



# THE FARMINGTON TOWN LETTER

Town Hall, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032

[www.farmington-ct.org](http://www.farmington-ct.org)

## A Note From Our Town Council Chair

***"Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." – Lauren Destefano***

Autumn in Farmington is a beautiful time of the year! I encourage all residents to enjoy the cooler weather and go for a hike, ride your bike on our Rails to Trails system, or take a walk along the Farmington River. Residents can find information on events going on in town, browse a complete list of local businesses, and discover guides and resources on [www.explorefarmington.com](http://www.explorefarmington.com).

I would like to remind residents of their right to vote in the November 2nd election. **Page two of this newsletter contains information regarding this year's voting process.**

The Public Works Department has been busy this summer overseeing numerous projects to improve Farmington's infrastructure. Many local roads were paved, or reconstructed, during the recent paving season. In addition, our first responders did a tremendous job this summer with the unpredictable weather and flooding and responding to numerous calls for service.

It is hard to believe that it has been 20 years since the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The Scouts BSA and the Girls Scouts of Farmington/Unionville organized and held an emotional and moving 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony, in front of Town Hall, followed by a Flag Retirement Ceremony. The event was well attended and reminded me of the importance of taking the time to remember and thank the brave men and women who serve as first responders in Farmington.

***Our bi-annual Bulky Waste Collection will take place October 18 - 22, 2021. Farmington residents can also participate in a Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics, and Shredding collection, on October 16, 2021, at the Simsbury Public Works Facility. Please refer to page three in this newsletter for more information.***

In July of 2021, Moody's Investors Services reaffirmed Farmington's Aaa credit rating, the highest credit rating a municipality can achieve. This is a result of strategic planning and fiscal restraint, and allows municipalities to borrow money at a lower interest rate. The rating is especially significant for the financing of the new Farmington High School. Farmington ended the fiscal year 2020-2021 in a strong financial position. Despite the COVID-19 challenges, Farmington's economic indicators showed stability and modest growth. Farmington has maintained its robust commercial base, attracted large new development projects, and moved forward on some key development planning initiatives; allowing Farmington to consistently have one of the lowest mill rates in the Hartford region.

Although we are entering a new season, the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing. Please continue to follow health guidelines, support local businesses, and look after your neighbors. Farmington will continue to move forward as we always do; together.

**C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair**



## FHS Building Committee Update

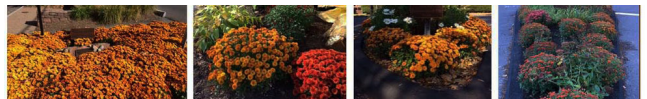
In June 2021, the residents of Farmington voted to approve a new Farmington High School. The FHS Building Committee recently selected a Construction Manager, O&G, to join the professional team that includes TSKP Studio (Architect) and Construction Solutions Group (Owner's Representatives). TSKP Studio is working to complete final design drawings, which are expected to be completed by Summer 2022.

The FHS Building Committee is committed to being transparent and open to community members throughout the project.

We encourage everyone to stay informed on the progress of the FHS Building Project. Scan the QR code with your cell phone or visit [www.fhsbuildingproject.org](http://www.fhsbuildingproject.org).



SCAN ME



The Farmington Garden Club has been busy sprucing up the town pocket parks for the Fall. Watch for the glowing mums around town!

Are you interested in helping to enhance the beauty of our community, or learning more about gardening and conservation?

Join the Garden Club for facts and fun! **Go to [farmingtongardenclub.org](http://farmingtongardenclub.org), or call 860-269-7041, for more information.**

## Notes From Paula Ray, Town Clerk

**The Governor has extended voters ability to vote by absentee ballot, using COVID-19 as a reason, through this year's Municipal Election.** Unlike last year's Presidential Election, the Secretary of the State will not be mailing every registered voter an application for an absentee ballot. If you wish to vote by absentee ballot, see the instructions below. The application you receive will have COVID-19 among the reasons for requesting an absentee ballot. **The drop box in front of Town Hall can be used to return your completed application or absentee ballot. It will open on Friday, October 1, 2021, at 8:30 am, and close 8:00 pm, on Election Day, Tuesday, November 2, 2021. The drop box will be checked throughout each workday, Monday - Friday, for applications and ballots.**



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

- at the Town Clerk's office,
- by calling 860-675-2380,
- by emailing [rayp@farmington-ct.org](mailto:rayp@farmington-ct.org),
- by printing from the link contained in the **Town Clerk's section of the Town of Farmington website.**

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



## 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](mailto:stormwater@farmington-ct.org).**



A BIG  
*thank  
you*



The Registrars office applauds our community for the tremendous outpouring of help we received during the national election, in November 2020. COVID-19 certainly added more to the stress that always appears for a Presidential election, but our resident workers really made the event run smoothly. We sincerely thank every one of you, regardless of the amount of time spent or the job description you held. You made the difference and we appreciate all of you.

Thanks again! Stay safe and wear your mask!

Barbara Brenneman & Ed Leary,  
Registrars of Voters



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **October 16, 2021** - Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **October 18-22, 2021** - Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection
- **November 1, 2021** - Fall leaf collection tentatively scheduled to begin

### 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: [www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/bulk-waste-collection](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](http://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/household-hazardous-waste) or call Farmington Highway & Grounds at 860-675-2550.

## 2021 Fall Leaf Collection Tentatively Scheduled to Begin on Monday, November 1, 2021



### Please take note of the following:

- Leaves are to be raked to the street edge, NOT on the road surface.
- Leaves mixed with branches and other debris will NOT be picked up.
- A collection of all the Town's public streets will be completed, at least twice, weather permitting.
- The trash collection service is NOT responsible for leaf collection, and will NOT pick up leaves.
- Schedules are tentative, and subject to change, due to weather and leaf conditions.

### Check our website for more information:

[www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/fall-leaf-collection](http://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/fall-leaf-collection).

### 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.**

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](http://www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/trash-and-recycling).

## Simple Recycling Update - Summary of Program Changes

- **Simple Recycling is now available to ALL Farmington residents, and has started scheduled pickups.**
  - Residents are required to schedule their pickups, by either going online to [www.simplerecycling.com](http://www.simplerecycling.com), OR using the link on the Town of Farmington Highway and Grounds website page, OR by calling 866-835-5068.
  - Pickups will be at the front door, instead of the curb.
  - The pink bags have been eliminated from the program. Residents must provide their clean & dry recyclable material, in self-provided bags or boxes.
  - The pickup scheduling is driven by our zip codes. Once the Zip Code is entered, a calendar will appear showing residents 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.
  - Same items included for donation: all types of clothing, shoes, accessories, kitchenware, linens, etc. A full list can be found at [www.simplerecycling.com](http://www.simplerecycling.com).
- This new system will result in increased convenience for residents, because they can select the pickup date that works best for them. There will also be a significant reduction in missed pickups.



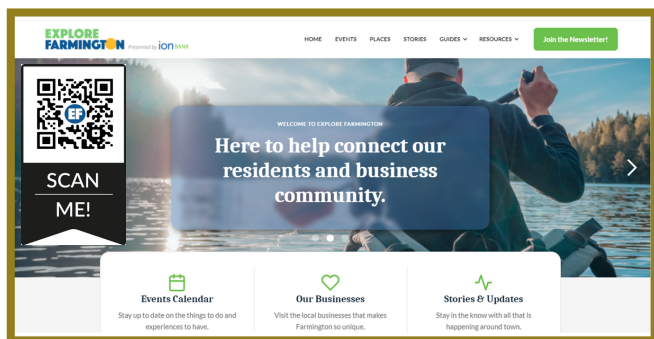


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## Explore Farmington Expands to Include Job Hub, Walking Map, and More!



**Have you heard about a great event in town, only to find out you missed it because it took place last week? Wondering if your favorite restaurant stays open late on the weekends? Looking for a job right here in town?** Instead of scouring multiple websites, social media accounts, and daily newspapers, check out [Explore Farmington](http://ExploreFarmington.com), our local, single source of information that keeps you in the know. Filled with local events, business offerings, blogs, shopping guides and community resources, you'll soon find all there is to enjoy in town.

**If you've already been to [explorefarmington.com](http://explorefarmington.com), check it out again! We recently added new features, and more Local Guides.** At Explore Farmington, you can also sign up for our Newsletters, and receive the latest Farmington happenings, delivered right to your Inbox. Don't forget to like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/explorefarmington) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/explorefarmington) too!

### Last CPR Class of 2021

- 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](http://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.**

## Annual Holiday Giving Program

**Farmington Community Services (FCS) is gearing up for their Annual Holiday Giving Program.** The program supports income-eligible residents and students with Thanksgiving meals, Winter holiday meals, and gifts. The Holiday program is primarily donor-funded, through the generosity of the community. **If you are interested in receiving holiday assistance, or if you would like to participate as a donor, or a sponsor, please contact FCS at 860-675-2390.**

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS FOR A TOWN-WIDE CELEBRATION AT THE FARMINGTON COMMUNITY & SENIOR CENTER

## Thanksgiving Day

12:00-2:00 pm  
 Transportation available (if needed)  
 Reservations required. CALL 675-2390 to sign-up or for more information.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**  
 Sponsored by Farmington Community Services

## 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](mailto:hoffmanns@farmingtonct.org).

