



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
287 West Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

*Dr. Linda S. Schwartz, RN, FAAN*  
Commissioner

**To Friends of Connecticut's Veterans in Need,**

The Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs is once again sponsoring "Stand Down 2010" – a day-long support services program for needy and homeless veterans – on Friday, September 10, 2010 from 7 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the State Veterans' Home campus in Rocky Hill. Over seventy state, federal and community agencies are expected to be on-hand to provide direct assistance and resources to homeless and needy veterans.

In these difficult economic times, it is more important than ever that we work together to move needy and homeless veterans toward independence.

We need your help to inform veterans in need in your local community about Stand Down. The majority of past participants learn about Stand Down from social service providers and counselors whom they know. We are asking you to help and encourage any veteran in need to get to Rocky Hill on Friday September 10<sup>th</sup>. Your assistance with pre-registration and transportation arrangements will contribute to our success in serving needy veterans.

Veterans in need or those who might be helping to care for them can pre-register using the enclosed forms. For more information call 860-616-3802 or 3803 or visit [www.ct.gov/ctva](http://www.ct.gov/ctva). Pre-registration is encouraged but not required to attend Stand Down.

We will be operating free shuttle busses from the state's major urban centers to Rocky Hill. A complete transportation schedule is enclosed and is also accessible on our website [www.ct.gov/ctva](http://www.ct.gov/ctva). Any updates or changes in the transportation schedule will be immediately posted on the website. You may also call 860-616-3803 for detailed information. We also encourage and welcome local groups to organize and provide their own transportation to Stand Down. There is ample parking on our campus at Rocky Hill.

Enclosed please find more information and materials about Stand Down 2010 for your use. Please help by displaying the poster and making the Veterans Registration Forms available at your location. Additional posters and registration forms can be printed by downloading from our website. Please do not hesitate to contact our staff if we can be of any further assistance.

Thank you for your continued work on behalf of Connecticut's most vulnerable veterans.

Sincerely,

**Linda S. Schwartz**  
Linda S. Schwartz, RN, DrPH, FAAN  
Major, USAF (Ret.)  
Commissioner



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## **STAND DOWN 2010 - Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is Connecticut STAND DOWN?**

STAND DOWN is a one-day outreach and support program sponsored by the State of Connecticut which enables needy and homeless veterans to receive services and information from over 30 state, federal and private organizations all assembled in one location. STAND DOWN is *not* a veterans benefits fair for the general public.

### **2. When and where will STAND DOWN 2010 be held?**

STAND DOWN will be held on **Friday, September 10, 2010 from 7 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the State Veterans' Home campus, 287 West Street, in Rocky Hill. Registration to receive services at Stand Down closes at 1:00 pm.

### **3. What type of assistance and services are available at STAND DOWN?**

Medical screenings and services; dental exams and services; legal assistance and court proceedings for misdemeanors; housing referrals; assistance with Federal VA benefits and disability claims; job counseling and training information; social security and social service benefits; financial assistance and debt counseling; higher education programs and services; mental/behavioral health counseling; motor vehicle information; free haircuts; and comfort kits. Lunch is provided.

### **4. What are some of the participating agencies and organizations?**

Connecticut Departments of Banking, Labor, Higher Education, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Motor Vehicles, Public Health, Social Services, Transportation, the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund, Office of the Chief Public Defender, and the Judicial Branch. Participating Federal agencies include the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Social Security Administration. Other contributing organizations include the CT Coalition to End Homelessness, Yale School of Nursing, Connecticut Lions Clubs, American Legion, VFW, Disabled American Veterans, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

### **5. Who is eligible to receive assistance at STAND DOWN?**

Needy and struggling veterans living in Connecticut who have an honorable discharge from service in the U.S. Armed Forces are eligible to attend. Unfortunately, Stand Down cannot serve family members.

TEL: (860) 616-3603 FAX: (860) 616-3532  
[www.ct.gov/ctva](http://www.ct.gov/ctva)

**6. Do I have to pre-register to attend STAND DOWN?**

Pre-registration is NOT required but it IS strongly encouraged. Pre-registration will save you time upon arriving at STAND DOWN and can help staff verify your veteran status and match you up with available transportation. **Veterans may register by sending in the pre-registration form (fax: 860-616-3556) or by calling 860-616-3803.**

**7. Is there any cost to attend STAND DOWN?**

No, there is no cost to attend STAND DOWN. However, there may be a fee for some of the services available to veterans, such as renewing a driver's license. A free hot lunch meal will also be served to all attending veterans.

**8. Is there available transportation to STAND DOWN?**

Yes, free transportation will be available from designated locations in the state's major urban centers including Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Hartford, New Britain, New Haven, Meriden, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Stamford, Torrington, West Haven, and Waterbury. Most busses depart for Rocky Hill in the between 6 and 7 a.m. and will return you to the same location in the afternoon. If you need assistance or information about transportation, please pre-register with the CT Department of Veterans' Affairs. Veterans are also encouraged to contact their local social service directors, veterans' counselors and shelter managers about available transportation from their area.

**CHECK THE WEBSITE: [www.ct.gov/ctva](http://www.ct.gov/ctva) for Updated Bus Schedules**

**9. If I have my own vehicle, is there parking available?**

Yes, free parking is available for attending veterans – however, carpooling is strongly encouraged.

**10. Do I need to bring anything to participate in STAND DOWN?**

Attending veterans are asked to bring any available forms of identification and a copy of your DD214 (Certificate of Discharge from Active Duty), if you have it available. Bring legal papers if you are participating in any judicial proceedings. There is absolutely no alcohol, drugs or weapons, including pocket knives/switchblades, allowed on the grounds of the State Veterans Home.

**11. How can I pre-register or get more information about STAND DOWN 2009?**

To register or obtain more information, **call 860-616-3803.**

Also, additional information is posted at on the internet at [www.ct.gov/ctva](http://www.ct.gov/ctva).



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## **STAND DOWN 2010** **TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District**

Bristol		
7:00 AM	City Hall	111 North Main Street
East Hartford		
7:15 AM	East Hartford Community Center	385 Main Street – Rear Lot
7:30 AM	Friendship Center at St. John's Episcopal Church	12 Rector Street (corner of Main St. & Burnside Ave.
Hartford		
6:30 AM	Stewart B. McKinney Shelter	34 Huyshope Avenue
6:45 AM	Open Hearth Mission	437 Sheldon Street
7:00 AM	St. Elizabeth House (South Green)	118 Main Street
Manchester		
6:30 AM	Samaritan Shelter	466 Main Street
Newington		
7:00 AM	VA CT Medical Center South side Bus/shuttle stop location	555 Willard Avenue

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District**

Danielson		
6:30 AM	Access Emergency Center/ ACAP Shelter	51 Reynolds Street
6:45 AM	Brooklyn Halfway House	76 Hartford Road
New London		
6:30 AM	Covenant Shelter	42 Jay Street
Norwich		
7:10 AM	The Buckingham House	307 Main Street
Willimantic		
6:30 AM	VFW Building – Post 1724	1415 West Main Street

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District**

Derby		
7:00 AM	Derby Railroad Station	Main Street

New Haven	6:30 AM	New Haven Green	Corner Temple/Chapel St.
Middletown	7:00 AM	Town Hall	245 DeKoven Drive
Milford	6:30 AM	Parson's Government Complex	Daniel Wasson Field
Naugatuck	7:15 AM	VFW	239 Rubber Avenue
Wallingford	7:00 AM	Wallingford Town Hall	45 South Main Street
West Haven	7:00 AM & 8:00 AM	VA CT Medical Center Building 2 Main Entrance	950 Campbell Avenue

#### **4th Congressional District**

Bridgeport	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	City Health Department	752 East Main Street
Norwalk	6:30 AM	Norwalk Emergency Shelter	4 Merritt Street
Stamford	6:15 AM	Columbus Park	Corner West Main Street & Washington Boulevard
Westport	6:45 AM	Gillespie Center	45 Jesup Road

#### **5th Congressional District**

Danbury	7:00 AM	City of Danbury - Dept of Veterans Affairs	198 Main Street
Meriden	7:30 AM	Shelter Now	43 St. Casimir Drive
New Britain	6:45 AM & 7:15 AM	Jimmy's Smokeshop	64 West Main Street
Waterbury	6:30 AM & 7:30 AM	Vincent DePaul Society Shelter	114 Benedict Street
Torrington	6:30 AM	Fish Shelter	322 South Main Street

**Stand Down 2010 is Friday, September 10, 2010 from 7 am to 3 pm**



**Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs  
287 West Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067**



\*To access the available services please arrive by 1:00PM\*

**Veteran Registration Form**

<b>Last Name:</b>		<b>First Name:</b>		<b>MI:</b>		<b>Last 4 Digits of Social Security #</b>	
<b>Address:</b>			<b>City &amp; State:</b>			<b>Zip Code:</b>	
<b>Telephone #:</b>			<b>Email Address:</b>				
<b>Branch of Service:</b>			<b>Dates of Service:</b>				

In order to help us better plan for Stand Down this year, could you please answer the following questions:

Are you enrolled in VA Healthcare?	Yes	No
Do you need a ride to Stand Down?	Yes	No
Do you utilize a wheelchair?	Yes	No
Do you utilize a motorized scooter to get around?	Yes	No

**A number of Federal, State, Local and Private Agencies and Veteran organizations will be available to assist you with the following: (Please circle the services you need)**

Basic Needs (food, shelter, clothing)	Housing	Child Support
Legal Help	Debt Adjustment	DMV Help
Medical (dental & eye care)	Employment	Public Assistance
Mental Health Treatment	Federal VA Benefits	State VA Benefits
Education & Training	Recovery Support	Financial Counseling

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**For questions & information please call: 860-616-3802 or 860-616-3803**

**Mail Completed forms to: Maria Cheney, Benefits Coordinator  
Residential Services Department  
CT Department of Veterans' Affairs  
287 West Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067**

**Fax Completed forms to: 860-616-3556**

**Email completed forms to: rosemarie.giardina@po.state.ct.us**