

Hydrant flushing begins this week

The Dedham-Westwood flushing water mains via Water District will begin hydrants in Westwood

starting on Wednesday, April 8. Flushing operations will be conducted in Westwood for approximately six weeks, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also, at times, flushing will be conducted at night, Sunday

through Thursday, 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Flushing may cause customers to experience reduced water pressure and discolored water. For more information, including an anticipated schedule, please visit www.dwwd.org/flushing

New 'makerspace' in Norwood driven by Westwood man

An exciting makerspace welcomes creatives around the region at a membership-based 7,000 square-foot space in Norwood, Mass. thanks to the vision of a Westwood father of three who abruptly changed his life course.

Mill Forge Makerspace is located in the Winsmith Mills complex and offers extensive facilities for woodworking, welding, laser cutting, electronics, textiles, metal work, 3D FDM and resin printing, and more in its beautiful 19th-century mill building with 14-foot ceilings and hardwood floors. The Forge operates as a Massachusetts Public Benefit Corporation, placing community at the forefront.

It's this idea of community that really set things in motion—and it started with layoffs.

The tech layoffs of 2022-2023 were unavoidable with major companies like Microsoft, Facebook, Google, Amazon laying off an estimated 427,000 employees. After his three-decade career in tech, the trend finally caught up with Bill Brooks, too — twice within a six month span.

Suddenly the certainty and dependability of a long tech career was up in the air.

Brooks, however, is a community-builder who had long been noodling on an idea to create a space for artists, makers and crafters who share his many hobbies and interests. With years of market turbulence and now, the layoffs, Brooks saw his idea turn to reality with Mill Forge Makerspace.

A "makerspace," sometimes

called a "fab lab" or "hack-space," provides a community-oriented workspace where people with shared interests can meet, work, socialize, and collaborate.

Two more years were spent researching locations, assessing community needs, sourcing equipment, and finally, building the space. After a successful and locally-televised launch in August 2025, "The Forge" has been providing classes, adding new members, incubating small businesses, and hosting community events with neighboring towns.

One of Brooks's chief priorities for the makerspace is to sustainably support the local community. The company's incorporated name, "Refecta," he states, means "to make again, renew, restore, or repair."

In a recent event, Charles River Repair Coalition, Westwood Environmental Action Committee and Sustainable

Medfield co-hosted their Spring 2026 Repair Café at Mill Forge, where people from all around the region were able to bring items for repair to a maker in the space.

SparkFun Electronics' Director of Education, Dr. Lindsay Diamond, says that makerspaces provide an encouraging and inclusive environment so people of all skill levels feel comfortable, offering established makers access to a wide variety of tools, educational opportunities like classes and workshops for newcomers, and a locale for all to design, build and create. Makerspaces provide support, shared resources, and space that many makers could not otherwise afford or accommodate at home.

Mill Forge Makerspace is located at 61 Endicott St. Building 46, Norwood, Mass. in Norwood Commerce Center, which hosts numerous local businesses, including The Winsmith Mill Market, Hometown Arcade, Rage Zone, and The Fallout Shelter.

Learn more about Mill Forge online at millforge.org, and follow on Instagram @millforge, Facebook at @millforgemakers, or Mastodon @millforge@masto.millforge.org.



POLICE LOG

WESTWOOD 3/23/2026- 3/30/2026

Monday, March 23

1:09 PM officers responded to an animal call on Hartford Street. Services were rendered.

3:31 PM officers responded to a report of shoplifting on University Avenue. Services were rendered.

7:13 PM officers responded to a report of shoplifting on university Avenue. The complaint was investigated.

Tuesday, March 24

12:16 AM officers responded to a report of a disturbance on Whippoorwill Drive. Services were rendered.

9:55 AM officers responded to a report of harassment and threats on Providence Highway. The complaint was investigated.

10:02 AM officers responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident with property damage only on Providence Highway. The crash was investigated.

11:39 AM officers responded to a report of a fight going on on Washington Street. The complaint was investigated.

3:25 PM officers responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident with property damage only on glacier Drive. The crash was investigated.

Wednesday, March 25

9 AM officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with property damage only on Harvard Street. The crash was investigated.

11:15 AM officers responded to an animal call on Thatcher Road. Services were rendered.

5:24 PM officers responded to a report of shoplifting on university Avenue. The complaint was investigated.

7:32 PM officers responded to a report of shoplifting on university Avenue. The complaint was investigated.

Thursday, March 26

9:24 AM officers respond to a report of suspicious activity on Wagon Road. Services were rendered.

2:50 PM officers responded to a report of larceny or fraud on University Avenue. The complaint was investigated.

3:50 PM officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with property damage on High Street. The crash was investigated.

4:28 PM officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with property damage on High Street. The crash was investigated.

Friday, March 27

6:56 AM Officers responded to Washington Street for a report of suspicious activity. The complaint was investigated.

9:54 AM officers respond to a report of harassment or threats on Highland Glen Road. Services were rendered.

1:39 PM officers respond to an animal call on Carol Avenue. Services were rendered.

2 PM officers responded to a motor vehicle property damage accident on East Street. The crash was investigated.

Women Take Aim

Firearm Shooting and Safety Event at Fin, Fur and Feather Club in Millis, MA

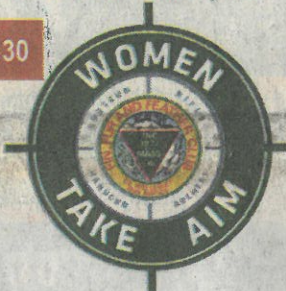
June 20, 2026 • 8:30 - 4:30

Open to women 15 and older (under 18 must be accompanied by an adult)

Women are invited to learn more about operating firearms in a safe and welcoming environment

Learn to shoot pistols, shotguns and rifles
Receive the Massachusetts Basic Firearms Safety Certificate required to obtain your firearms license

Registration is \$150, Includes supplies and lunch
Register at: finfurandfeather.us



No previous shooting experience is required!

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