



THE FARMINGTON TOWN LETTER

Town Hall, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032
www.farmington-ct.org

A Note From Our Town Council Chair

***"I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house."
- Nathaniel Hawthorne***

Autumn in Farmington is such a beautiful time of the year! I encourage you all 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. If you would like to try something new, you 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.

Infrastructure continues to be a main focus this year. The Public Works Department has been busy completing numerous projects to improve our infrastructure, including paving or reconstructing roads during the recent paving season.

The Farmington High School Building Committee is moving along, and the project is out to bid and the Committee will receive those packages for the next phase of the project in October. At the September 27th meeting, the Town Council re-charged the 1928 Building Committee to create a conceptual design and determine preliminary pricing for a standalone building. Lastly, the Town Council accepted a study on a third bridge crossing on Route 4. This crossing would reduce traffic congestion in our town centers. Due to the recent federal infrastructure programs, we are hopeful that we will secure Federal and/or State funding for this project.

I am happy to report that the Town of Farmington was awarded a 2022 Small Town Economic Assistant Program (STEAP) Grant of \$500,000 for the installation of a splash park and four pickleball courts on Westwoods Drive. The project also includes an updated parking lot at Westwoods Golf Course and bathrooms to accommodate the additional activities. We are excited to be able to offer these new recreation opportunities to all residents.

Our bi-annual Bulky Waste Collection will take place October 17 - 21, 2022. Farmington residents can also participate in a Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics, and Shredding collection, on October 15th, 2022, at the Simsbury Public Works Facility. Please refer to page three in this newsletter for more information.

Please keep in mind that November 8th is election day and I hope you all will participate and exercise your right to vote. Page two of this newsletter contains information regarding this year's voting process.

Thank you for being considerate to others by cleaning up after enjoying all of our open spaces this past summer. It is your thoughtfulness that makes our town such a great place to live, work, and play.

Be Well,

C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair



FHS Building Committee Update

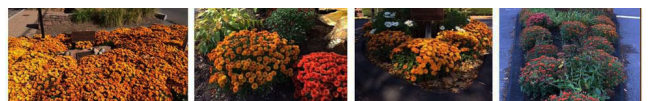
Work for the Phase I Early Enabling of the Farmington High School (FHS) Building Project was completed over the summer. This preliminary sitework phase consisted of constructing a temporary parking lot next to the library, relocating site utility lines, and installing a construction fence to ensure the separation and safety of FHS students and faculty. The newly established traffic pattern has been successful over the first few weeks of school. The Police Department and District continue to work collaboratively to keep the traffic flow as safe and efficient as possible.

Bid packages for the next phase of the FHS Building Project have been released, and responses are expected in October.

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.



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, or call 860-269-7041, for more information.**

Notes From Maureen Frink, Town Clerk

Absentee Ballots are available at the clerk's office on October 7, 2022 for the November election. You must first complete an application for the ballot. The application may be downloaded from our website (www.farmington-ct.org) or picked up in the clerk's office.

The Town Clerk's office will stay open until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 3, 2022 for Absentee Ballot voting.

The 2022 Elections will take place on November 8, 2022. The hours of voting are 6:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. at your regular polling place.

What do I do with...?



We all have those items lying around the house that we aren't sure how to dispose of...*Can I recycle it? Can it go in the trash? Is there a special disposal process?*

CT DEEP has a great website to help answer these questions. Simply type: '[CT DEEP What do I do with](#)' into your search engine and the website will be the top option. It provides helpful, up to date information on how to dispose of any household item.

Dispose of all items properly to avoid water, land, and air contamination! Thank you!

Yard Waste Clean-Up Do's & Don'ts

What is Yard Waste?

Yard waste is grass clippings, leaves, small brush, and all plant material.



1. Yard waste and fall clean-up of gardens are easily composted at home. The CT DEEP offers a link including suggestions for at home composting.

DO'S

2. Yard waste can be brought to the Tunxis Mead Compost Area.

3. Grass clippings should be left on your lawn to return nutrients back to the soil and eliminate yard waste, composted at home, or disposed of with a local composter.

4. Fall leaf collection will begin in November. Leaves can also be composted at home.



DON'TS

1. Do not dispose of grass clippings, branches, and garden clippings in the garbage.

2. Do not dispose of yard waste in low lying areas such as wetlands, brooks, and swales. This is a violation of State and Local Wetland regulations and can block stormwater runoff creating flooding for you and neighbors.

3. Do not burn yard waste. Only unprocessed wood may be burned with a Burn Permit issued by the Fire Marshal.

Hazards of Improper Waste Disposal



Improper household waste disposal leads to water pollution, land pollution, air pollution, loss of biodiversity, and exposes residents to health risks.

When improperly disposed, chemical wastes find their way into waterbodies through surface runoff and seepage into groundwater. These polluted waters are unsuitable for recreation, consumption as drinking water, agriculture, or any other economic activity due to its adverse health effects.

Additionally, many of us have mercury containing products at home: thermometers, thermostats, fluorescent lights, CFLs, barometers, and electrical switches and relays. It is important that any device containing mercury be disposed of at the **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event (Page 3)**. Mercury is a heavy metal that can be toxic to humans and wildlife and cause serious neurological or reproductive disorders.



**REMEMBER:
ALL STORM DRAINS LEAD
TO A STREAM, POND, OR
RIVER. NOTHING BUT RAIN
DOWN THE DRAIN.**

Property Revaluation Continues in Farmington

- The Town of Farmington is continuing the process of revaluing all real estate within the town. By state law, Connecticut towns and cities have been 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 have visited each residential property to verify the exterior and inspect the interior, with the permission of an adult occupant of the property. Questionnaires were also sent when necessary to verify the property information. Thank you to the many who returned them.
- Commercial and industrial properties were also inspected.
- The appraised values from the revaluation will be for market value as of October 1, 2022. Those values will be compared with sales which occurred within the year preceding the assessment date of October 1, 2022. The purpose of the comparison is to ensure that the prescribed standards for appraisal level and uniformity have been met. Assessments are at 70% of the appraised value.
- Property owners will be sent a notice of the new assessment and have an opportunity to discuss it with representatives of Tyler Technologies in December.
- The Assessor's Office would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Farmington for their cooperation in this very important project.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **October 15, 2022** - Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **October 17-21, 2022** - Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection
- **October 31, 2022**- 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 17th, and will be picked up on your normal trash pickup day during the week of October 17-21, 2022.

During the week of October 17-22, 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: 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.

2022 Date and Location:

- **October 15, 2022**- Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT

Please Note: This will be the last Hazardous Waste Collection for the 2022 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.

Fall Leaf Collection Tentatively Scheduled to Begin on Monday, October 31, 2022



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.

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.



1928 Building Committee Update

The Town wide survey indicated strong support to preserve the 1928 Building. Space for Town operations, recreational space and community use are needed town-wide and can be accommodated in 1928 Building. The 1928 Building Committee has been working hard to evaluate these needs.

The Town Council recently re-charged the 1928 Building Committee to create conceptual design and preliminary pricing for the 1928 building as a standalone building. The 1928 Building Committee continues to work with Silver/Petrucelli + Associates, Project Architect, to develop these designs for a repurposed 1928 building.

The 1928 Building Committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 4:30 PM. Please visit 1928building.org for meeting information and project updates.



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Update on Farmington's Future "Third Bridge" Project

At the September 13, 2022 Town Council Meeting, the Town Council voted to accept CRCOG/SLR Consulting's Route 4 Connectivity Study (Third Bridge Crossing) after members of CRCOG and SLR provided a high-level presentation. This is a key first step in a potential bridge project which would extend Monteith Drive over the Farmington River to New Britain Avenue which would alleviate traffic in both Farmington and Unionville Center.

The next steps for the Town will be to pursue funding through CRCOG and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT). This project is now listed on the DOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) List, which will enable the Town, CRCOG, and DOT to pursue all avenues of funding. We are hopeful this project will be selected for funding.

More public information will be made available in November 2022. Information will be added to the Town's website as it becomes available.



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.**

Last CPR Class of 2022

- 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:

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.

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, Tom Fitzgerald, at 860-675- 2322, or email him at: fitzgeraldt@farmington-ct.org.

