
Roxbury Newsy

Your community newsletter

April - June 2022, Vol. 7 No. 2

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Roxbury Recipe
by Lise Cloutierback cover

Do you have upcoming
newsletter submissions,
suggestions, or corrections to
the mailing list?

Please contact the RFL at
librarian@roxburyfreelibrary.org
or 802-485-6860

Thanks to Ryan Zajac, Courtney B.
Jenkins, Jane Pincus and Heidi Albright
for compiling, editing and designing
this issue of the Newsy!

We hope you enjoy it.

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Roxbury's Independence Day Celebration is Back!

by Mary Bouchard

Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 3rd. The Parade, Chicken Barbecue, Bake sale, Book sale, Rummage sale, and assorted activities in our Village Center are back!

The July celebration is officially in the planning stage, moving forward quickly with the help of wonderful volunteers willing to head each event. The Parade Day Committee, assisted strongly by the Selectboard and others, is planning all sorts of activities and events. As we get closer to the date, be sure to monitor the Town Website (roxburyvt.org) for updated details and information.

We are grateful to have both new and returning folks heading up the various committees. Volunteers are needed for all aspects, including but not limited to: the Parade itself, the lunch at the Firehouse, the Bake Sale, promoting and enjoying our New Village Park, the Library book sale, and the Church Rummage sale. The Roxbury PTO is working to organize many fun activities for children of all ages.

The Parade will begin at 10am with our Fire Engines, the Morvan's Oxen, the Potwin's classic cars, Laura Hamilton's Figure 8 Riding and her horses, and a few floats so far. The Fish Hatchery will be in the parade—they will also be open till 3:00pm for anyone wanting to see the new setup. Camp Teela-Wooket is in session, and their youngsters will once again be very much a part of parade festivities. Anyone wanting to march or enter a float should get in touch soon. All in all, it is shaping up to be great day!

Many hands make light work, so consider taking part in the fun by helping out for an hour or so. It will be wonderful to have your assistance; volunteers will be needed in bursts and will be much appreciated.

To volunteer, enter a float, or for more information, please contact Mary Bouchard at 485-5585, or email at marymbouchard@outlook.com 🏠

From the Town Clerk's Office

2022 DOG LICENSES

It is time to license your dog(s). The deadline is April 1st. The cost is \$9.00 for a neutered dog and \$13.00 for an un-neutered dog. After April 1st the cost will be \$11.00 for a neutered dog and \$17.00 for an un-neutered dog.

It is the law of the State of Vermont to license dogs annually. Owners of unlicensed dogs can be fined up to \$500 and/or the dog(s) could be impounded and destroyed.

It is the law of the State of Vermont that all dogs are vaccinated every three years. The first vaccination is only good for one year.

TAXES

The next property tax installment is due on May 13, 2022. The office will be open until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The Town accepts postmarked envelopes.

SUMMER HOURS

Summer hours will begin on May 6. The Town Office will close at noon on Fridays (except for the day property taxes are due). Summer hours will end the last Friday of September.

2022 TOWN MEETING

Town Meeting was on March 1st at the Roxbury Town Offices. The normal Town Meeting did not happen due to COVID-19, and all articles were voted by Australian Ballot. 173 votes were counted.

Officers that were elected on March 1st are:

Town Moderator – Lucinda Sullivan
 Town Clerk – Tammy Legacy
 Town Treasurer – Anne Maxham
 Selectboard for 3 years – David McShane
 Auditor – Natalie Jackson
 Collector of Delinquent Taxes – Sam Twombly
 Library Trustee – Jeanne Beckwith
 Cemetery Commissioner – Susan Nevins
 First Constable – Reggie Brown Jr.
 Second Constable – Josh Slocum

There is a vacancy on the Board of Listers. Anyone interested in filling the vacancy should contact the Town Office at 802-485-7840.

All articles passed.

The Montpelier/Roxbury School District meeting was also held on March 1st.

School District Clerk – Tammy Legacy
 School District Treasurer – Shelley Quinn
 Roxbury's School District Director – Rhett Williams

The combination of Montpelier and Roxbury votes passed all articles.

The Central Vermont Career Center articles passed.

The Central Vermont Career Center will consist of four school districts (eighteen towns)

Since the ballots were co-mingled, there is no way to know how Roxbury voters voted.

2022-2023 PROPERTY TAX DUE DATES

At Town Meeting, the voters approved the dates the property taxes will be due. The dates are:

August 12, 2022, November 11, 2022, February 10, 2023 and May 12, 2023.

APPOINTED POSITIONS

The Roxbury Selectboard appointed the following:

Selectboard Chair – Jon Guiffre
 Road Commissioner – David McShane

Emergency Management Director – Mike Dickinson
 Animal Control Officer – Janine Manninen
 Town Health Officer – Craig Sullivan
 Deputy Health Officer – Duane Natvig
 Chairman of Civil Defense – Steve Twombly
 CVRPC Representative – Gerry D'Amico
 Roxbury Planning Commissioner – Lucinda Sullivan
 E-911 Coordinator – Rene Bouchard

There are more appointments to be made by the Selectboard.

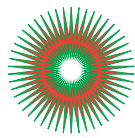
TOWN PLAN

Roxbury's Town Plan has been approved. The Roxbury Planning Commissioners have worked very hard to create the new plan. Roxbury citizens are lucky to have Lucinda Sullivan, Dotti Guiffre, Elizabeth Carney and Mike French.

SIDEWALK SCOPING STUDY GRANT

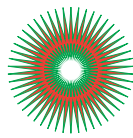
The Town of Roxbury received a grant for a sidewalk scoping study in the village. An engineering firm was hired (Hoyle, Tanner & Associates). Hoyle, Tanner & Associates presented four options for the Town to consider at a meeting on March 23rd. Three of those options would help with drainage in the village and crosswalks would be installed. The current sidewalk

continued on page 3...



Celestial Events: April-June

BY KAI PINCUS



- ✧ NEW MOON, APRIL 1
- ✧ MARS 0.3°S OF SATURN, APRIL 4
- ✧ FULL MOON, APRIL 16
- ✧ LYRIDS METEOR SHOWER APRIL 22-APRIL 23
- ✧ SATURN 4.5°N OF MOON, APRIL 24
- ✧ MARS 3.9°N OF MOON, APRIL 25
- ✧ VENUS 3.8°N OF MOON, APRIL 26
- ✧ JUPITER 3.6°N OF MOON APRIL 27
- ✧ MERCURY AT > E ELONGATION, APRIL 29
- ✧ VENUS 0.2°S OF JUPITER, APRIL 30
- ✧ NEW MOON, APRIL 30
- ✧ ETA AQUARIDS METEOR SHOWER, MAY 5-MAY 6
- ✧ FULL LUNAR ECLIPSE, MAY 15
- ✧ SATURN 4.5°N OF MOON, MAY 21
- ✧ MARS 2.8°N OF MOON, MAY 24
- ✧ JUPITER 3.3°N OF MOON, MAY 24
- ✧ VENUS 0.2°N OF MOON, MAY 26
- ✧ MARS 0.6°S OF JUPITER, MAY 29
- ✧ NEW MOON, MAY 30
- ✧ FULL MOON, JUNE 14
- ✧ MERCURY AT > W ELONGATION, JUNE 16
- ✧ SATURN 4.3°N OF MOON, JUNE 18
- ✧ JUPITER 2.7°N OF MOON, JUNE 21
- ✧ SUMMER SOLSTICE, JUNE 21 AT 5:13 AM EDT
- ✧ MARS 0.9°N OF MOON, JUNE 22
- ✧ VENUS 2.7°S OF MOON, JUNE 26
- ✧ NEW MOON, JUNE 28 🏠

Roxbury Food Shelf

We are asking individuals in need of food to please contact Claire Chomentowski at 485-7779. She will let you know how food may be picked up, or if necessary, delivered. 🏠



Red Cross Shelter

The Roxbury Village School is an American Red Cross Emergency Shelter. The school now has a generator which makes the building a great resource in case of an emergency. We have cots, blankets, and dried food stored at the shelter.

Tina Young is the coordinator and can be reached at tinayoung@mpsvt.org or 262-1506. Please contact her if you would like to be added to the list of volunteers. 🏠

"From the Town Clerk's Office" continued from page 2

is not in good shape (it has a lot of issues). The proposed sidewalk would go from the southern entrance of Windridge Camp at Teela-Wooket to the Fire Station.

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

Roxbury Selectboard Meeting Minutes are posted on the Town's website, www.roxburyvt.org. If you are unable to attend meetings, you can keep up with what is happening in your town by reading the minutes.

The Roxbury Selectboard temporarily put the Ordinance Regulating the Disposal of Solid Waste and the Outdoor Storage of Junk and Junk Vehicles on hold until COVID case numbers lowered.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

The Town received \$105,969.28 in ARPA funds. At the Board meetings, the Selectboard have been discussing what the funds can be used on. (There are strict rules on what these funds can be used on.) The Town should receive additional ARPA funds this year. One item the Board has been discussing is using some of the funds to get better internet to Roxbury citizens.

2012 FORD TRUCK

The Selectboard sold the 2012 Ford One Ton via Auctions International. The high bid was \$7,100.00. Those funds were deposited into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.

GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORT PROGRAM

The Green Mountain Passport Program allows free day-use passes to Vermont State Parks and historic sites. If you are a Vermont resident at least 62 years of age or a Vermont veteran of the uniformed services you are eligible. To enroll in the program, you must complete an application at your Town Clerk's Office and pay a one-time fee of \$2. You will then receive a Green Mountain Passport card which is good for life and is not transferable. For more information contact the Town Clerk's Office at 485-7840 or stop by. 🏠

Roxbury Church

The Roxbury Church is considering holding a rummage sale during the town's July 4th festivities. We're wondering whether there's any interest among our neighbors, both in terms of patronizing our sale and also in donating gently used items of all sorts. Please call Claire if you have any thoughts or things to share (485-7779), and leave a message with the cat and the trombone if I'm not home. Thanks very much! 🏠

MRPS

(Montpelier-Roxbury Public Schools)

Kristen Getler and Rhett Williams

Newsy Update (April - June 2022)

We would like to thank Roxbury for your endorsement of the school budget.

Mask Transition

On March 14th, Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools (MRPS) suspended the recommendation that all students and staff mask when at school based on the shift in guidance from the Vermont Department of Public Health. This transition has been in process at the Montpelier schools because vaccination rates have determined masking recommendations. Masking is a very personal decision every family must make. We respect each family's decisions about masking. As masking decreases we are excited to see more smiling faces!

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds

As we slowly emerge from two years of a global pandemic, we recognize challenges our students currently face with respect to social emotional learning and mental health, as well as learning loss. A third round of federal ESSER funds are being used to meet those challenges.

Based on administrator insights and feedback from the community, these ESSER funds will be used in five broad categories:

1. Infrastructure spending to improve spaces in Union Elementary School, Main Street Middle School, and Montpelier High School. A special education suite will be constructed at Union Elementary School. The largest projects will be at MSMS, where the playground and the cafeteria/kitchen will see significant improvements. An apartment space will be constructed at MHS to help kids who need support building life skills.

2. Enhanced Social Emotional Learning throughout the district. A certified behavioral support teacher will be added to the district. A guidance counselor will be added at UES. Social Emotional Learning teachers will be added at UES and MSMS. ESSER funds will be used to fund a district-wide administrator who will help orchestrate a program to support social emotional learning for years to come. Nick Conner has also been filling an important role, reaching out to families in the role of community liaison to determine what assistance, if any, families might need to ensure students are engaged with the schools. The role of community liaison will continue in the local budget and we appreciate Nick's work for the district.

3. Improved Special Education services. Physical spaces will be improved as described above. Social Emotional Learning teachers will also support Special Education services.

4. Educational interventionists will provide remediation in literacy and math where needed. Four interventionist positions will be added, bringing the total number of interventionists to nine. These positions will provide academic support in all four schools.

5. A Summer Programming fund will support unique enrichment activities for MRPS students over the summer.

Administration News

There is a lot of change afoot within the MRPS administration. MHS welcomes Jason Gringold as the incoming principal for school year '22-'23. Katie Barea, Main Street Middle School's current principal, will become Union Elementary School's new principal in the upcoming year. The interview process is underway for MSMS principal, as well as the Director of Student Support and new district-wide Director of Social Emotional Learning and Wellness. Additionally, the MRPS district has a new incoming Business Manager, Christina Kimball. We would like to express our appreciation for Beth Kellogg's continued leadership at RVS amid what will surely be a rebuilding year within the leadership team of the district. We would like to recognize and appreciate the MRPS Business Manager, Grant Geisler, for his work orchestrating and communicating the district budget for the last eight years. He has helped the district grow our ability to support our staff and our students while carefully safeguarding MRPS citizen tax rates. The formula the state of Vermont uses to finance our schools is complicated. We will miss Grant's ability to communicate difficult concepts when he retires this spring.

District Visioning Process

Since the 2018 merger, the communities of Roxbury and Montpelier have not yet come together to develop a guiding vision for education within our district. A committee has been established to do this work with the assistance of Montpelier based BUILD Strategies Consulting. MRPS wants to hear from you about your vision of excellence in education. We want to know the values you hope will guide the school board, administration, and educators in planning and decision making for the future. Roxbury community members Rhett Williams, Amirah Lewis (MRPS student), and Dotti Guiffre are committee members, and hope to hear from as many Roxburians and Montpelierites as they possibly can. Montpelier and Roxbury are not the same. It is important that Roxbury folks contribute their voices when it comes to our hopes for all of our kids. We will be making efforts to speak to you, and will encourage you to complete a survey to share your perspectives.

We encourage you to reach out to us should you have any questions, concerns, or appreciations around the school district.

continued next page...

Field Naturalist's Corner

by Caleb Pincus

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) are a type of shorebird that lives in fields and wide open areas. In Vermont, Killdeer begin courtship, breeding, and nest building in April. These nests are remarkably sparse—usually just a depression on the ground where the female lays three to five brownspeckled gray eggs. These speckles provide camouflage in such an exposed nest, and as incubation progresses, the parents line the nest with light colored insulating materials, also thought to hide the eggs from view. The chicks that hatch after

24–28 days are precocial, which means that they are covered in down and capable of running as soon as their down dries from hatching. To protect their offspring, the parents will feign injury as

soon as a potential threat approaches, attempting to lead the predator away from their chicks. The most well-known of these displays is the “broken wing” display. The parent will fly twenty feet or so, making an alarm call and spreading its wings and tail so that they droop or the ground, moving a few feet at a time away from the chicks. With luck, the predator will follow the distractive display until the parent suddenly flies back to its chicks, leaving the predator at a safe distance. 🏠



“Killdeer” illustration by Heidi Albright

“MRPS ” continued from page 4...

Rhett can be reached at (802) 324-1180 or rhettwilliams@mpsvt.org; Kristen can be reached at (802) 485-5417 or kristengetler@mpsvt.org.

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Kristen Getler, School Director

Montpelier Roxbury School District Board

kristengetler@mpsvt.org 🏠

Calling all Roxbury Kids !

Tell us what you did this year! Got a story to share? We want your artwork, poetry, photos, and writing to publish in the next Newsy.

Send it to librarian@roxburymfreelibrary.org

Roxbury Village School PTO

HAPPY SPRING FROM THE ROXBURY SCHOOL PTO!!!

What We Have Been Up To:

The PTO has been meeting monthly, on the 2nd Monday of the month, to help support our students and staff at the Roxbury Village School.

Our spring High Mowing Seed Fundraiser was quite the success, bringing in just over \$1300!

Roxbury families have been helping with the M.R.P.I.E.S postcard brigade by decorating and writing notes for teachers to show our appreciation for all their hard work.

Students were able to get down to the ice rink on Wednesdays with their P.E. class, and also with the Bridges after-school program.

What's to Come:

We are planning a community garden work day at the school for the end of April—date to be determined soon. PTO will likely sponsor either a BBQ or snacks/refreshments. Everyone is welcome!

PTO is trying to participate in the 4th of July festivities this year (on Sunday, July 3rd), and possibly a Duck Race. Thank you to Mary Bouchard for organizing this event.

We are always looking for new faces to join our monthly meetings, so please contact us for more information! roxburyppto@gmail.com

THANK YOU from the Roxbury Village School PTO 🏠

Roxbury Green-Up Day

Saturday, May 7th.

The bags can be picked up on Claire Chomentowski's front porch (red house next to the Post Office), and we'll have our traditional lunch at the church at noon. Please join us!

Roxbury Park Development Committee

The Roxbury Park Development Committee is continuing its work focusing on:

1. The removal of the large maple tree which was found to be in an unsafe stage of decay.
2. Installation of an accessible walkway through the park.
3. Acquisition of grant monies for purchase of benches, picnic tables, a Ping-Pong table, bike racks, and a gazebo.

The committee has been meeting with a group of Norwich University senior engineering students and their professor, Adam Sevi (a Roxbury native). The students prepared a presentation detailing the development of the park and its associated costs, which they will present as a Capstone project at Norwich University in late April.

The Park Development Committee members are Edward Carney, Chair; Craig Sullivan, Dotti Guiffre, Jim Rogler, and Elizabeth Carney. The committee welcomes public attendance to its meetings, held at the Community Center, with dates and times announced on the Roxbury Town Website.

Although the Park is owned by the Town of Roxbury, the funding of projects for development of the Park relies on grants and private donations. Donations can be made to the Park Development Fund via the Town of Roxbury.

See you in the Park,

The Roxbury Park Development Committee: Ed Carney, Elizabeth Carney, Dotti Guiffre, James Rogler and Craig Sullivan 🏠

Planning Commission

The 2021 Municipal Plan for the Town of Roxbury, Vermont, and the planning process for the plan was approved by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission on March 8, 2022. Roxbury Planning Commission members: Lucinda Sullivan, Chairperson; Elizabeth Carney, Secretary; Dotti Guiffre, and Mike French are grateful for the assistance provided them by the Regional Planning Commission throughout the nearly 3-year process of writing the plan. The approved plan will be available on the Roxbury Town Website. The work of the RPC will continue to focus on the goals and objectives as outlined in the 2021 Town Plan..

Elizabeth Carney, Secretary 🏠

Roxbury Volunteer Fire Department

A Message of Thanks from the RVFD

The Roxbury Volunteer Fire Department (RVFD) thanks Roxbury voters for their support of the department's 2022-23 budget and article on the vehicle replacement fund.

Reminders on Open Outdoor Burning

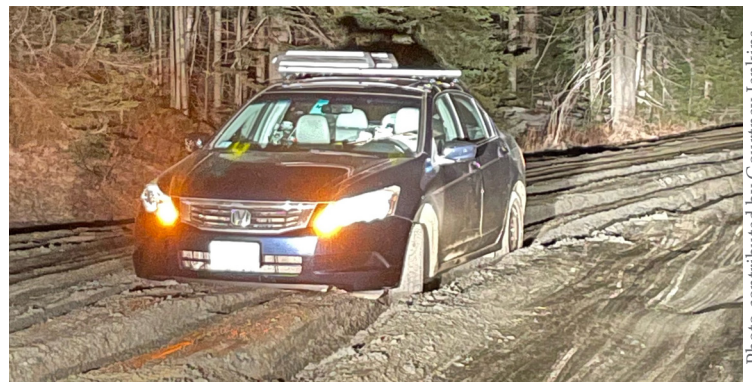
Now that snow has melted and spring yard cleanup is underway, the Roxbury Forest Fire Warden reminds property owners that permits are required for open outdoor burning. Permits are available by phone from Tim Martin, Forest Fire Warden (802-485-6555); or Don Randall, alternate (802-485-8341). Permits are granted if conditions are safe for outdoor burning according to a daily posting for each region by the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks. In addition, each permit is reported to the Central Vermont Mutual Aid System to avoid responses to false alarms.

Materials that may be burned include leaves, brush, weeds, untreated lumber, and clean wood pallets. It is against the law to have in an outdoor open burn pile: paper/cardboard; tires and other rubber products; plywood, treated, painted, or finished wood; tarpaper and asphalt shingles; asbestos; waste oil; plastics, and garbage.

Safety reminders include clearing a buffer around the burn pile to prevent the fire from spreading, having a water supply on hand, attending the fire at all times, dousing the fire and turning over ashes several times before leaving the site, and checking the burn area to be sure the fire is completely extinguished.

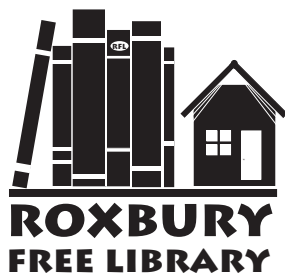
Outdoor burning should not create a public or private nuisance. Please be considerate of neighbors when planning to do open outdoor burning. Thank you!

Source: Pamphlet No. 2, rev. May 2000; Air Quality & Climate Division; VT Agency of Natural Resources 🏠



Warren could learn a thing or two about road maintenance from the Roxbury Road Crew! Photo is of the Warren section of the Gap.

Photo contributed by Courtney Jenkins



Roxbury Free Library Notes

Happy spring, Roxbury!

Great news, the time is almost here! We know many of you have been patiently waiting for a more comfortable place to read and WiFi at your leisure outside the RFL. We are announcing with this issue that we anticipate having a new park bench on the ground at the RFL by early May. The RFL board of Trustees has spent time comparing and locating park bench options and we are expecting to have a new bench available at the RFL before Green Up Day. Thanks to board chair Ed Carney and the RFL board for their fundraising and commitment to making this happen. We are excited about the small addition to the exterior and hope you will find it a comfortable and inviting place to spend some time this summer. We hope to see many of our community's families spending time at the RFL this summer. Why, we will be running some activities in coordination with the CSLP Summer reading initiative. The theme for this summer is: Oceans of Possibilities.

After a two-year break, we are excited this year to be planning two fundraising used book sales. We are expecting to host sales on Green Up Day (May 7th) and during the July 4th Celebration (July 3rd). Final details, such as times for donation drop-offs and the sales themselves will be forthcoming. In addition to the book sales we will unveil a tantalizing basket raffle fundraiser on Green Up Day. The winner will be drawn at the July 3rd book sale. In conjunction with the July 3rd activity list, you will find a bake sale to support the RFL. Don't forget, there will be a nice new bench at the RFL to "support" you while you're relaxing and eating that tasty baked good.

Just a friendly reminder, April and May tend to be when we do a lot of our collection development work at the RFL. What does that mean to you? It means there will be a lot of new materials showing up over the remainder of the spring. Come and get them! Not able to come in, let us know and we can arrange curbside or home deliveries of RFL materials at your convenience.

Your RFL staff,
Ryan, Caitlyn, and Lisa 🏠

Roxburian Wins Grand Prize at Poetry Contest

April is National Poetry Month and this year we are sharing a poem by Roxbury poet Claire Chomentowski. The following untitled poem was the Grand Prize winner in the 2021 Green Mountain Club Poetry Contest. Congratulations to Claire!

Untitled
by Claire Chomentowski

~
it couldn't have been less than fatal
the collision involving my windshield
and a butterfly,
an event i'd never have guessed at,
except for when the sun smacks the glass
just so.
and then i am awestruck,
hardly seeing the road before me,
my eye drawn instead to that
smudge of incandescence —
stuck in my line of vision —
thin and gauzy, like a skin graft
from a rainbow,
trailed by a streak of
something
white.
they say comets are nothing
more than a patchwork of dirt and debris
gleaned as they streak past the stars
and so i contemplate
the symbiotic relationship
that beauty bears
to dust. 🏠



The Newsy always welcomes new contributors. Please let us know if you have anything you'd like to share with the community and we can get it into the next issue. Send questions and content to librarian@roxburyfreelibrary.org.

Roxbury Newsy

PO Box 95

Roxbury, VT 05669

Best Marinade Ever, for Chicken or Tofu

by Lise Cloutier, kitchen manager of the East Warren Market
“Use maple syrup, I think that’s appropriate for this time of year!”

Ingredients

Enough for 8 chicken thighs or equivalent
I’ve used the same recipe with tofu and it is delicious.

Maple Syrup – 2 tbsp
Grainy Mustard – 2 tbsp
Soy Sauce – 2 tbsp
Coriander (Cilantro) stems – 4 tbsp finely chopped
Orange Marmalade (with the rind) – 1 tsp
Coriander Powder – 2 tsp
Ginger (finely chopped) – 2 tsp
Salt – to taste

1. Whisk the ingredients together
 2. Scoop over the meat or tofu, and marinate for 1-2 hours.
 3. This is quite a dry marinade and there may be a need to rub it in to make sure the meat is covered completely.
 4. Pan-grill or BBQ the meat afterwards. You need very little oil.
- You can see an easy chicken recipe at <https://www.mapleandmarigold.com/ultimate-grilled-chicken-recipe/> that uses a version of this marinade. Enjoy! 🏠
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