



THE FARMINGTON TOWN LETTER

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

A Note From Our Town Council Chair

"Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." - Vince Lombardi

As my tenure as Chairman of the Town Council comes to an end, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude and appreciation to the residents of Farmington and Unionville, my fellow Council members, volunteer board and commission members, and all municipal employees. Over the past four years, I have had the privilege of serving this wonderful community, and it has been an honor to work alongside such dedicated and passionate individuals. Together, we have accomplished so much, and I am incredibly proud of what we have been able to achieve.

We have tackled many important issues, from improving our local infrastructure and public services to promoting economic growth and community development. Without the collaborative efforts demonstrated by this Council, the Board of Education, and the Farmington High School Building Committee, the major success of passing the Farmington High School Building Project would not have been possible. This success was followed by the residents of Farmington and Unionville overwhelmingly voting to save and renovate the original 1928 section of the High School into a new Town Hall. Just under half of this project will be funded by American Rescue Plan Act funds.

During my four years as Council Chair, I am pleased to report that the Town has maintained the highest financial rating that a municipality can achieve - Moody's Aaa. Each year, the Town Council works hard to create municipal budgets that provide residents with excellent municipal services and one of the top school systems in the State of Connecticut. We were able to accomplish this, all while maintaining one of the lowest tax rates in the region. During each annual budget, it is a longstanding practice of the Town Council to review the entire organization for efficiencies and cost savings in order to implement best practices for municipal governments.

Despite a national economy in flux, Farmington has remained steadfast in maintaining our commitment to improving the quality of life for residents in a fiscally responsible manner. By committing to best financial practices, and securing numerous federal and state grant opportunities, we've been able to provide infrastructure improvements, such as new sidewalks and roads, while upholding our position as an economic leader in the Hartford Region.

I am also proud that over the last four years the Town's Strategic Plan included community-based social initiatives such as creating a Racial Equality Task Force and approving the Town's Affordable Housing Plan.

Through it all, your support and feedback in public forums and referendums have been invaluable, and I want to thank you for your trust and confidence in me and the rest of the Town Council for acting in the best interests of our constituents.

Once again, thank you for your support and for making my time as Chairman of the Town Council such a rewarding and fulfilling experience. I wish you all the best for the future, and I am confident that the Town of Farmington will continue to thrive and grow in the years to come.

C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair





From the Office of the Registrar of Voters

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023.

This year is a municipal election for all elected town offices. This is when we vote for our local leaders to serve as Town Council Chair, Town Council and Board of Education members, Plan and Zoning Commissioners, etc.

Voter turnout in Farmington is generally less than 40% for our local elections. Please have your voice be heard by casting your vote in this year's election. Absentee ballots for those who qualify are available through the Town Clerk's office.

Is your voter registration up to date?

Have you recently moved, changed your name, or do you need to make any changes to your registration? Registration & changes can be done at myvote.ct.gov or by coming to the Registrars' office in Town Hall Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Registrars can be reached at 860-675-2367 or email: (Ann Newbury, R) newburya@farmington-ct.org (Beth Kintner, D) kintnerb@farmington-ct.org

FEMA Flood Map Revisions



FEMA

FEMA Flood Map revisions are under way with an expected release of final maps in late 2024. The preliminary maps can be viewed at the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC): <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

The FEMA Mapping and Insurance Exchange (FMIX) can be a good resource for residents who want to ask questions about the impact to their individual property: https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html

From the Town Clerk, Maureen Frink

Absentee Ballots:

Absentee Ballots are available at the clerk's office starting on October 6, 2023 for the November election. You must complete an application before receiving a 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 be open until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 for Absentee Ballot voting.

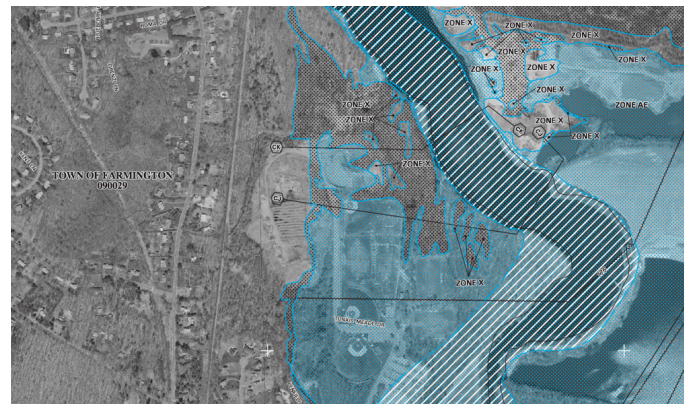
Ballot Box:

The Ballot Box will be opened on October 6 and is located outside of Town Hall. Ballots may be left in the ballot box or mailed to the Clerk's office.

Completed ballots must be received by 8:00 p.m. on November 7, 2023. You may hand deliver your completed ballot to the clerk's office on or before November 6, 2023.

November 7, 2023 Election:

The hours of voting are 6:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. at your regular polling place.



The Town of Farmington strongly encourages our residents to review these maps and follow up with FEMA with any questions or concerns you may have.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 7, 2023 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection; Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT (8:00am-1:00pm)

October 16-20, 2023 - Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection

October 30, 2023 - Fall leaf collection begins

Town-Wide Bulky Waste Collection Service



The next Town-wide bulky waste collection will begin on Monday, October 16, 2023 and will be picked up on your normal trash pickup day during the week of October 16th-20th.

During the week of **October 16-20** all Farmington residents who pay for town trash service by the Town's contractor (Waste Material Trucking Company) are asked to leave their bulk items curbside the night before their regular collection day.

The next bulk pickup will be April 22-26, 2024.

Leaf Collection Schedule



The 2023 fall leaf collection is tentatively scheduled to begin on Monday October 30, 2023.

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.

Please note: These are tentative schedules and subject to change due to weather and leaf conditions.

Recycling Contamination

What is recycling contamination?

A bin is considered contaminated when your recycling bin contains trash, the materials are soiled by food/liquids, or items are placed in plastic bags. Items should be loose and clean in your bin. One bin can contaminate a whole truck, making it unusable for recycling and end up costing the taxpayers more for disposal.

Recycling is mandatory, let's do it together! For information on proper recycling, please visit RecycleCT.com or call the Town of Farmington Highway and Grounds Department at 860-675-2550.



ACCEPTABLE BULKY

**Large Furniture

**Appliances

**Tires and Rims

**Plumbing Fixtures

Carpet / Padding

Misc. Household Items

UNACCEPTABLE BULKY

Recyclable materials

Building materials

Lumber/Plywood

Concrete Items

Propane Tanks

Paint (Latex or oil-based)

TVs, PCs or Laptops

Fencing



**** 2 Item Per Household Maximum**

For a full list of acceptable and unacceptable items please visit the Town website:

www.farmington-ct.org/departments/highway-grounds/bulk-waste-collection

2023 Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics, Shredding 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.

Collections will run from 8:00am - 1:00pm, and will be open to all residents of Avon, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury, and Suffield.

October 7, 2023 - Simsbury Public Works Facility
66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT

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)

Holiday Trash & Recycling Schedule

The ONLY three (3) Holidays observed for Trash & Recycling pick-ups are:

Thanksgiving Day • Thursday, November 23
Christmas Day • Monday, December 25
New Year's Day • Monday, January 1

If your normal collection day falls on one of these 3 holidays, then the pickup day will be delayed by one day, STARTING with the holiday.

(For example: Thanksgiving Day Thursday pickup will be on Friday and Friday's normal pickup will be on Saturday).

If the holiday falls on a weekend (Saturday or Sunday), there is no change in the collection schedule.

Storm Water Friendly Landscaping



Permeable Pavement – Traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water. Permeable pavement systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through, decreasing stormwater runoff.

Rain Barrels – You can collect rainwater from rooftops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn or garden areas.

Rain Gardens and Grassy Swales – Specially designed areas planted with native plants can provide natural places for rainwater to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from rooftop areas or paved areas can be diverted into these areas rather than into storm drains.

Vegetated Filter Strips – Filter strips are areas of native grass or plants created along roadways or streams. They trap the pollutants stormwater picks up as it flows across driveways and streets.

Textile Recycling Program

Since December of 2019, the Town of Farmington has partnered with Simple Recycling to divert over 28 tons of textiles from landfills through a textile recycling program. This service is offered free to residents, simply request a pickup from the Simple Recycling Website, then you just need to leave a bag by your front door and Simple Recycling will come by, collections are on Tuesdays.

Items that can be recycled are clothing, outerwear, shoes, accessories, blankets, towels, curtains, pillows, sleeping bags, and much more!

To find out more information, or to schedule your pick-up, simply scan the QR Code.



Farmington High School Building Committee Update



The FHS Building Project continues to make significant progress on the municipal campus and the new building. On the site, the installation of underground utilities, including power, water, and gas from Route 4, is complete. The widening of Monteith Drive with new granite curbs is currently taking place.

On the new high school building exterior, roofing work is complete, with skylight work in progress. Brick masonry and window work are progressing on the classroom wings. Inside the building, interior wall and door framing and mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work are underway. Interior finish work is starting in the classroom wings.

The FHS Building Committee is pleased to report that the project remains on schedule and on budget.

For the latest project updates, please visit fhsbuildingproject.org.

Farmington Police Department: Home Security



Home Security/CCTV systems, like Ring, Blink, SimpliSafe and others, have become increasingly relevant and essential in today's world. These systems provide homeowners with a heightened sense of security and peace of mind, as they allow for continuous surveillance of their property, both inside and outside the home. With rising concerns about property crimes, vandalism, and even package thefts, having a home security camera system is a proactive measure to deter potential criminals and provide evidence in case of any unlawful activity. Criminal incidents captured by these home security cameras have been pivotal in assisting Farmington Police Officers with the identification of suspects and subsequent arrests.

One of the key advantages of home security cameras is their ability to enhance home safety. Their presence alone can discourage criminals from attempting break-ins or other malicious activities. Moreover, the real-time alerts and notifications these systems offer enable homeowners to respond promptly to any suspicious activity, whether it's a stranger at the front door or unexpected motion in the backyard and quickly contact the police. This can help prevent incidents from escalating and provides a valuable layer of protection for families and their belongings. One added feature provided by some providers is a community and neighborhood forum which allows neighbors to post incidents and instantly share amongst nearby members of the community. Safety begins with the homeowner but grows with a strong sense of community and communication.

In addition to security benefits, home CCTV systems offer practical advantages for homeowners. They can serve as a valuable tool for keeping an eye on pets, monitoring children while they play outside, and even checking in on elderly family members who may need assistance. Furthermore, with the convenience of remote access through smartphones and tablets, homeowners can stay connected to their property from anywhere, which is especially beneficial for those who travel frequently or want to ensure their home's safety while at work. In today's interconnected world, home security cameras have become an integral part of modern living, enhancing safety and peace of mind for countless households.

However, maintaining your home security cameras is essential to ensure they provide optimal protection for your property. Regularly checking camera lenses for dirt or obstructions, cleaning them if necessary, and ensuring they have a clear line of sight is imperative to ensuring the camera footage is there when it is needed. Keeping the camera's firmware up to date is important in order to access the latest features and security patches. Regularly reviewing and archiving footage to free up storage space will ensure you have access to critical recordings when needed. By maintaining your home security cameras diligently, you can have peace of mind knowing your property is well-protected and have critical documentation and evidence to provide to investigators if needed.

1928 Building Committee Update: Fall 2023



The 1928 Building Project is currently in the design development phase, which represents a significant milestone in the process towards transforming the 1928 Building into the Farmington Town Hall.

During this phase, the Project Architect is engaging Town Department Heads and is refining the design to ensure that the needs of the end users are met.

After the design development phase is completed, the Project Architect will begin the construction document phase which is the last step in the design process before putting the project out to bid. Bidding is likely to occur in the Spring of 2024, and a General Contractor will be brought onboard to begin construction. It is anticipated that construction will begin in the Summer of 2024 and will be completed in the Spring of 2025.

We encourage you to stay informed. Please visit www.1928building.org for latest project updates.

Farmington Volunteer Fire Department



The Town of Farmington Fire Department is looking for volunteers of all backgrounds and skill sets, to join their ranks. Those interested are asked to contact Director of Fire and Rescue Services, Tom Fitzgerald at fitzgeraldt@farmington-ct.org.

CPR

FINAL FREE CPR CLASS OF 2023

Wednesday, December 6th from 10 AM -12 PM

Brought to by the Town of Farmington Fire Department. Training sessions will be held in the Yates Room at the **Farmington Police Department, 319 New Britain Ave, Unionville, CT 06085.**

To register, please visit bit.ly/FarmingtonCPR.



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

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Introducing Farmington Libraries New Executive Director, Jocelyn Kennedy

Navigating the Two Mile Road / South Road Roundabout

THE FARMINGTON LIBRARIES

Service. Experiences. Resources.

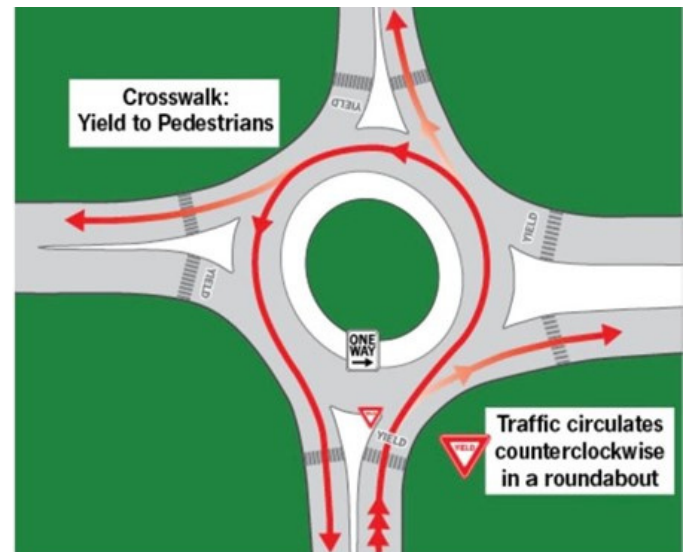
Welcome to The Farmington Libraries!

I am delighted to join The Farmington Libraries and look forward to meeting you soon. I live in Unionville and am so proud to be working in my Town and for my neighbors. The Farmington Libraries have so much to offer our community. If you haven't been to the library recently, or are new to town, please stop in at the Main Library and/or the Barney Library - to connect with us and our community.

Your library card is your passport to adventure - we offer something for everyone! In addition to books, your library card gives you access to music, movies, TV shows, newspapers, comics, and more. And that is just what is available remotely from our online resources. Stop by our physical locations to check out our Maker Space, Seed Library, Puzzle and Games collections, explore Farmington's history in the Farmington Room, or renew your passport (to name a few of our resources) AND participate in one of our awesome programs. We offer book clubs, crafting, movies, story time, art shows, live music, life skills seminars (like buying and selling a home and financial planning), and more at both of our locations. Visit our website www.farmingtonlibraries.org to see our calendar of events and offerings. Keep up to date by following us on Facebook and Instagram with the handle @farmingtonlibraries.

Take advantage of all The Farmington Libraries have to offer by visiting us today! I'll see you around the library!

Jocelyn Kennedy, Executive Director



Is it a Roundabout? A Rotary? A Traffic Circle? YES!

You have probably seen these in other Connecticut communities and now we have our first one here in Farmington! For some it's exciting, others it's a nuisance and for others it's confusing. Here's some basic information for navigating roundabouts:

The graphic above demonstrates how to move through the roundabout. Traffic proceeds to the right, yielding to vehicles coming from the left and to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Roundabouts are considered safer than traditional intersections and result in fewer vehicle to vehicle conflict points and fewer vehicle to pedestrian conflict points.



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