



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE OCTOBER 2015

www.mansfieldct.gov



Hear the
BEEP
where you
SLEEP



**EVERY BEDROOM
NEEDS A WORKING
SMOKE ALARM.**

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 4-10, 2015
firepreventionweek.org

- *The Town Hall will be closed on Monday, Oct. 12, for Columbus Day.*
- *Congratulations to Dorothy C. Goodwin Elementary School for being selected as a [National Blue Ribbon School](#)! It's quite an honor.*
- *Have you changed the batteries in your smoke detectors and CO alarms this month? It's that time of year!*
- *A public FAX machine is available at the library. You can also make color copies there.*

Mansfield Community Playground: We're Almost There!



On October 10 and 11, the long-awaited Mansfield Community Playground will be built in a weekend-long community event. Since the end of August, crews have been working to prepare the site behind the Community Center by taking down trees, crushing rocks, and creating a flat, smooth base. After the driveway and sidewalks have been paved, the landscape company will arrive to dig holes for the posts that will support the play structures. The community build will take place between 8 AM and 4 PM both Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers of all skill levels are needed to help out, and the Playground Committee is seeking donations of food to provide coffee and donuts as well as lunch for the volunteers. Interested? Sign up at <http://www.mansfieldcommunityplayground.org/lendahand.html>.

The community build will be an exciting event in itself. It will be a great opportunity to work together with friends and neighbors to create something lasting for the community's kids. New residents as well as long-time community members will be able to learn about each other and build our community spirit.

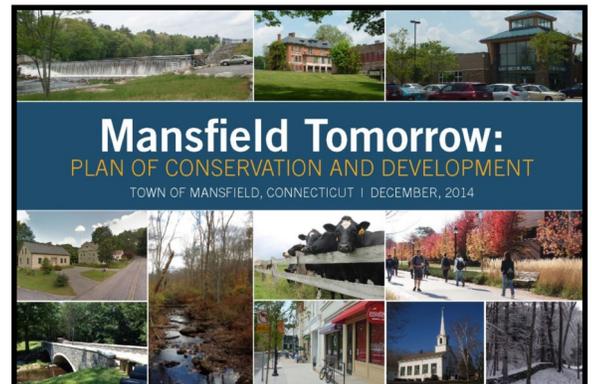
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Mansfield Tomorrow: It's Official!

The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously adopted the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation & Development in September. The new plan becomes effective October 8 and includes numerous changes based on feedback received from the community as part of the public hearing process.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this process – the vision for Mansfield's future was born out of the individual visions you shared with us and the action plan to achieve that vision was created and refined through the comments we received along the way from individuals, the advisory group, and advisory committees. We couldn't have done it without you!

As soon as we have made the changes to the plan, a final copy will be available on-line at www.mansfieldct.gov.



(Playground, cont. from page 1)

After the playground itself is built, the fence featuring the pickets purchased by community members and the hand tiles created by children over the past few years will be put up. Then, the surface will be poured onto the base- after it dries, it will be a uniform rubber material like a running track. This surface is accessible to children with mobility challenges such as use of a wheelchair, as well as to caregivers who may have difficulty navigating uneven surfaces.

Finally, a few weeks after the build, once the playground is built and the surface is ready, there will be a grand opening and ribbon cutting for our beautiful new playground. Come join us- we're planning a Halloween grand opening!

This project has truly been a community effort from beginning to end. We couldn't have done it without community support at events and generous donations from individuals and businesses. The Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation was one of the project's earliest supporters, awarding a \$200,000 grant in April 2013. We also owe thanks to our legislators, Gregg Haddad, Linda Orange, and Mae Flexer for their support of a \$100,000 grant the project received

Town Hall Hours:

Monday	8:15-4:30
Tuesday	8:15-4:30
Wednesday	8:15-4:30
Thursday	8:15-6:30
Friday	8 - 12

from the State of Connecticut. The Town of Mansfield also committed \$132,000 to ensure completion of the site preparation. The playground committee is planning to continue a few of the annual events that have helped us get to this point, such as the Eggstravaganza egg hunt and the 5K Run for the Playground. These events will help pay for maintenance of the playground, and will continue the tradition of community-building events in the future! Please email Maggie Ferron, Mansfield's Early Childhood Services Coordinator, at FerronMB@mansfieldct.org if you are interested in serving on a committee in the future or have questions about the community build.



Bridge Closed

Rt. 275 bridge to and from Coventry has been closed for replacement.

A detour has been posted using Route 31 South to Route 32 East from the Coventry side and Route 32 West to Route 31 North from the Mansfield side. The bridge is anticipated to reopen on Nov. 30.



Due to the continuing dry weather, we encourage all residents to voluntarily conserve water, including customers of Windham Water Works as well as those with bedrock and dug wells.

Repair Café Returns in October with DIY Clinics

The Repair Café returns on Saturday, Oct. 3, 10 AM - 2 PM at the First Congregational Church's Arnold Auditorium, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic. You can bring in items needing repair, such as books, bicycles, electronics, electrical and mechanical items, clothing and small wooden furniture. Knife sharpening will also be available. Skilled volunteers will be on hand to both fix items and to teach repair skills.

The Repair Café is free – except for the cost of replacement parts if necessary.

Two DIY clinics!

- Lamps 101 at 10:30 AM
- Bicycle Repair at 11:30 AM.



The organizers of the Willimantic Repair Cafes include volunteers and employees of the Access Agency & Town of Mansfield. If you are interested in volunteering to help with repairs or future Repair Café events, contact Virginia Walton, Mansfield Recycling Coordinator, at (860) 423-3333, waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

Members of the Windham Area Hour Exchange who provide repair services at the event will earn "time dollars" for their efforts. Individuals handy at repair in the areas of sewing, furniture, electrical appliances, electronics, bicycles, knife sharpening, small engines, tools, ceramics, jewelry and more are welcome.





Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!

Location matters when it comes to your smoke alarm.

During Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, the Fire Department would like to remind you about the importance of having working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement.

“In a fire, seconds count,” says Fran Raiola, Deputy Chief. “Half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 PM and 7 AM when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.”

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, three out of five fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.
- Make sure everyone knows the sound of the smoke alarm and knows what to do when they hear it.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.
- Call the fire department from outside the home.



Storrs Center Stroll

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2 – 5 PM
Mansfield Town Square

Free; Pre-registration encouraged.

Enjoy samples from businesses, giveaways, UConn performing groups, family-friendly activities, and more. Meet special guests including Jonathan XIV and Jonathan the Husky mascot. You'll also find the UConn Student Alumni Association Prize Patrol roaming around with giveaways. Hosted by UConn Alumni and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership. For more information go to huskiesforever.uconn.edu

WALKTOBER™

National Walking Month

For a complete listing of Walking Weekends events, see the complete brochure at thelastgreenvalley.org

- Sept. 26-Oct. 31 – Family Fun at Cedar Ledge Tree Farm: pumpkins! tractor rides! mulch mountain slide! & more!! (423-5690)
- Saturday, Oct. 3, 10AM – Games in the Woods; fun for the whole family at Dunhamtown Forest; prizes, too! (429-6257)
- Saturday, Oct. 17, 9:30-11:30AM – Mansfield Pup Crawl; tour Downtown Storrs with your (on-leash) Best Friend
- Sunday, Oct. 18, 1PM – Between a Rock and a Marshy Place: explore Wolf Rock & Sawmill Brook Preserves (429-6257)
- Sunday, Oct. 25, 1PM – Explore Schoolhouse Brook Park: forest, stone walls, pond & stream; wildlife, too! (429-6257)
- Sunday, Oct. 25, 1PM – Vistas and Vegetables; program at and about Twin Ponds Farm & Cloverleigh Farm (429-3015 x6204)
- Sunday, Oct. 25 + Nov. 8, 10AM-8pm – Enjoy rope courses & zip lines + 10% discount at The Adventure Park at Storrs! (946-0606).

Halloween in Mansfield

- Saturday, Oct. 24, 4-5 PM
Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Storrs; wear your costume & have FUN downtown!
- Saturday, Oct. 24, 5-6:30PM
Annual Halloween Party & Trick-A-Trunk at the Community Center.
- Sunday, Oct. 25, 2-4 PM
Funny Mummy Party
Annual Family Halloween celebration for all ages at the library.



2nd Annual Mansfield Pup Crawl

Saturday, Oct. 17, 9:30 AM, Town Square
Join the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for a guided walk through Downtown Storrs with your four-legged friends! Rain or shine over varied terrain. Dogs must be leashed. mansfieldct.gov/pupcrawl

October Events and Activities in Mansfield

Parks and Recreation

Fall Family Fun Nights

Saturday, Oct. 10, 4:30-7:30 PM

Saturday, Oct. 24, 4:30-7:30 PM

No fee for members,
non-members pay the daily fee.

Recreation Rescue

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7:30 - 5:30 PM

One day camp for kids on teacher professional days. Open to grades

K-8, meet in the MMS gym for games, crafts & free play. Field

Trip to be announced via flyer.



Annual Halloween Party & Trick or Trunk

Saturday, Oct. 24, 5-6:30 PM

Dress up in costume and join us for games, craft activities and trick-a-trunking. What's that?

Trick or Treating around our back parking lot, filled with cars and volunteers who hand out treats! This event is geared to kids 10 and under.

Playground Ribbon Cutting

October 31, time TBA

Join us as we finally open our brand new Playground! Thanks to the Jeffery P. Ossen Foundation and state legislators Gregg Haddad, Mae Flexor and Linda Orange as well as the Town of Mansfield, we will have a beautiful playground to celebrate!



Town of Mansfield, Connecticut

Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268

mansfieldct.gov

860.429.3336

Mansfield Public Library

Make-and-Take Fall Fun

Tuesday Oct. 13, 1-3 PM

No school today, so drop in for some fall crafts. Make a tabletop scarecrow, a fall gift bag or just do some pretty leaf rubbings.

All ages welcome.

Guitarist Peter Biedermann

Friday, Oct. 16, 7 PM

Peter has played with the bands PING, White Light, Serious Fun, Magic Spot and Amalgamation. He crosses the boundaries of genres including jazz, world, folk and rock utilizing acoustic and electronic instrumentation.

Estate Planning Workshops Lunch and Learn

Wednesdays, Oct. 7 & 28, 1 PM

Part 1: Defining Your Legacy

Define key steps to financial success, what is a legacy, & addressing common misconceptions.

Part 2: Preparing Your Estate Plan

Beneficiary designation, wills, trusts, life insurance, transfer on death and tax considerations.

Funny Mummy Halloween Party

Sunday, Oct. 25, 2 - 4 PM

Our annual Halloween party with fun activities including a Crocodile Hunt, Perilous Nile Crossing, Make-a-Mummy game, visit with the friendly "jackals" and more. You can even check out a mummified book! We'll also have walk-around magic provided by Mr. Magic, and of course the Creepy Cookie Carts to tempt your taste buds.



Mansfield Senior Center

FoodShare Distribution

Oct. 1, 15, 29, 11:30-12:15 PM

If you have a need for food, stop by. No questions about income. Please bring your grocery bags.

Introducing Square Dancing!

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 1 PM

Come and meet the instructor for this new free class. Regular classes start Oct 20 and run through Nov. 24. 860-487-9870.

Fire Prevention Presentation

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 10:30 AM

Learn about fire prevention & safety with Fire Marshal Fran Raiola. 860-487-9870 to register.

Pumpkin Festival for the Young at Heart

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 11-1:30 PM

This is a family event with Pumpkin decorating Games, Picture Booth and more. Bring a pumpkin to decorate. \$5 for pizza lunch with Entertainment by St. Mark's Youth String & Choral Music Groups. 860-429-0262.

Lunch & Entertainment

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 12 PM

Cabaret singer Karen Wagner will be singing Broadway Tunes. Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, garden salad & carrot cake. \$7 for lunch & show. 860-429-0262

4th Annual UConn Health Fair

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1-3:30 PM

Blood pressure screenings, oral health screening, nutrition counseling, free giveaways and preventive health educational materials.

