



Town of Topsfield

## **VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL FUNDS**

The citizens of Topsfield voted to establish funds to support important segments of our community: children, seniors and veterans. Taxpayers are able to contribute to one or more of the following Voluntary Special Funds. You may add these contributions to your tax payment by checking designated boxes on your bill.



### **MASCONOMET SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, §3C, the Town's Scholarship Fund was established in 1987 to provide educational financial aid to deserving town residents. Any amounts donated to the scholarship fund shall be deposited into a special account in the general treasury and shall be in the custody of the treasurer. The Town's Scholarship Fund Committee consists of the superintendent, or designee, and residents of the Topsfield appointed by the Board of Selectmen. In conjunction with the Masconomet Regional Scholarship Foundation, the committee selects recipients of, and amount of financial aid, from the scholarship fund, and is guided by criteria established by the committee. The recipients must be residents of the town at the time the financial aid is first awarded and shall have been accepted at an accredited institution to pursue education beyond the secondary level. The committee takes into consideration each recipient's financial-need, character, scholastic record and involvement in community work as well as extracurricular school activities.



### **EDUCATION FUND**

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, §3C, the Town's Education Fund provides supplemental educational funding for local educational needs at the Proctor and Steward Elementary Schools. The Town's Education Fund Committee is comprised of residents of Topsfield appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The committee reviews the needs of our schools and distributes donations to the elementary schools. The criteria and application procedures are developed by the education fund committee.

**Contact the Superintendent's office at 978-887-0771 for more information about Masconomet Scholarship and Education Funds.**



### **TAX RELIEF FUND FOR SENIORS & DISABLED**

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, §3D, the Town's Elderly and Disabled Taxation Fund was established in 2018 to help defray real estate taxes of elderly and disabled persons of low income. Taxpayers may voluntarily check off, donate and pledge an amount which shall increase the amount otherwise due on a tax bill. A donation check box is printed on municipal tax bills or motor vehicle excise tax bills to allow taxpayers the opportunity to donate to the fund. Donations made by taxpayers are strictly voluntary and are deposited into a special account held in the custody of the Treasurer. The Town established a taxation aid committee consisting of the chairman of the Board of Assessors, the Town Treasurer and three (3) residents of the town appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Contact the Assessors office at 978-887-1514 for more information.



### **VETERANS ASSISTANCE FUND**

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, §3F, the Town's Veteran's Assistance Fund was established in 2018 to provide support for veterans and their dependents in need of immediate assistance with food, transportation, heat and oil expenses. Taxpayers may voluntarily check off, donate and pledge an amount which shall increase the amount otherwise due a municipal tax bill or motor vehicle excise tax bill. Donations are strictly voluntary and shall be deposited into a special account held in the custody of the treasurer. The Town's Veterans' Services Officer establishes the application process, documentation standards, and financial eligibility criteria. The Veterans' Services Officer, Dick Cullinan, may be reached at 978-380-8397 or dick.cullinan@verizon.net.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To make a voluntary donation at any time during the year, visit the Town website at [www.topsfield-ma.gov](http://www.topsfield-ma.gov) and click on the "Donations" button on the bottom left of the Town's home webpage. For more details, or to volunteer on a committee, call the Board of Selectmen's Office at 978-887-1500.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY & YOUR NEIGHBORS  
WITH A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO THESE FUNDS!**