



Incorporated: 1761

Hampshire County

Belchertown is situated on Route 9 just ten miles southeast of Amherst. First settled in 1731, it is the perfect blend of a quaint old New England town and a modern bedroom community. Its striking town green, ringed with white churches and colonial homes, is the site of band concerts, festivals and community activities throughout the year. The annual Belchertown Fair, one of the oldest continuously operated fairs in the country, takes place each October. Over a half-million visitors every year hike the trails and fish the waters of the Quabbin Reservoir. Four Connecticut River Valley towns were flooded in the 1930's to make way for this domestic-use reservoir, one of the largest and most spectacular in the country. Wildlife lovers flock there each winter to catch glimpses of the Quabbin's resident eagle population; they are also welcome at the state's McLaughlin Fish Hatchery just down the road, to learn about trout and salmon culture. Residents feel that the jewel in Belchertown's crown is the Stone House Museum, a gracious 1827 stone structure containing period Connecticut Valley antiques and furnishings. Owned and operated by the Belchertown Historical Association, the museum is open two days a week from May through October and hosts social and educational events throughout the year. Along with a traveler's own discoveries about scenic Belchertown, stone walls, ancient elms and maples and lovely homes can be found along the town's 180 miles of paved roads. (narrative supplied by community)

Population: 12,968 (2000 census)

Total Area: 55.38 sq miles

Government: Board of Selectmen, Executive Secretary, Open Town Meeting

Tax Rate: \$13.44 (2008)

School Superintendent: 323-0423

Public Schools: 2 Elementary Schools,
1 Middle School; 1 High School

Shopping: Miscellaneous retail stores; convenience stores and larger mall shopping within 30 minutes

Libraries: Clapp Memorial Library
323-0417

Recreational Facilities:

Quabbin Watershed; Swift River WMA, Ingate Farm; Swift River Sports Club; Pelham Sports Club; Mill Valley Country Club; Holland Glen

Utilities: Telephone: Verizon 800-870-9999
Cable: Charter Cable 323-9203
Electric: Massachusetts Electric 413-582-7200
Gas: No natural gas available
Sewer: Belchertown WWTP

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: 323-0403
www.belchertown.org
www.jonesgrouponline.com

