline.com

www.amherstarea.com

