

THE FARMINGTON TOWN LETTER

Town Hall, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032

www.farmington-ct.org

A Note From Our Town Council Chair

***"When the sun is shining, I can do anything;
no mountain is too high, no trouble too difficult to overcome." - Wilma Rudolph***

We have accomplished a great deal in Town these past few months:

- The reduction in COVID-19 restrictions has allowed more of our businesses to come closer to normal operations and many new businesses to open.
- 70% of our population has been fully vaccinated, allowing us to see the faces of friends and neighbors, for the first time in many months.
- Our trails and riverfront continue to see a great deal of activity. Let's remind each other to carry out what we bring in and keep the surroundings clean.
- We passed two referendums:
 - The Town Budget, which limited our two-year average tax increase to 1.49%.
 - The construction of a new Farmington High School building; we expect to break ground next summer.
- We added new tax relief benefits for elderly and disabled residents. Please contact the Assessor's office at 860-675-2370 for details on these programs.
- On behalf of the Town Council, I want to congratulate the Farmington High School Class of 2021. Graduation returned to campus with families sitting in "pods" outside on a beautiful night.

With the challenges we have faced this past year, incredible efforts have been made by all employees of the Town and the Board of Education, volunteers, elected officials, and the people of Farmington and Unionville. I thank you all.

Enjoy the Summer, and rediscover the connections we have missed so dearly.

Be well,

C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair



FHS Building Committee Update

On June 3, 2021, Farmington voters approved the appropriation of \$135,600,000 (an anticipated net project cost of \$109,300,000), for a new Farmington High School (FHS). The FHS Building Committee offers a sincere thank you to the Farmington community for its support of this project.

The new FHS will provide a flexible and engaging learning environment for Farmington students, and the community.

The FHS Building Committee will closely manage the construction of the new high school. The table below shows an anticipated timeline for the FHS Building Project.

We encourage everyone to stay informed on the progress of the FHS Building Project by visiting www.fhsbuildingproject.org or by attending upcoming meetings. The full meeting schedule is available on the building committee website, as well as the Town website: www.farmington-ct.org.

Anticipated Timeline - FHS Building Project

Design and Approvals	July 2021- July 2022
Bidding and Award	July 2022- September 2022
Phase I- Construction of New Building	September 2022- August 2024
Phase II- Renovation of Central Office & Demolition of Remaining Building	June 2024-July 2025
Phase III- Site Work	January 2025-June 2025

***Students will occupy the new high school in August/September 2024**

Notes From Paula Ray, Town Clerk

FALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots for the November 2, 2021 Municipal Election are available, starting October 1, 2021, by mail or at the Town Clerk's office. To accommodate voters, the Town Clerk's office will be open extended hours on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, until 7:00 pm, for voting by absentee ballot.

To vote by absentee ballot, you must first complete an absentee ballot application. You may obtain an absentee ballot application by any of the following methods:

- at the Town Clerk's office
- by calling 860-675-2380
- by emailing rayp@farmington-ct.org
- from the link contained in the Town Clerk's section of the Town of Farmington website, under the Absentee Ballot heading.

If you have any questions about voting by absentee ballot, please call 860-675-2380.

Help to Combat Invasive Plants

Do you have troublesome plants invading your garden or yard? Invasive plants are a problem, not only in Farmington, but throughout Connecticut and the United States. Below are links to two resources that can help with identifying these troublesome invasive plants and best management practices, for removal and eradication.

Farmington – "In the Spotlight" post: <https://www.farmington-ct.org/home/showpublisheddocument/22142>



Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group: <https://cipwg.uconn.edu/>



Staples House Green ("F" Hill) | 2 Monteith Drive, Farmington

THURSDAYS • 6:30-8:30 PM
OPENING BAND BEGINS AT 6:30 PM

2021 Lineup

 <p>New Horizon's Strawberry Festival JUNE 17 MASS-CONN-FUSION MOTOWN, R&B & DISCO</p>	<p>JULY 22 NIGHTSHIFT 60's, 70's & 80's HITS</p>
<p>JUNE 24 34th Annual Ice Cream Social WEDNESDAY BOWLING LEAGUE 50's & 60's HITS</p>	<p>JULY 29 TRUE NORTH RISING SOUTHERN & FOLK ROCK</p>
<p>JULY 1 BORDERLINE GENIUS CONTEMPORARY COUNTRY</p>	<p>AUGUST 5 BALL IN THE HOUSE A CAPELLA—CURRENT HITS</p>
 <p>Firemen's Carnival JULY 8 @ UNION SCHOOL GROUNDS JOLLY BEGGARS IRISH FOLK</p>	<p>AUGUST 12 NIGHTSHIFT 60's, 70's & 80's HITS</p>
<p>JULY 15 LEAF JUMPERS ROCK HITS OF 90'S</p>	<p>AUGUST 19 Kids' Dance Party 6:30 - 7:30 PM Sponsored by Farmington Libraries DJ RED SUPREME DANCE PERFORMANCE</p>

Remember: Only Rain Down the Drain!



What is an illicit discharge? It's an illegal discharge to the storm drain system.

The Town of Farmington's storm drain system is an interconnected network of catch basins (the grates in the road), manholes and piping, that conveys storm water (rain runoff) from our roadways, driveways, lawns and rooftops, to our wetlands, brooks, streams and rivers (waterbodies). The rain runoff picks up sediment, trash, pet waste, fertilizers and other contaminants and transports them to the storm drain system, which conveys them to our waterbodies. None of these contaminants belong in the storm water, and all are harmful to our waterbodies.

An illicit discharge is any contaminant discharged to the storm drain system. This can include the direct dumping of a contaminant into a catch basin or waterbody, or a piped connection of a floor drain or laundry drain, into the storm drain system.

Contaminants commonly found in Farmington's storm drain system include: baggies of pet waste, disposable face masks, disposable gloves, plastic beverage bottles, fast food/convenience store food wrappers, receipts, etc.

Here are some things we can do to **Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution**:

1. **Never dump anything down the storm drains.** Homeowners should be aware of any illicit connections or discharges they may have to the storm drain system. Any pollutants that enter the storm drains will be washed into nearby wells, storm drains, stream, lakes, and rivers.
2. **Take your car to the car wash, where wash water is filtered and recycled, instead of washing it in the driveway.** If you must wash at home, wash your car on a grass or gravel surface and use a small amount of soap.
3. **Check and/or repair fluid leaks in your cars and recycle motor oil and other automotive fluids.**
4. **Dispose of paint and items from other household improvement projects appropriately.** Two resources:
 - a. <https://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/household-hazardous-waste>
 - b. <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Waste-Management-and-Disposal/What-Do-I-Do-With>

Utilize the following link: <https://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/engineering/stormwater>, to access our stormwater section of the Town's website.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to either contact the Planning Division at 860-675-2325, or by email at stormwater@farmington-ct.org.



October 18-22, 2021 – Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection

October 16, 2021 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection Service

The next town-wide bulky waste collection will begin on Monday, October 18th, and will be picked up on your normal trash pickup day, during the week of October 18-22, 2021.

During the week of October 18-22, 2021, all Farmington residents who have trash collection by the Town's contractor (Waste Material Trucking Company) are invited to leave their bulk items curbside, the **NIGHT BEFORE** their regular collection day.

Additional information, including lists of acceptable and unacceptable items, can be found on the Town website: <http://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/bulk-waste-collection>.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Farmington Highway & Grounds Division at 860-675-2550.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Town of Farmington is happy to announce that we are working with the Towns of Avon, Canton, Granby, Simsbury and Suffield to provide Household Hazardous Waste Collections. The collections will run from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, and will be open to all residents of Avon, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury and Suffield.

2021 Date and Location:

- **October 16, 2021** - Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT

Please Note: This will be the last Hazardous Waste Collection for the 2021 calendar year.

On the same date and location listed above, there will also be FREE collections of:

- Electronics Recycling
- Used Motor Oil
- Personal Document Shredding - until the trucks are full (please limit yourself to 2 boxes)

For more information, including lists of acceptable and unacceptable items, go to: www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/household-hazardous-waste or call Farmington Highway & Grounds at 860-675-2550.

Tunxis Mead Compost Area Rules - For Residents Only

The Tunxis Mead Compost area is located at the end of Tunxis Mead Road.

Summer Days & Hours:

Wednesdays & Saturdays, 8:00 am - 12:00 Noon

Residents may bring brush, leaves and pallets to the Compost Area, at no charge. Also allowed: clean lumber and plywood (NO pressure-treated, stained or painted wood). This material is ground up to make bark mulch. Stumps and grass clippings are NOT allowed. **A photo ID, showing your Farmington address, is required. Gate closes promptly at 12:00 noon. For further information, contact the Highway & Grounds Division of Public Works at 860-675-2550.**

Logs over 6" (six inches) in diameter must be cut into 2' (two foot) lengths, and require residential tickets as listed below:

RESIDENTIAL TICKETS: \$8.50 per ticket
(Purchase at Highway & Grounds Division of Public Works, 544 New Britain Ave., M - F, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm)

Passenger vehicles1 ticket per load = \$ 8.50
Small trailer (towed).....2 tickets per load = \$17.00
Van/pickup under 3/4 ton.....3 tickets per load = \$25.50

Reminders for Trash and Recycling Holidays:

Only three (3) holidays are observed for the trash & recycling holiday schedule: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

A copy of the current recycling calendar is included, in this newsletter. For details on trash & recycling collection routes, and recycling week A and B street listings, please visit: www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/trash-and-recycling.

Simple Recycling Update - Summary of Program Changes

- **Starting Monday, July 19th, Simple Recycling will be conducting scheduled pickups, for Farmington residents who have trash collection by the Town's contractor (Waste Material Trucking Company).**
 - Residents will be required to schedule their pickups, by either going online to www.simplerecycling.com, OR using the link on the Town of Farmington Highway and Grounds page, OR by calling **866-835-5068**.
 - The pickups will be at the front door, instead of the curb.
 - The pink bags will be eliminated from the program. Residents must provide their clean & dry recyclable material, in their own bags or boxes.
 - The pickup scheduling is driven by Zip Codes. Once the Zip Code is entered, a Calendar will appear, showing each resident what days are available for scheduling. Residents then select the day that works for them. There should be one or two date options, when the calendar appears.
 - The same items can be included for donation: all types of clothing, shoes, accessories, kitchenware, linens, etc. A full list can be found at www.simplerecycling.com.
- This new system will result in increased convenience for residents, because they will select the pickup date that works best for them. There will be a significant reduction in missed pickups also. **For more information, please refer to the Simple Recycling insert, included in this newsletter.**



THE FARMINGTON TOWN LETTER

Town Hall, Farmington, CT 06032-1053

www.farmington-ct.org

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FARMINGTON, CT
Permit #17

File of Life Program - Designed to Assist First Responders

Medical information is critical to first responders when arriving at the scene of a medical emergency. This critical information provides a history, medication, emergency contacts and more, to ensure proper medical treatment is provided. Seniors and children comprise the most at-risk portion of the population.

In many locations, the File of Life program is initiated by focusing on these most vulnerable demographics. The refrigerator magnet version is distributed to seniors, for placement in their homes, while a personal-sized pouch is provided to school children, to keep right in their backpacks. In any event, this information is able to be quickly referenced, when needed.

The Town of Farmington Fire Department has had this program in effect for the last couple years, and it has proven to be extremely beneficial. These Files of Life can be obtained from the Senior Center, local fire stations, the Fire Marshal, or by contacting the Director of Fire & Rescue Services at 860-675-2322.

2021 CPR Classes

- Wednesday, 9/8/21, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
- Wednesday, 12/8/21, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Brought to you at NO COST by the Town of Farmington Fire Department. Register today:

www.farmingtonct.org/departments/fire-department/cpr-registration.

All Community CPR Classes will be held in the Yates Community Room, at the Farmington Police Station, 319 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT 06085.

Food Pantry to Reopen, Add New Drop Off Site

The Farmington Food Pantry is pleased to announce the return of modified, in-person shopping, starting July 6, 2021. The pantry is also adding a new drop-off site, in the Town Hall lobby, starting in July. Drop off hours will be Monday - Friday, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

The pantry accepts donations of personal care items, and any type of non-perishable food items. Donations should not be expired and must be unopened. For details, please visit the food pantry website: farmingtonfoodpantryct.com.

Farmington River Access Areas - Important Safety Rules



Photo Credit: John Jacobsen

Summer is upon us, and the temps are rising! The Farmington River is going to be a popular place again this year for boating/kayaking, fishing, tubing, swimming or just relaxing by the water. **Here are a couple of rules to keep everyone safe and make the riverfront enjoyable for all:** Visitors to the numerous river access locations in Farmington are prohibited from possessing firearms, alcohol, or fireworks. Garbage and trash must be cleaned up and taken with you. The Farmington Community Service Officers (CSOs) will be patrolling these areas, to enforce the rules and hand out garbage bags, if needed. There is no hunting or disturbing the wildlife. There are no fires allowed (including portable grills). There are no unauthorized vehicles allowed to park or be operated past the clearly posted signs.

The town-owned river access areas are open to the public between the hours of 5:00 am and 10:00 pm. Dogs are allowed, but only if kept on a leash. Dog owners are reminded to clean up after their pets, as well. **If there are posted "No Trespassing" signs, the property is not owned by the Town of Farmington and the area is not open to the public. The river access on Collinsville Road, by the Rails to Trails parking lot, is one of those locations.** Also, keep in mind that water sports could be dangerous, and you should know your limits and take the appropriate precautions when enjoying river activities. The current in the Farmington River can be dangerous, and the safest way to enjoy these activities is to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket. **Please follow the rules and help keep our river clean and safe!**

Your Community Needs You!

The Town of Farmington Fire Department is looking for volunteers of all backgrounds and skill sets to join their ranks. If you're interested, please call Director of Fire and Rescue Services, Steve Hoffmann, at 860-675- 2322, or email him at: hoffmanns@farmingtonct.org.



Town of Farmington-Recycling Calendar

Shaded weeks "A"

Un-shaded weeks "B"

2021-2022

July 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Please note the observed holidays highlighted in green. There will be a one day delay, starting with the holiday.

"When in doubt, put it out!"

Please remember:

- * No trash or plastic bags in Recycling carts and lids must be closed
- * Recycling and trash carts must be at curbside the night before normal collection day
- * Recycling and trash carts must be at least 4 feet from other containers or objects
- * Tape dryer sheets to inside of lid to ward off bears and other animals
- * There is an arrow on the lid that tells you to point the front of the cart toward the curb

For additional information, please call Farmington Highway & Grounds at [860-675-2550](tel:860-675-2550)

To find out if you are an A or B week, please visit:

<https://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/trash-and-recycling>
or call the Highway & Grounds office at [860-675-2550](tel:860-675-2550)

Simple Recycling Update:

Starting, Monday, July 19th, You Can Schedule Your Pickup Day!

FREE HOME PICKUP



simplerecycling



**SCHEDULE YOUR FREE PICKUP
@ WWW.SIMPLERECYCLING.COM**

OR CALL 866-835-5068



ITEMS WE ACCEPT

-  • ALL TYPES OF CLOTHING
 -  • SHOES
 -  • ACCESSORIES
 -  • KITCHENWARE
 -  • LINENS
- *ITEMS LESS THAN 50 LBS
THAT ONE MAN CAN CARRY



LET YOUR CLOTHING BE LOVED AGAIN

**CLOTHING COLLECTION IS NOW GOING DIGITAL!
SCHEDULE YOUR FREE PICKUP**

simplerecycling.com

1



**Schedule your free pickup
at www.simplerecycling.com**

2



**Leave items at your
FRONT DOOR by 7:30am**

3



We'll pick them up!



Pink bags no longer required

