



THE FARMINGTON TOWN LETTER

Town Hall, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032

www.farmington-ct.org

A Note From Our Town Council Chair

"In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." — Mark Twain

As the days get longer, the warmth of Spring will lure more of us outdoors, to enjoy the beauty of the season. We will encounter others more frequently, so please continue to be respectful and give them space. Along with walkers, runners and strollers, there will be bicycles. Motorists shall be reminded; State Law requires you to keep at least 3 feet of space between your vehicle and a cyclist. With common courtesy, common sense and respect for the rules of the road, Farmington can be safer for everyone.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Town employees who continuously go above and beyond their respective duties, to ensure that Town residents continue to receive exceptional services. For instance, the Public Works Department continues to oversee projects to improve Farmington's infrastructure. Each year, we pave or reconstruct many of our local roads. As the paving season commences, please show your appreciation by slowing down and giving space to our hard working employees.

This Winter, the Town Council established the Ad-Hoc 1928 Building Committee, to recommend various policy decisions about the future of this historic building. In March, the Committee sent out a survey to the community, to gather your opinions on the different options. The Town Council will be reviewing the survey's findings, on April 26th. I encourage everyone to continue to follow this process.

This year's 24th Annual Town-Wide Clean-Up Day, led by the Farmington Green Efforts Committee, is scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd, from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. A Town-Wide Rummage Sale and the Household Hazardous Waste Collection will also be held that day. For details, please refer to pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter. Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers who make the Town-Wide Clean-Up days possible! The next Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection will begin on Monday, April 25th and will be picked up on your normal trash pickup day, during the week of April 25-29, 2022.

I recently had the privilege of volunteering for Meals on Wheels, through Services for the Elderly. This was a great reminder to me of how deeply Farmington and Unionville believe that volunteers are the true foundation of our community. From elected and appointed board and commission members, to the volunteer Fire Department, our Town is made stronger by its dedicated volunteer base.

I encourage you to stay informed and involved during this year's budget process, particularly during the Annual Town Meeting, on April 18th, and the Budget Referendum Vote, on April 28th. I speak for the entire Town Council in saying that we welcome your input and hope that you will actively participate in this year's budgetary process.

C.J. Thomas
Town Council Chair

2022 Budget Schedule

Below is the 2022 schedule for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting(s) and Referendum(s).

- **April 18, 2022 - First Annual Town Meeting**, 7:00 pm, FHS Auditorium/Zoom
- **April 28, 2022 - First Budget Referendum**, Polling Place: See Budget Insert
- **April 29, 2022 - Town Council Meeting (only if first Referendum fails)**, 4:00 pm, Town Hall Council Chambers/Zoom
- **May 2, 2022 - Second Annual Town Meeting (if needed)**, 7:00 pm, FHS Auditorium/Zoom
- **May 12, 2022 - Second Referendum (if needed)**, Polling Place: See Budget Insert



Farmington High School Building Committee Update



On March 21, 2022, the Town Plan & Zoning Commission voted to approve the Town of Farmington's application, for a special permit and site plan, for construction of a new high school, at 10 Monteith Drive. TSKP Studio and professional partners continue to work to refine the design development documents.

The committee recently voted to approve an Early Enabling Package, which will limit the disruption to school operations, by allowing some site work to occur, during the summer of 2022.

The FHS Building Committee continues to meet every other Wednesday, at 5:00 pm. Please visit fhsbuildingproject.org, for meeting information and project updates.

Notes From Maureen Frink, Town Clerk

DOG LICENSING REMINDER

The Town Clerk's Office reminds dog owners that renewal and new licenses are issued during the month of June. Please call the Town Clerk's Office at 860-675-2380, or email frinkm@farmington-ct.org, with any questions.



TOP DOG CONTEST:

The Farmington Town Clerk's office will be holding a "Top Dog" drawing, on June 16, 2022, at 10:00 am. Join the fun, by entering your furry friend, for a chance to wear Farmington Dog License #1, free of charge, for 2022-2023.

TO PARTICIPATE:

- Your dog must be currently registered in Farmington, or under 6 months of age.
- Mail a 4 x 6 inch photo of your dog to: Farmington Town Clerk, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032, between May 1, 2022 - June 1, 2022.
- Include, on the back side of the photo, your name, address, and telephone number.
- The winner of the drawing will be notified by the Town Clerk's office.

FISHING LICENSES:

Licenses are available online, from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, at: ct.gov/deep/fishing, and at the Town Clerk's office. *The 2022 Free Fishing License Days are June 19th and August 6th.*

FALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The election this Fall will be held on November 8, 2022. College students, and anyone who will be out of town on Election Day, may request an Absentee Ballot, from the Town Clerk's office. *Applications will be kept on file, and ballots will be mailed starting October 7, 2022, which is the first day regular absentee ballots become available. Absentee Ballot Applications can be found on the Town of Farmington website: farmington-ct.org.*



Stormwater Runoff Pollution: Car Washing

If you wash your car on the street, in the driveway, or parking lot, then soap, scum, and oily grit will be washed into the nearby storm drains, which drain to our nearby wetlands and rivers, such as the Roaring Brook, Pequabuck and Farmington Rivers, without any treatment. This causes pollution that is unhealthy for fish and people. How do we avoid this mess?

Take your car to the car wash, where wash water is filtered and recycled, instead of washing it in the driveway; or wash it on the lawn, so the rinse water will be filtered through the lawn and soil.

Help Preserve Farmington's Wetlands and Streams

Is your backyard frequently wet? Do you have a brook or stream that runs through or near your property? If so, you may need a permit with the Inland Wetlands Commission, before you clear parts of your property. **Call the wetlands staff at 860-675-2325, to discuss your project, before you start work.** We are happy to help you determine if a permit is needed, and discuss ways to protect the wetlands and streams.

Remember, most stormwater in town eventually flows to the Farmington River!
farmington-ct.org/government/conservation-inland-wetlands-commission

Town of Farmington to Continue Revaluation Process

The Town of Farmington is continuing the process of revaluing all real estate within the town, as of October 1, 2022. By state law, Connecticut towns and cities are required to revalue real estate, once every five years. The last time this was done in Farmington was 2017.

Revaluation is the equalization of property values, by estimating the current market value of all properties in town, as of the same date. The values derived in the revaluation will be used in the assessment of real estate and the levying of taxes, until the next revaluation.

Tyler Technologies, Inc. has been hired to assist the Assessor with this project. Data collectors, working for Tyler, will visit each residential property, to verify the exterior (including measuring), and inspect the interior, with the permission of an adult occupant of the property. Given the current situation, it is possible that other means of updating the interior information may be needed, such as property questionnaires. Commercial and industrial properties will also be inspected.

Cyclomedia is working with Tyler Technologies, to update the property photos for the Assessor's records, which was last done town-wide, in 2017. Photos are taken from the street. One photo, for each building, will be included on the Assessor's cards (property record cards), just as they are now.

Additional information will be posted on the Town of Farmington website, farmington-ct.org.

The Assessor's Office would like to take this opportunity to thank all the citizens of Farmington, for their interest and cooperation in this very important project.

Finally, Spring is in the air! It's the perfect time to think of our Summer flowering baskets. The Summer flowers will be installed in Unionville Center and the DiPietro Bridge, right around Memorial Day Weekend. The baskets are part of the Beautify Farmington Program, and the brainchild of The Farmington Garden Club, the Founding Sponsor of the program since 2012! This community project is made possible by donations big and small from residents, businesses and friends, who travel through town.



For more information about the program, please visit choosefarmington.com/beautify-farmington-program.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **April 23, 2022** - Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **April 25th - 29th, 2022** - Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection
- **June 11, 2022** - 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, April 25th, and will be picked up on your normal trash pickup day, during the week of April 25th - 29th, 2022.

During the week of April 25th - 29th, 2022, 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: 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 Collections

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.

2022 Dates and Locations:

- **April 23, 2022** - Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT
- **June 11, 2022** - Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT
- **October 15, 2022** - Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT

On the same dates and locations 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: farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/household-hazardous-waste, or call Farmington Highway & Grounds at 860-675-2550.

General Reminders for Trash & Recycling:

- To ensure proper trash and recyclable pickups, all are required to be at the curbside the night before your normal trash/recycling day.
- Carts should be placed within 6 feet of curb, 4 feet away from other objects, and with the front of the cart facing the street. Do not place carts in the roadway.
- Always bag trash, to keep cart clean and allow trash to flow out freely.
- Do not overstuff carts - lids must be closed. Recycle boxes must be cut to size, with lid closed.
- Do not leave anything on the side of the carts - pick up is only for what is in the cart.
- Wash/clean regularly, with ammonia or disinfectant cleaner, to deter animals.
- Keep bears and other animals away from your carts, by taping dryer sheets to the inside of the lid.
- No bulk items, construction debris, hazardous items, or flammable materials in carts.
- No grass clippings, branches, or lawn debris in carts.
- No plastic bags, soiled pizza boxes, Styrofoam, or other foam plastics in Recycling carts.
- For a copy of the current recycling calendar, trash & recycling collection routes, and recycling week A and B street listings, please visit: farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/trash-and-recycling.

Town of Farmington Adopts New Wildlife Safety Ordinance

The Town of Farmington adopted a new ordinance in November, prohibiting intentional feeding of wildlife, restricting the usage of bird feeders during certain months, and improper storage of food, pet food, refuse, or other attractants and substances, in a manner that results in wildlife feedings.

This ordinance was implemented to assist residents, guests, and other stakeholders, in coexisting with wildlife peacefully and safely. Every year, Farmington's Animal Control Officer and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, receive numerous calls regarding nuisance wildlife, including bears. These animals are usually attracted to the area, by a source of food. This source can be improperly stored refuse, bird feeders, or other attractants. The wildlife activity has interrupted school activities, sporting events, and everyday life, for some residents. We're glad that this ordinance will help us in educating the community and affecting positive change, to safeguard our citizens and wildlife in our area.

More information on the new ordinance can be found in the Town Charter & Ordinances section of the Town's website. Information on CT Wildlife can be found at: CT.gov/DEEP.

Tunxis Mead Compost Area Rules - For Residents Only

2022 Spring/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
<i>(Purchase at Highway & Grounds Division of Public Works, 544 New Britain Ave., M - F, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm)</i>	
Passenger vehicles	1 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



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Town Hall, Farmington, CT 06032-1053
www.farmington-ct.org

PRST STD
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FARMINGTON, CT
Permit #17

Annual Town-Wide Clean-Up Day and Town-Wide Rummage Sale - Saturday, April 23, 2022, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Join the Town of Farmington Green Efforts Committee, for the 24th Annual Town-Wide Clean Up Day, on Saturday, April 23rd, from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. Pre-Register at signupgenius.com/go/20F054CA5A72CA46-farmington, or stop by any of the four official locations (listed on the right), for a clean-up assignment, trash bags, grabbers, and gloves.

The Farmington Green Efforts Committee will also be hosting a Town-Wide Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 23rd, from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, at the Irving A. Robbins Middle School, 20 Wolf Pit Road, Farmington. For details and to reserve a spot, visit: bit.ly/3iU89ou.



Pre-Register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054CA5A72CA46-farmington> or stop by any of the four official locations for a clean-up assignment, trash bags, grabbers, and gloves.



Farmington Firehouse – 76 Main Street Farmington

Irving A Robbins Middle School – 20 Wolf Pit Road Farmington **NEW LOCATION**

Tunxis Hose Firehouse – 11 School Street Unionville

Tunxis Mead Athletic Fields – 80 Tunxis Mead Road Farmington Hosted by the FHS ECO Club

The Heaviest Haul competition is back! Prizes from local businesses for the individual and team collecting the most trash by weight. Trash may be collected from April 1st to 23rd. Any single item weighing more than 25 lbs. will be counted as 25 lbs. Trash will be weighed at our four official locations.



Saturday April 23, 2022

8am to 1pm

Irving A. Robbins School

20 Wolf Pit Road Farmington



Sponsored by: The Town of Farmington Green Efforts Committee

Contributing Sponsors: Farmington Miniature Golf & Ice Cream Parlor, Fork & Fire, Highland Park and Naples

Friends & Family CPR - 2022 Dates & Times

The AHA's Family & Friends CPR Course is a video-based, classroom course, intended for anyone who wants to learn CPR and prefers to learn in an Instructor-led or facilitated group environment. This course is for people who do not need a course completion card, for a job or other requirements. Family & Friends CPR is ideal for community groups, parents, grandparents, caregivers, schools and students, and others interested in learning how to save a life.

- Wednesday, 6/8/22, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
- Wednesday, 9/7/22, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
- Wednesday, 12/7/22, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm



Brought to you at NO COST, by the Town of Farmington Fire Department.

Register today: 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.

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 email Amber Rush, Police Management Assistant, at: rusha@farmington-ct.org.



TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDED BUDGET FY 2022/2023

	FY21/22 Adopted Budget	FY22/23 Town Council Recommended Budget	Dollar Change	% Change
EXPENDITURES				
Education	72,288,934	74,448,257	2,159,323	2.99
Town	32,317,083	33,380,320	1,063,237	3.29
Debt Service	8,272,347	9,306,656	1,034,309	12.50
Capital Improvements	3,147,166	3,881,000	733,834	23.32
BOE Defined Contribution	75,000	250,000	175,000	233.33
Total	116,100,530	121,266,233	5,165,703	4.45
GRAND LIST				
Real Estate	3,241,496,228	3,248,365,946	6,869,718	0.21
Personal Property	239,751,822	233,736,253	(6,015,569)	(2.51)
Motor Vehicles	251,973,408	315,514,500	63,541,092	25.22
Total	3,733,221,458	3,797,616,699	64,395,241	1.72
REVENUES				
Other Property Taxes	1,316,000	1,405,000	89,000	6.76
Licenses and Permits	701,000	781,500	80,500	11.48
Fines and Penalties	18,500	15,000	(3,500)	(18.92)
Interest	125,000	150,000	25,000	20.00
Grants	4,918,103	6,459,586	1,541,483	31.34
Service Charges	1,366,500	1,514,308	147,808	10.82
Other	861,844	772,126	(89,718)	(10.41)
Westwoods Contribution	330,000	320,000	(10,000)	(3.03)
Total	9,636,947	11,417,520	1,780,573	18.48
TAX & MILL RATE				
Tax Levy	\$ 107,144,687	\$ 110,948,713		
Mill Rate	28.81	29.32		
Mill Rate Change	0.84	0.52		
% Change	2.99%	1.79%		
Avg Residential Assessment	\$ 226,777	\$ 226,777		
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 6,532.75	\$ 6,649.98		
Dollar Increase	\$189.82	\$117.23		
Percent Increase	2.99%	1.79%		
			Every \$100,000 of assessed value = \$2,932 in taxes	

IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES

Monday, April 18th	7:00 pm — First Annual Town Meeting, FHS Auditorium/Zoom
Thursday, April 28th	First Budget Referendum Vote
Friday, April 29th	4:00 pm — Special Town Council Meeting (if first Referendum fails), Town Hall Council Chambers/Zoom
Monday, May 2nd	7:00 pm — Second Annual Town Meeting (if needed), FHS Auditorium/Zoom
Thursday, May 12th	Second Referendum Vote (if needed)

WHERE TO VOTE IN TOWN (POLLING PLACES)

District 1, Precincts 1,2,3,4 — Irving Robbins Middle School, 20 Wolf Pit Road, Farmington
 District 1, Precinct 5 — West Woods Upper Elementary School, 50 Judson Lane, Farmington
 District 2, Precinct 6 — Community/Senior Center, 321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville
 District 2, Precinct 7 — Farmington Main Library, 6 Monteith Drive, Farmington

* Please turn over for Voting Resolution and Explanatory Text *