

## **MONTHLY UPDATES**

City of Boston's Age Strong Commission

#### **MARCH 2025**

Welcome to MARCH MONTHLY UPDATES, the monthly Age Strong Commission e-newsletter! At the beginning of each month, we email Boston Seniority Magazine and our new monthly "To-Do" Activities Calendar. Now, you'll also get important information for older Boston residents to age strong in Boston.

#### **MARCH 15 & 29: RABIES & DOG LICENSING CLINIC**



Boston's Animal Care & Control Division holds low-cost rabies & licensing clinics throughout the year.

Pets must be accompanied by a person 18 years or older, on leash or in a carrier. For more information, call 617-635-1800 or visit <a href="mailto:boston.gov/departments/animal-care-and-control#upcoming-events">boston.gov/departments/animal-care-and-control#upcoming-events</a>.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 18: IMMIGRANT ADVANCEMENT COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

**Looking for support getting connected to resources & navigating City services?** Meet with the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement during community office hours at the East Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library: 1st Thursdays 4 -7pm & 3rd Tuesdays, 10:30am-1pm. Registration not required. Interpretation & disability accommodations available. Call **617-308-1700** or email <a href="mailto:katherine.mendez@boston.gov">katherine.mendez@boston.gov</a>.



## MARCH UPDATES

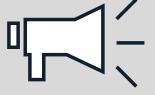
### **MARCH 18 & 19: FIX YOUR BIKE FREE WORKSHOPS**



The City of Boston offers free bike repair workshops across the City. Everyone is welcome to join these hands-on workshops and learn the basics of fixing a bike. March 18 at Boston Public Library in East Boston. March 19 at Boston Public Library in Mattapan. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.boston.gov/departments/boston-bikes/fix-your-bike#workshops">https://www.boston.gov/departments/boston-bikes/fix-your-bike#workshops</a>.

## MARCH 18, 19, 24: AGE STRONG'S NEIGHBORHOOD LISTENING SESSIONS

Mayor Wu and Age Strong want to hear from Boston's older adults! Attend one of our listening sessions to share your ideas & opinions on what makes Boston the best place to age. See the list of dates & locations at <a href="mailto:boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/2024-2025-age-strong-needs-assessment">boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/2024-2025-age-strong-needs-assessment</a>.



### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19: MAYOR WU'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS



Watch Boston's Mayor Michelle Wu's third annual State of the City Address on Wednesday, March 19, at 7 pm. She'll share recent accomplishments & plans for the upcoming year. Stream live on <a href="https://www.boston.gov">www.boston.gov</a>.

## MARCH 20, 26, 27, 28: PROPERTY TAX APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CLINICS

Find out if you are eligible for deferral, exemption on your property taxes as well as fuel assistance, Medicare Savings Program, SNAP, water/sewer discount& more. Attend Age Strong's assistance clinics across Boston neighborhoods through March. Call Age Strong to schedule your appointment at 617-635-4366. For more information, visit <a href="https://boston.gov/property-tax-clinics">boston.gov/property-tax-clinics</a>.



#### FREE TAX PREPARATION IN BOSTON



The Boston Tax Help Coalition offers **free tax preparation to Boston residents earning less than \$70,000**. There are 30 in-person sites offering assistance. To learn more email <code>freetaxhelp@boston.gov</code> or visit <code>boston.gov/tax-help.</code>

# FREE WINTER FITNESS CLASSES: BOSTON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Boston's Parks Department offers free fitness classes both in-person & online.** Choose from yoga, Zumba, strength training, high intensity interval training & more. See offerings at <a href="mailto:boston-gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/boston-parks-fitness-series">boston-gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/boston-parks-fitness-series</a>.



# AGE+

## **MARCH UPDATES**

## AGE STRONG'S MONTHLY MEMORY CAFES & CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP



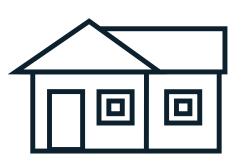
Each month, Age Strong holds Memory Cafes for those with memory loss or their care partners. Join us on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Codman Square Branch of Boston Public Library, 10am to 12noon or the 4th Monday of each month at the Jamaica Plain Branch, also 10:30am to 12noon. We also hold a Memory Loss Support Group on the 4th Friday of each month at the Roslindale Community Center from 12noon to 1pm. For more information call Corinne White at 317-635-3745 or corinne.white@boston.gov.

### SENIOR CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX CREDIT: YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE

Massachusetts renters & homeowners age 65+ may be eligible for a tax credit up to \$2950, depending on income & assets. For more information, call 617-887-6367 or visit <a href="mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-senior-circuit-breaker-tax-credit">mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-senior-circuit-breaker-tax-credit</a>.



### PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!



**Are you a Boston homeowner?** You may be eligible for Age Strong's Property Tax Work-off volunteer program. When you volunteer your time with city departments, you could save up to \$2,000. Call Age Strong at 617-635-4366 or email <a href="mailto:elizabeth.federici@boston.gov">elizabeth.federici@boston.gov</a>.

# AGE+

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#### **AGE STRONG'S VIRTUAL WELLNESS PROGRAMMING**

Age Strong offers free virtual wellness classes weekdays including yoga, Zumba, meditation, Latin Dance & chair yoga. Just click <a href="https://bit.ly/zoomAgeStrongVirtual">bit.ly/zoomAgeStrongVirtual</a>.



#### **NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON COFFEE HOURS**



Boston's Neighborhood Liaisons hold community coffee hours for residents to ask questions & stay up to date on city initiatives. Find yours here <a href="mailto:boston.gov/departments/neighborhood-services-community-meetings">boston.gov/departments/neighborhood-services-community-meetings</a>.

#### WANT TO BE A LIFEGUARD FOR BOSTON?

Part-time, seasonal and full-time lifeguard positions are available, with great pay and benefits! Visit <u>boston.gov/Lifeguard-Jobs</u> to learn more and apply (Boston residency is not required).



# AGE+

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#### LOVE YOUR BLOCK SPRING CLEAN UP DATES ANNOUNCED



Love Your Block spring cleanups will be Saturday, April 5 & Saturday, April 12. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Love Your Block, a program that has mobilized thousands of residents in community-led cleanups to beautify Boston's neighborhoods, including park revitalization, planting flowers, and mulching. To learn more, visit <a href="mailto:boston.gov/news/mayor-michelle-wu-and-office-civic-organizing-announce-2025-love-your-block-dates">boston.gov/news/mayor-michelle-wu-and-office-civic-organizing-announce-2025-love-your-block-dates</a>.

#### CITY HALL ON THE GO

Throughout March, the Office of Civic Organizing will host City Hall on the Go hours across Boston neighborhoods at Library Branches & Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF). Save a trip to City Hall to pay parking tickets, various taxes, apply for parking permits, dog licenses, request birth, death or marriage certificates & more. Call 617-635-3485 or visit <a href="mailto:boston.gov/departments/civic-organizing/city-hall-go-truck">boston.gov/departments/civic-organizing/city-hall-go-truck</a>.



### **GAME DAYS FOR OLDER ADULTS**



Folks age 60+ can play card & board games with others, and even learn new games, every-other Tuesday, through June 30, 10am to 12noon at Tavern of Tales, 1478 Tremont Street, Roxbury. For more information, email kathryn.walsh@boston.gov or call 617-635-3161. (food/drink is available for purchase)

## SENIOR CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX CREDIT

### **PUT UP TO \$2,730 IN YOUR POCKET!**

The Massachusetts "Circuit Breaker" tax credit provides tax relief for low to moderate income older adults age 65+. This tax credit is available for renters & homeowners. Additionally, residents may apply for this income tax credit even if they owe no income taxes.



### **BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY:**

- Must be a Massachusetts resident or part-year resident.
- Must be age 65 or older by December 31 of the tax year.
- Must own or rent residential property in Massachusetts and occupy it as your primary residence.
- For tax year 2024, your total Massachusetts income doesn't exceed:
  - \$72,000 for a single individual who is not the head of a household.
  - \$91,000 for a head of household.
  - \$109,000 for married couples filing a joint return.
- Homeowners can qualify if their property taxes & half of the water & sewer bills are more than 10% of their annual gross income.
- Renters can qualify if 25% of their rent is over 10% of their total income for the year.

### YOU ARE INELIGIBLE FOR THIS TAX CREDIT IF:

- You are married & your status is married, but filing separately.
- You are a dependent of another taxpayer.
- You receive a federal or state rent subsidy or you rent from a tax-exempt entity.
- For tax year 2024, the assessed value of your principal residence exceeds \$1,172,000.

### **CONTACT THE MA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FOR MORE INFO:**

Call 617-887-6367 or visit mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-senior-circuit-breaker-tax-credit.



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

AGE STRONG COMMISSION	617-635-4366
AGE STRONG SHUTTLE	617-635-3000
VERONICA B. SMITH SENIOR CENTER	617-635-6120
EAST BOSTON SENIOR CENTER	617-961-3131
ELECTION DEPARTMENT	617-635-8683
REPORT SCAMS/FRAUD - FTC	877-382-4357
MA ELDER PROTECTIVE SERVICES	800-922-2275
MBTA & THE RIDE	617-222-5123
MA EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF AGING & INDEPENDENCE	617-727-7750
DISABILITIES COMMISSION	617-635-3682
FOOD JUSTICE	617-635-3717
IMMIGRANT ADVANCEMENT	617-635-2980

