

A newsletter about what's happening in your Town of Mansfield

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Look for these stories in this newsletter



Register to Vote on November 2 (See page 4)



Support the MLK39 Mural Effort (See page 9)



Celebrate Mansfield Festival October 2 (See page 3)



Upcoming Events (See page 18)

Come to the Festival October 2 and Help us Celebrate Mansfield!



Greetings Fellow Residents!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and is enjoying the onset of fall. I know most of us don't particularly like seeing the sun rising later and setting sooner each day, but, it's hard to deny the beauty and tranquility that comes with the change of colors in New England.

There is a lot going on in the Town of Mansfield, and we will do our best to highlight items of interest in this issue of the Town newsletter. Let's get after it!

Now that fall is officially here, we get to enjoy one of our community's favorite traditions—the Celebrate Mansfield Festival. Our entire family is looking forward to exploring the activities, performances, crafts and food offerings. I hope that everyone in our community will stop in to enjoy the festivities from 2:00 to 6:00 PM on Saturday, October 2, and then stay to enjoy the evening performance starting at 6:30 PM right here in Downtown Storrs.

Mansfield had the honor of hosting both Senator Chris Murphy and Congressman Joe Courtney for important stakeholder meetings this past month. Senator Murphy convened representatives from the State of Connecticut, the University of Connecticut, Windham Region Transit District (WRTD) and elected officials from throughout the region to discuss infrastructure and the ongoing transition to electric buses. With the Windham Region Transit District and UConn each receiving funding for three electric buses, and the State of Connecticut already being a leader in the manufacturing of lithium ion batteries, our region is positioned well to benefit from the state's long-term commitment to electrification of its public transportation and the expanded production and use of electric vehicles more broadly.

Congressman Courtney also brought encouraging news about federal funding for Mansfield's proposal to build a ten-foot wide multi-use trail along Storrs Road (Rte. 195) from the UConn campus to the intersection with Rte. 44. This project is of incredible importance to improve access and public safety. As you will read in this issue, this has been a priority for our community for some time.

The Congressman also offered his office's support for optimizing our community's investment of funds it is receiving via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These funds can be used for a wide range of eligible purposes, including recovering lost municipal revenue, broadband expansion and other infrastructure projects, financial support to social service organizations and local businesses, and many other worthwhile endeavors. I sincerely appreciate that we received nearly 400 responses to our resident survey in August offering input on how Mansfield might most advantageously invest our ARPA funding. Department Heads and I will be working diligently in the weeks ahead, with further community feedback welcomed, to present a well-thought-out series of final recommendations for the Town Council's consideration.

Although we must continue to take the COVID-19 pandemic very seriously and strive to continue increasing the percentage of our population that is fully vaccinated, I am encouraged that positivity rates in Mansfield have remained low and the number of cases in Tolland County as a whole have been plateauing or slowly declining. We sincerely hope that our community members will stay vigilant and be patient with maintaining precautions. The indoor mask mandate that the Town of Mansfield imposed in August is consistent with UConn's guidelines for

Please offer your **DESIGN INPUT**

For Mansfield's **MLK39 Mural, and**

DONATE

to help us meet the **\$7,500 match from Sustainable CT**

(Continued)



(Town Manager’s Message cont.)

students and staff on campus, and we believe that compliance with this mandate is helping to hold down infections here. If you have not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine, take advantage of the free walk-up clinic at the Celebrate Mansfield Festival this weekend, or come to the Eastern Highlands Health District offices at Town Hall Mondays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Thursdays 2:30 PM to 6:00 PM for free vaccines without an appointment.

With fall comes election season, and we remind you that November 2 is Election Day for many important public service positions within our government. If you are not able to vote in person on November 2, our Town Clerk’s office is eager to assist you in securing an Absentee Ballot. By investing time in local elections, you are exercising your right and using your voice.

We also hope to unveil later this fall Mansfield’s interpretation of the MLK39 mural. We received input from throughout the region about how we should represent the messages of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in our mural at the Mansfield Community Center. We are seeking donations to help us match the \$7,500 investment committed by Sustainable CT, and hope that individuals and businesses alike will support this public art installation. We also hope that folks will stop by to join in on the community paint day scheduled for Monday, October 11 at the Mansfield Public Library outdoors. This project, crossing across many departments, organizations and educational institutions, will deliver a message of equity, love and social justice for years to come.

I am also very enthused that in early October we are launching our inaugural class of the Mansfield Local Government Academy. The overarching goal of this 10-session program is to educate and familiarize citizens with all aspects of their Town government and ultimately promote citizen engagement in the same. Local government is by far the most accessible and transparent level of government, and this program embodies that spirit. We are starting this initiative with a robust group of residents who registered soon after the program was announced. If you are interested in adding your name to our wait list for the next academy next season, please email us at TownManager@mansfieldct.org.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Manager’s Office, 860-429-3336 or townmanager@mansfieldct.org, if you have constructive feedback on how the depth and breadth of information provided in the newsletter can be optimized to meet the needs of our residents.

Thank you for being a part of our community and please stay healthy and safe!

Very respectfully,

Ryan J. Aylesworth
Town Manager

Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is easy and straightforward. Simply:

- Go to this page on the town’s website:
<http://mansfieldct.gov/list.aspx>
- Enter your email address in the “Email Address” field
- Under the “Notify Me” section of the page check the box for “News & Press Releases”

Look for an automated email informing you that your email address has been added to the distribution list, then confirm your account. That’s it!

WALKTOBER 2021

**WITH MANSFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION
REGISTER AT MANSFIELDCC.COM**

[Go to www.thelastgreenvalley.org](http://www.thelastgreenvalley.org) for a complete walk schedule

Merrow Meadow Family Scavenger Hunt
Sat. 10/2, 10 am (Activity # 211003-A) FREE

Moss Sanctuary Native Plant Walk
Sat., 10/9, 5 pm (Activity # 211004-A) FREE

Guided Hike at Simpson-Wood Preserve
Sun., 10/17, 1:30 pm (Activity # 211005-A) FREE

Between a Rock and a Marshy Place (*Sawmill Brook Preserve*)
Sun., 10/24, 1 pm (Activity # 211006-A) FREE







Let's Celebrate Mansfield—October 2 in Downtown Storrs



The Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites everyone to gather at 2:00 PM on Betsy Paterson Square on Saturday, October 2 as we kick off our 18th Annual [Celebrate Mansfield Festival](#) with an Opening Ceremony featuring Mayor Toni Moran, Poet Denise Abercrombie, and the E. O. Smith High School Drumline! Following the ceremony, we invite you to explore over 50 booths hosted by Mansfield businesses and community groups featuring fun [activities](#) for all ages. Don't miss our new "[Kids' Zone](#)" on Wilbur Cross Way, with child-friendly activities and entertainment including a performance by the Kidsville Kuckoo Revue (2:30 PM) and Pete Haddad's Hubba Bubba Magic Show(4-6:00 PM).

Another new feature this year will be a [juried craft show](#) on Dog Lane. Artisans and crafters will have their hand-made and locally sourced items on display and available for purchase from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. There will be live [entertainment](#) on Betsy Paterson Square all afternoon, including "Drumming About You," an interactive drumming hoot for all ages with Bob Bloom (2:15 PM); the *Beetles, Bittersweet, and Butterflies Species Change Pageant* with the Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry and Joshua's Trust (3:00 PM); and performances by Zikina, an Afro-Jazz/Funk ensemble (3:30 PM); singer-songwriter Nanette Adesso (4:30 PM); and The Professors of Sweet, Sweet, Music, a local band with a pop and folk-infused rock sound (5:00 PM). At 6:00 PM, we encourage everyone to grab some [dinner](#) at one of our Festival food booths or our great Downtown Storrs restaurants and head to Betsy Paterson Square for a closing concert by the one-and-only [Funky Dawgz Brass Band](#) at 6:30 PM!

This free event is open to everyone and made possible by the generous support of the Partnership's sponsors, including our Platinum Sponsors Barnes & Noble UConn, Gulemo Printers Inc., The Oaks on the Square, and Wilcox & Reynolds. For more information, please visit [downtownstorrsfestival.org](#).



HOW TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT



REQUEST YOUR BALLOT

Submit your application to the Town Clerk. Applications are available by request or online at www.MansfieldCT.gov/TownClerk

↓

GET YOUR BALLOT

Absentee ballots become available on October 1, 2021.

GET YOUR BALLOT IN PERSON

October 1, 2021- November 1, 2021 during Town Hall hours (excluding State holidays) at the Town Clerk's Office. Bring your completed application.

GET YOUR BALLOT BY MAIL

Absentee ballots for applications received before October 1, 2021 will be mailed on October 1, 2021. Absentee ballots for applications received on or after October 1, 2021 will be mailed within 24 hours after the application is received.

VOTE

Carefully follow the directions provided with your ballot.

RETURN YOUR BALLOT VIA OFFICIAL DROP BOX

Located to the right of the Town Hall door closest to the offices of the Tax Collector and Town Clerk, RT 275 side of the building.

RETURN YOUR BALLOT VIA MAIL

Ballots MUST be received by 8 pm on November 2nd to be counted. Please allow ample time for mailing.

Municipal Elections Coming November 2. Are you Registered to Vote?



Mansfield will hold a municipal election on November 2, 2021. Voters will elect candidates for the following offices or commissions: Town Council, Planning and Zoning, Mansfield Board of Education, Region 19 Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate. These are all volunteer, unpaid positions, with the exception of Board of Assessment Appeals which is paid a small stipend.

The Registrars of Voters have been busy canvassing our lists of Active Voters to determine if people who haven't voted in four years or registered voters who are UConn graduates may still be residing here in Mansfield. By doing this, our Active lists are as up to date as possible.

All registered voters are eligible to vote in person or by absentee ballot, if applicable. Absentee ballots are available through the Town Clerk's office beginning on October 1. Residents can check if they are registered in Mansfield and where they will vote by going to myvote.ct.gov or by calling the Registrars of Voters.

Where do I Vote? Voting will take place at all four regular polling places determined by home address: Mansfield Community Center (District 1), Eagleville Fire House (District 2), Mansfield Public Library (District 3) and Vinton School (District 4). You can find your polling place, based on your address, on the Registrars' [website](#). In addition, Election Day Registration will be available at the Town Hall for those who were unable to register in advance. The polling places will be following Connecticut's Safe Polls protocols, including requiring face masks.

Who is eligible to Register? Residents who are at least 18 years old, are American citizens, and are residents of Mansfield can register to vote in one of the following ways: 1) online using a CT driver's license at voterregistration.ct.gov; 2) in-person, with ID and proof of residency, at the Registrar of Voters' office in the Town Hall; 3) at the DMV when renewing a license; 4) by mail by printing and filling out the paper form available at myvote.ct.gov. **The deadline for registrations is October 26.** Mail-in registrations must be postmarked on or before October 26; online registrations must be completed by 11:59 pm; in-person registrations must be completed by 8pm. Residents who become eligible to vote by reason of age, citizenship, or residency after October 26 can register in person on November 1 from 9am-5pm in the Registrar of Voters' office.

What Do I Need to Bring on Voting Day? When they check in at the polling place, voters will be asked to present one of the following as ID: a pre-printed form of identification which shows (a) name and address or (b) name and signature or (c) name and photograph. If a new voter has a notation as to incomplete registration, that voter must also present proof of residency with either a current and valid photo identification that shows the voter's name and address or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check paycheck or other government document that shows the name and address of the elector.

Become a Poll Worker! It is also time to begin the process of establishing the staffing needs for each Polling District, EDR (Election Day Registration) and Central Absentee Ballot counting. We are always looking for people to work at the polls. There are various paid positions available. No experience is required and the Registrars are happy to provide you with the training you need.

Residents can call the Registrars of Voters with questions at 860-429-3368 and 860-429-3369. Office hours vary week to week, but we are always in the office on Tuesdays 10-12 and Thursdays 4:30-6:30.



Mansfield Housing Rehabilitation Program

Funding provided through a Small Cities Grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Housing as part of the HUD Community Development Block Grant.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME
Effective June 1, 2021

Household Size	Maximum Income
1 Person	\$55,950
2 People	\$63,950
3 People	\$71,950
4 People	\$79,900
5 People	\$86,300
6 People	\$92,700
7 People	\$99,100
8 People	\$105,600

Assistance is available to Mansfield homeowners and provides 0% interest loans to income-eligible homeowners to finance home repairs. Call us to discuss your eligibility questions.

APPLY TODAY
Additional program information and an on-line application form are available at <http://new.mansfieldct.gov/2035/Housing-Rehabilitation>

Questions?
planzonedept@MansfieldCT.org
860.429.3330

Eligible Improvements include (but are not limited to):
Roof repair/replacement
Windows and Doors
Heating plumbing and electrical upgrades
Private well/septic repair/replacement
Accessibility for individuals with disabilities

Congressman Visits to Discuss Storrs Road Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project between Four Corners and UConn Campus



Congressman Joe Courtney visited Mansfield Town officials in September to discuss a proposal that is advancing for federal funding. In April 2021, Congressman Courtney asked communities to submit proposals for community infrastructure projects for future funding consideration. One of the two projects submitted by Mansfield has advanced through the committee vetting process and is on the final list of community projects. While there is no guarantee that Congress will approve funding for this project, the Congressman expressed cautious optimism that it will be included in an upcoming funding bill.

If funding is approved, Mansfield's plan is to design and construct a 10-foot multi-use trail along Storrs Road (Rte. 195) between Tower Loop Road and Middle Turnpike (Rte. 44), providing safe pedestrian and bicycle access between the growing Four Corners area and UConn's main campus. Pedestrian improvements to this section of road have been identified as a priority in both local and regional plans for many years. It is fortunate that there has not been a catastrophic pedestrian/vehicle accident along this section of roadway.

In addition to safety benefits, the new multi-use trail would fill a gap in our existing pedestrian network with a connection to the existing multi-use trail on Middle Turnpike that runs between Birch Road and Storrs Road. This project would also complete the missing link between Four Corners to Downtown Storrs, providing safe bicycle and pedestrian access between two major centers of commercial and residential growth.

This project received support from the Capitol Region Council of Governments and most recently, Interim President Agwunobi of the University of Connecticut. Total project cost is estimated at \$2.8 million, of which the Town would be required to provide a local match of \$560,000.

Mansfield Farms to Families Program Shares Farms' Fresh Bounty



The Mansfield Farms to Families Program is wrapping up its first year of providing farm-fresh, local foods to households through several distributions of food boxes for qualified residents. Fifty Mansfield households benefitted from these distributions. Mansfield Human Services is proud to partner with local farms in the area to source all the foods including Mountain Dairy, Hillandale Farms, Willow Valley Farm, Cobblestone Farm, Wright's Orchard, Cloverleigh Farm and The Farmer's Cow.

In the distribution this week, households of four people received a box that included one dozen eggs, two gallons of milk, two quarts of ice cream, two pounds each of tomatoes, daikon radishes, fresh peaches, apples, winter squash, plus a pound of honey, a gallon of apple cider and a pound of sweet peppers—all at no charge to the family. Recipe suggestions were also included.

Please spread the word that this program has the capacity to expand to additional households for its final distribution. The simple application can be found at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11515/MFFP-Food-App>.

Although it is winding down for this season, the program's fundraising efforts will work to sustain it in 2022. The Human Services Department is also seeking a 15 hours per week Program Coordinator to see the program through this grant year, and expand its reach next season.

Another opportunity of the Mansfield Farms to Families Program provides assistance to families purchasing a share of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). Approximately 15 families and individuals benefitted with weekly produce through a local farm's CSA.



More customers for local farm businesses. More fresh foods for local families. With Mansfield Farms to Families, the whole community benefits through local food!

For questions about the program, call the Human Services Department at 860-429-3315 and speak with Dorothy.

This project was funded in part by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture through the Community Investment Act.

Department of Public Works Deals with Unusually Stormy Summer



This summer has been an active one for the Department of Public Works. Between the typical maintenance of athletic fields and parks, maintenance of 110 miles of roadway, and removing the dead and diseased trees on Town property, department crews have also been responding to a very active weather pattern.

During an average summer, Mansfield experiences approximately 11.8 inches of rain during the months of July through September. Just two storms (July 9th and September 2nd) yielded 9.5 inches of rain, or almost an entire summer’s worth of precipitation! The total rainfall this year for this period is 24.3 inches.

The September storm was 6 inches of rain in less than 24 hours. This is termed a 25-year storm, meaning there is a 1 in 25 or 4% chance in any year that 6 inches of rain could occur in 24 hours. Older engineering references would classify this storm above the 50-year storm, which has a 1 in 50 or 2% of occurring in a given year.

Compounding our challenges, the Town is experiencing the effects of the dead and diseased trees which are not only along the Town’s roadway, but also close to streams and rivers. When the larger storms cause these streams to rise those dead trees and branches are floated and flow with the stream to roadway crossings causing blockages which then causes the streams to overtop the roadways as it did on Stearns Road, for example (see photo above). This year the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed flood control operations at the Mansfield Hollow Reservoir closing Bassetts Bridge Road three times, the most in any one year in recent history.

These rain events create increases in citizen requests and concerns to address drainage in their neighborhoods—more requests than the Department can immediately and adequately address while still completing our other essential tasks. If you have contacted us, please be patient. All residents’ requests are in our work order system and we will attend to them.

Trash Service Fees to Increase for the 64-, 96- and 160-Gallon Service

In order to incentivize waste reduction, Mansfield offers unit-based pricing for trash service (rather than incorporating in taxes). By composting and recycling, residents have the power to keep their costs down.

With the rising cost of waste incineration and recycling, the current single-family fees were evaluated by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and increases for the larger service sizes were approved by Town Council.

Increases will go into effect beginning January 1, 2022. The 20-gallon and 35-gallon trash service prices will remain the same.

Service Size	Current Rate Per Quarter	New Quarterly Rate as of Jan. 1, 2022
20 Gallon	\$48.00	No Change
35 Gallon	\$68.25	No Change
64 Gallon	\$87.00	\$96.00
96 Gallon	\$107.25	\$129.00
160 Gallon	\$125.25	\$168.00

Mansfield Explorer Post Invites Youth Who Wish to Learn and Serve



The Mansfield Explorer Post is eager to expand its outreach to youth who are interested in gaining experience and information about firefighting and emergency services.

For youth starting in grade 6 through their teens, the Explorers program provides real experiences to offer them a feel for whether a career in firefighting or emergency services might be for them. Activities help young people develop their special interests, and grow and develop as leaders.

“The Mansfield Explorer Post offers a taste of what it is like to be a Firefighter/ EMT,” says Mitch Vildavs, a graduate of the Explorer Post 450 program. “Mansfield Explorers are given instruction and opportunity to become hands-on with Firefighting equipment including deployment of hose lines, hydraulic extrication equipment (Jaws of Life), hand tools, communication and mechanical skills associated with the fire service. I would recommend this program for any kids in the age range of 14-18 if they are interested in learning about becoming a Firefighter or EMT.”

Exploring leaders volunteer their time to provide real-world career experiences for young adults. Exploring is not about lectures and slide shows — it’s about gaining practical experience in a career field working with emergency services professionals.

[Visit the website](#) on the Fire Department’s site for more information and an application today.



Do you need a helping hand with food or childcare?



CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

- Up to \$9,000 of assistance with childcare costs over a six month period per family
- Summer camps licensed by the State as childcare providers may be eligible as summer childcare
- Care4Kids families are eligible for assistance
- Family responsible for childcare costs equivalent to 7% of gross income



FOOD ASSISTANCE

- All household types are eligible, including families, seniors and adults without children
- Grocery staples-perishable and non-perishable
- Prepared meals and meal kits
- Weekly contact-less pickup
- Delivery may be available for homebound residents

COVID-19 Assistance Available

食物与儿童保育援助
المساعدة في الغذاء ورعاية الأطفال
식품 및 보육 지원

Asistencia con alimentos y cuidado de niños

SCAN ME



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Mansfield Can Offer Assistance to Residents Impacted by COVID-19

The Town of Mansfield is still continuing to accept applications for assistance with paying childcare expenses. With the ever-increasing price of food, utilities and other household supplies due to the pandemic, we know many families are struggling to keep up with expenses. Residents impacted by the pandemic may be eligible for assistance with food and childcare. Families seeking assistance with childcare costs are responsible for contributing 7% of their income toward the childcare costs, and the maximum amount that may be awarded for assistance is \$9,000 over six months. We can also assist families receiving Care 4 Kids and other tuition assistance/scholarships by covering past due balances as well as the gap between the amount of assistance they provide and 7% of the household's income.

Visit <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/2089/COVID-Assistance> for more information and income eligibility requirements.

Please pass the word about these generous programs so our residents who can use a helping hand can receive it.

Please Leash Your Dog When Enjoying Mansfield's Parks and Trails



The Town of Mansfield welcomes dogs in our parks but they must be on a leash. Keeping your dog on a leash not only protects your dog but also the plant and animal communities within the parks.

Leashed dogs are a matter of respect and courtesy for other park users. When your dog is off-leash, you risk...

- Exposing your dog to injury from other dogs or wildlife
- Injuring, scaring, or just being a nuisance to other people
- Causing or contributing to accidents
- Chasing, harming, disrupting or even killing wildlife
- Exposing your dog to disease and infections caused by ticks, insects, water-borne infections, and wildlife (*i.e.* rabies)
- Exposing your dog to be sickened by chemicals (*i.e.* antifreeze on a parking lot), insect stings or plant poisons.



Thank you for helping us make our parks, preserves and natural areas safe and enjoyable for all.

Composting at Mansfield Schools Resumes with 400+ Pounds Weekly

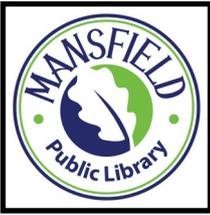


School composting has returned in full at Mansfield Middle School, Southeast and Goodwin Schools and partially at Vinton School. Composting had been paused because of the pandemic, but the school community is eager to resume this sustainability practice.

This school year brings a change in the composting process. Instead of food scraps being composted on-site at each school, scraps are collected and delivered to the Transfer Station, where the food waste is composted with leaves collected from residences.

With an abundance of browns (leaves) and the equipment to thoroughly mix food with leaves, the composting process should turn scraps to soil more quickly. The Town received permission from CT DEEP last year to add food to the leaf pile as a demonstration project. Based on data collected so far, the schools are composting more than 400 pounds of food waste per week, which translates into greenhouse gas emissions reductions and energy savings.

Library Offering New Online Service for Mansfield Residents: Introducing hoopla - books, movies, tv, and more. Anytime. Anywhere.



The Mansfield Public Library is now offering hoopla, a groundbreaking digital media service that allows you to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV! Titles can be streamed immediately, or downloaded to phones or tablets for offline enjoyment later. There are hundreds of thousands of titles to choose from, with more being added daily.

hoopla is like having a vast public library at your fingertips. Anytime. Anywhere. This unique service allows Mansfield residents to borrow content immediately, maximizing the power of digital content and Internet distribution. Every patron can borrow up to 10 items each month, and you never have to wait.

Register for a hoopla account by visiting hoopladigital.com or by downloading the mobile app on your iOS or Android device. You will need to provide an email address, create a password, and have your library bar code handy (it's on the back of your card). Having trouble? Try hoopla's help section or call us at the library, 860-423-2501, or stop in with your device. We are happy to help.

Youth Services Eager to Connect with Students in the New School Year



Youth Services is excited to be bringing back so many programs for the new school year.

Cope Mentoring Program. We welcome back our UConn student community who are eager to volunteer their time in our in-school mentoring programs after a year's hiatus. Cope is a mentoring program that's open to Mansfield elementary school students who would enjoy having a mentor to add to their list of

supportive adults. This year we've made some adjustments to increase social distancing which means that Cope will be split by grades at the halfway point of the year (but as a bonus, now our mentors and mentees get twice as much time together each week to have lunch AND recess together). To see which grades are happening when, and keep an eye on when our second half of the year starts up, follow us on Facebook and check out our school-year programs on the Youth Services website.

Our Big Friends mentoring program for middle school students also returns this year during after school club time at MMS, and late bus transportation is available

Mansfield Youth Pride. Our in-person groups are making a comeback as well! Mansfield Youth Pride (MY Pride) and Mansfield Youth Voice (MY Voice) are both getting started for the year at MMS during the after school club period.

MY Pride is a celebration group for LGBTQIA2S+ youth (and allies too) to build community and share their pride in their identities.



MY Voice participants learn skills to write, storyboard, act, film, and edit a public service announcement and create additional publicity campaign materials to help promote healthy decision making to their peers. This year's project will focus on youth vaping and youth cannabis use prevention.



Mother-Daughter Circle. Coming in November is a program that is new this year: Mother-Daughter Circle! Mothers and women caregivers are invited to join their daughters in a group to bring them together to strengthen bonds, increase communication, and share creative expression opportunities. Email Kelly McKenney for more information McKenneyKL@mansfieldct.org.

Information on all of Youth Services' school-year programs can be found here: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/2226/Youth-Services-School-Year-Programs>.

Book Buddies. Book Buddies will stay in its virtual read-and-make-at-home-but-still-together format and will make its Fall debut on Thursday October 21 @ 5:30pm featuring *Days with Frog and Toad* by Arnold Lobel and a DIY kite-making activity (recommended for children ages 3-8). Check out <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/2115/Book-Buddies> for the latest Book Buddies happenings and contact Sarah Dufresne to RSVP DufresneS@mansfieldct.gov!

And last but certainly not least, we're excited to welcome our two new interns for the year: Ellie Champlin, a Masters of Social Work intern from the UConn School of Social Work, and McKenzie Gauthier, Bachelors of Social Work intern from Eastern Connecticut State University.

Mansfield Seeks Donations and Design Input for Martin Luther King, Jr. Mural Project: MLK39



The Town of Mansfield and the Human Rights Commission, along with other community partners, are moving forward with CT Murals and Connecticut-based artist, Emida Roller, to install a large-scale mural symbolizing the messages of Martin Luther King, Jr. This mural is part of CT Murals' statewide campaign to bring the message of justice, equity and love through the symbolism of MLK, to 39 communities in our state, representing 39 years of Dr. King's life.

At this phase of the project, the organizers invite the community to provide input to the design of the mural through an [online survey](#). Artist Emida Roller has been selected by the organizing committee to design and paint the mural in collaboration with the community. Volunteers interested in painting may [contact the Town Manager's office](#), sign up at the Celebrate Mansfield Festival on October 2, [or sign up online](#).

Fundraising is also underway to finance the project. The partners have a goal to raise \$7500 which will be matched, dollar for dollar, by Sustainable CT. Donors can submit their [donations online](#), or mail a check, noted for the Mansfield mural, to The RiseUP Group, Inc., 942 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103

"We are excited to see this mural project progressing with so many community partners behind it, and with such an inspired artist at the helm," says Glenn Mitoma, Chair of the Mansfield Human Rights Commission which is leading the coordination of the project. "Now we want to see what our community envisions for this important piece of public art. It should reflect our community's commitment to human rights and the legacy of Dr. King. We hope people of all ages and backgrounds will provide their input to the survey," he says. "We also need the community to help fund this project, and hope that folks will donate what they can to make this possible. Sustainable CT's matching funds offer is very generous, and I hope this funding can come together quickly."

Mansfield's mural will be painted on panels mounted along the front of the Mansfield Community Center and will be unveiled this fall. The panels will allow for the mural to be moved around the town for years to come. Artist Emida Roller will guide volunteers at two community paint days on October 11 at the Mansfield Public Library or October 13 at UConn's Student Union 304B.

For six years, Emida was one of the lead artists at Dane Arts Mural Arts (DAMA) in Madison, Wisconsin where she also served as the Executive Director before moving to Eastern Connecticut. She has extensive experience in community mural production, and operates her company Wall Designs by Emida, LLC. A native of Nigeria, Ms Roller holds degrees in Master of Arts and a Master of Fine Art from the University of Illinois.

Other participating organizations supporting this mural effort in Mansfield include Windham/Willimantic Chapter of the NAACP, Mansfield Public Schools, Region 19/ Edwin O. Smith High School, Mansfield Community Center, Mansfield Arts Advisory Committee, Mansfield Public Library, Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the University of Connecticut, and Conversations on Racism Mansfield (COR Mansfield).

"It is a tremendous opportunity for our community to be one of the 39 mural sites associated with CT Murals and this project to honor Dr. King's messages and legacy," says Mansfield Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth. "This collaboration among so many organizations in our community which value human rights will lead us to explore other potential initiatives. We are eager to see this mural project move forward," he adds.

Have Fun and Be Safe This Halloween.



The Mansfield Fire Department wants all of our young goblins and pirates to remain safe this Halloween season. Please:

- Use a battery-operated candle or glow stick in jack-o-lanterns.
- When choosing costumes, stay away from long trailing fabric.

—Teach children to stay away from open flames, including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.

—Dried flowers, cornstalks, and crepe paper catch fire easily. Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters

—Remember to keep exits clear of decorations so nothing blocks escape routes. Make sure all smoke alarms are working.

Fun, Whether Outdoors or Inside, is in Fall Swing with Parks & Rec



New England is known for its autumn beauty, and Mansfield is no exception! As the cool weather approaches, Parks and Recreation is here for you whether you prefer to spend time inside or out. October is especially filled with some of the year’s favorite events and activities and best of all, many of them are free!

New this year is the **Art of Flowers** event scheduled for October 2 and 3. This is a unique opportunity for art and flower enthusiasts. You’re invited to Stix and Stones on Rte. 195 for a floral arranging demonstration, followed by still-life art sessions of the arrangement at the Mansfield Community Center. The event is free, but registration is required and capacities apply.

October 2nd also kicks off a season favorite; the **Walktober** trail walk series! This year Mansfield is offering a guided walk every weekend in October at various town parks and trails. [Check out this link](#) for the details, mark your calendar, and get your name on the list. If these walks don’t whet your appetite for fresh fall views, we of course can recommend a few additional spots once the leaves peak! [Check out the trail-finder](#) for maps of Coney Rock, Wolf Rock at Sawmill Brook Preserve, and Fifty Foot Cliff for the best vista-view opportunities this season. In addition, until it gets too cool, kayaks are still available for rent at the Community Center, so you can venture for a view from the water (try launching from River Park)!

Speaking of water, did you hear? The WiBit has officially returned to **Family Fun Events** at the Community Center! What’s a WiBit, you ask? Why, it’s a floating obstacle, complete with water slide! Stop by Family Fun for the full experience. If your littles are too tiny for the big pool, don’t fret! The TOT toys, tumbling mats, and Giant Gym Slide are also back this season.



If that is not enough “Family Fun”, make sure **Outdoor Family Yoga** (just added for October 10) and **Trick-a-Trunk** are on the calendar! Trick-a-Trunk is without question the height of fall-season activities, and is free to attend on October 30th. If you love Halloween as much as we do, contact Alex Shoudy (shoudya@mansfieldct.org or 860-429-3015 ext. 6107) to host a trunk or be an event sponsor! Individuals, families, and businesses are all welcome.

And finally, as the weather cools, we again adjust to more indoor and virtual activities. Stop by the Mansfield Community Center for Free Mansfield Days on Friday, October 22nd, from 5:30pm to 8:30pm (just in time for the start of the second session of fall fitness classes) and Saturday, November 20th from 12pm to 3pm (Black Friday’s just around the corner), to try the Center out for free. If you are anxious to get going a little sooner, we welcome you by for a tour anytime. If you are still feeling shy about coming inside, stay tuned to www.mansfieldcc.com for virtual program opportunities, or get going now by [subscribing to Mossa On-Demand](#) through our new affiliate link, and start streaming fitness programs right away.

As always, we thank you for joining us for adventures in *Family, Fitness, and Fun!*

CALLING ALL CARS!



Vehicle owners are welcome to register their car as a participating trunk for our Halloween Party on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 5:00 PM-6:30 PM. Decorate the inside of your trunk/truck bed to celebrate Halloween Trick-A-Trunk. All cars, trucks, vans & SUV’s welcome! Trunk set up time will begin at 4:30 PM with “trick-a-trunking” starting promptly at 5:00 PM

Contact Alex Shoudy at shoudya@mansfieldct.org or 860-429-3015 ext. 6107 for more details.



Mansfield Parks and Recreation
10 South Eagleville Rd Mansfield CT 06268
www.mansfieldcc.com

Sunday, October 3, 2021

An Interfaith Service

Of Remembrance and Gratitude

As our COVID journey continues, the community is invited to gather for a time of reflection, healing and support. All are welcome.



When: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 3
Where: Jillson Square, 533 Main St. Willimantic, CT
Words: of inspiration from clergy and community
Music: by Willimantic's own Bruce John

Sponsored by:

- The Windham Region Interfaith Working Group
- The Windham Area Interfaith Ministry (WAIM)
- The towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield and Windham



Covid protocols will be observed; masks are required

Family Fun Events
Fall 2021!



MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
Family, Fitness & Fun!

The WIBIT is Back!

mark your calendar!



Upcoming Dates

- Fri, Sept. 24, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- Sat, Oct. 2, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
- Sat, Nov. 6, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
- Fri, Nov. 19, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

What do we have at Family Fun*?

- Wibit in the main pool!
- Giant Inflatable Slide and TOT toys in the gym
- Community Room Themed Activities
- Family Use Hours in Therapy Pool
- Teen Center Access for Families
- Family Track Time
- *schedule of events varies

Everyone is Welcome!

Members: Just swipe your membership card- It's one more benefit of being a full use member!
Guests: The regular daily fee includes all Family Fun Activities!



10 South Eagleville Road, Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268
860 429 3015 ext. 0 www.mansfieldccc.com

Choose Carefully and Do Your Homework When Hiring a Contractor



The Town’s Building & Housing Department often receives calls regarding recommending contractors for various building projects. Unfortunately, we cannot ethically suggest a contractor and then be responsible to inspect their work. We strongly recommend that people interview and get prices from a minimum of three contractors. Do not always go by cost alone, many times the low bidder is missing something or plans to use change orders to make up the difference.

However, we always suggest three steps property owners should take when they ask us that question.

First, be sure to get and check references. Contact a minimum of three individuals who have had similar projects done in our area. If possible, visit the property where the work was conducted. Be sure to ask about, schedules being maintained, cost, quality of workmanship, cleanliness of the jobsite while under construction etc.

Next, be sure you see a copy of the contractor’s license or registration with the State of Connecticut as required for the various construction disciplines through the Department of Consumer Protection.

Lastly, make sure you verify the contractor has all proper insurance required for both liability and workers’ compensation.

Remember to always do your homework, get a written contract, verify that all required permits have been obtained and be sure you agree with the payment schedule. Never make final payment until the Building Department has done a final inspection and given written approval.

Happy Building!

Watch Our School Grow! Check in on the Progress from Anywhere.



A live-action camera mounted on the roof of Southeast School lets the community follow the progress on the new school as it takes place.

Families and the community are encouraged to follow progress on the construction anytime through a live camera at the site at: <https://mansfieldct.gov/2178/Watch-our-School-Grow>

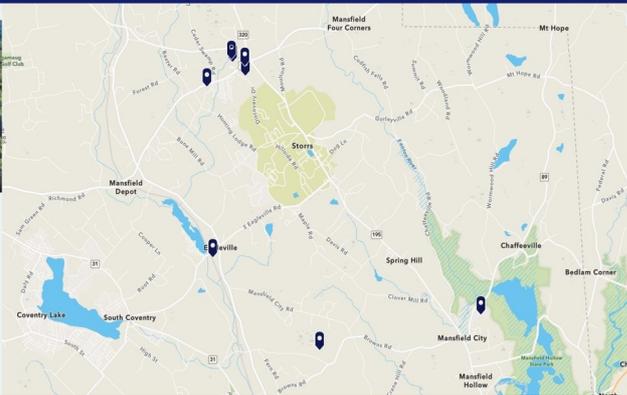
Planning Department Launches Story Map to Share Information on Development Activity

If you’ve ever wondered how you can learn more about businesses and development projects coming to Mansfield, the new Development Activity Story Map is for you. The Story Map highlights development and business activity in Mansfield, providing information on upcoming public hearings, concept plans for new developments, recently approved projects and new businesses. It is an ever-evolving work in progress, but you can check out the current version at MansfieldCT.gov/DevelopmentActivity.



Overview

As our residents know, Mansfield is one of the gems of Eastern Connecticut. Blue Ribbon and Best in Class schools, scenic roads and historic villages, world-class art and athletics, and 22,000 acres of open space and 70 miles of trails all combine to create a unique intersection between country living and city amenities that continues to attract new businesses and development. This story map highlights development and business activity in Mansfield, providing readers with information on upcoming public



Compost Bin Kits Still Available—Compost all Winter for Spring



Get a free chicken wire compost bin kit while supplies last. It’s easy to set up, and the benefits of converting unwanted food scraps into a great soil enhancement by spring are great!

Contact the Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-3333 or waltonvd@mansfieldct.org for more information.

Mansfield Benefits from a Committed Staff



The Human Resources Department would like to take the time to recognize those employees who in 2021 have reached milestone years of service with the Town of Mansfield.

In an employment environment where working for an employer for more than a few years is unusual, the employees listed below have provided service to Town of Mansfield residents for more than 10 years.

Congratulations and a huge THANK YOU for to these staff members for their continued dedication, hard work and service.

30 – 40 Years

- Katelyn Crowther Finance
- Andrew W. Franklin Fire
- Theodore L. Morrissette Fire
- Linda Patenaude Public Works
- Virginia Walton Public Works

20 – 29 Years

- Willard Cornell Fire
- Charles DeBoer Public Works
- Cheryl Dekker Finance
- Patricia Ferguson Human Services
- Walter G. Gailey Information Technology
- Ryan Hawthorne Fire
- Jennifer S. Kaufman Planning & Development
- Uri Lavitt Fire
- Theresa J. Leon-Guerrero Building & Housing
- Patricia McMullan Library
- James Meadows, Jr. Fire
- John Mohan Public Works
- Donald Neborsky Public Works
- Donna T. Neborsky Finance
- Noranne M. Nielsen Animal Control
- Michael E. Ninteau Building & Housing
- Jay O'Keefe Parks & Recreation

10 – 19 Years

- Christopher Beaulieu Fire
- Jeffrey Beausoleil Public Works
- Krista Bogue Information Technology
- Josiah W. Burnham Fire
- Michael P. Carifa Fire
- Sara-Ann Cecile Chaine Town Clerk
- Alicia Ducharme Finance
- Kathy Ann Easley Human Services
- Kaithlin Epling Library
- James Fournier Public Works
- Bradford Freeman Building & Housing
- James Galey Fire
- William Gresh Public Works
- Sean Kegler Library
- Glenn Krukoff, Jr. Public Works
- Timothy Kussow Fire
- Lynda M. Lambert Parks & Recreation
- Mary P. Landeck Town Clerk
- Rick W. Landry Fire
- Margaret McCarthy Library
- Linda M. Painter Planning & Development
- Lawrence K. Patterson Library
- Justin Risley Fire
- Richard Roberge Information Technology
- Torry Rocha Public Works
- William Rodman Public Works
- Juan A. Sanchez III Fire
- Scott Sheldon Public Works
- Margaret Stickles Human Services
- Judith Stoughton Library
- Bin Tang Finance
- Mary Terhune Finance
- Emily Tinnel Library
- Jessica Tracy Parks & Recreation
- Timothy J. Veillette Public Works
- Jillene B. Woodmansee Planning & Development

Mansfield Sets Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments



This past June, the General Assembly passed legislation legalizing the use of cannabis (marijuana) in Connecticut. In anticipation of this legislation, the Planning and Zoning Commission established a nine-month moratorium on cannabis establishments to allow time for both the Commission and Town Council to establish specific regulations related to both the sale and cultivation of cannabis in Mansfield.

The Commission’s Regulatory Review Committee has established a draft framework and approach and will be seeking input from the Agriculture Committee, Economic Development Commission, and Town/University Relations Committee in October.

The feedback provided by these committees and members of the public will be provided to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council at a special joint meeting in November. The purpose of this meeting is to finalize the framework and approach for regulating cannabis establishments. Once an approach is finalized, the Regulatory Review Committee will prepare changes to the Zoning Regulations. A public hearing on these changes is tentatively planned for February 2022.

Public engagement is an important part of this process, and residents are encouraged to provide input throughout this process by emailing comments to PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org. Additional information regarding the new Cannabis statutes and the Regulatory Review Committee’s draft framework and approach is available at <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/2238/Cannabis-Marijuana-Establishments>.

Volunteer Judy Prill Offers Expertise to Communications Efforts



Residents who wish to participate in town government usually serve on boards or committees, or run for office. Judy Prill sought another way.

Matching her expertise as a videographer with a need by the town, she recently produced two videos in collaboration with the Mansfield Recycling Coordinator: [What Happens to Your Recyclables](#) and [Take a Tour of the Transfer Station](#)

can be found on the Mansfield trash and recycling webpages.

“It is rewarding hearing from residents who said they learned a lot from watching the videos,” says Judy.

As an employee for 37 years at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Judy provided the public with information on a variety of environmental topics through newsletters, videos, webpages, and workshops. As a retiree, when she is not producing videos, she volunteers at the Repair Cafe, plays the bass guitar with the band Zoo Front, and explores Connecticut’s beautiful parks and forests. You can find more of Judy’s environmental videos at her [YouTube channel](#).

The Town of Mansfield is extremely grateful for her skilled work promoting a sustainable lifestyle to residents.

Follow our Town Activities on Social Media!



FACEBOOK:

- Town of Mansfield
- Mansfield Public Library
- Mansfield Senior Center
- Mansfield Youth Services
- Mansfield Fire Department
- Downtown Storrs
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership
- Mansfield Community Center
- Mansfield Public Schools
- Taste of Mansfield

TWITTER:

- Town of Mansfield
- Downtown Storrs
- Mansfield Public Library
- Eastern Highlands Health District

INSTAGRAM

- Mansfield Downtown Partnership
- Taste of Mansfield

Partnership to Host Virtual Presentation of Research Findings on Plan



The Mansfield Downtown Partnership has engaged the services of Streetsense to guide and execute a strategic planning process with our Board of Directors, community, and staff to produce a strategic plan for Downtown Storrs and for the Partnership. Once completed, the plan will guide the Partnership’s work in Downtown Storrs through 2025.

We invite you to attend a virtual presentation on Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 PM at which the Streetsense team will present the initial findings of their research phase of the strategic planning process.

There will be an opportunity to provide feedback following the presentation.

The presentation will be accessible via Zoom. Please reserve a virtual seat by emailing mdp@mansfieldct.org. Upon reserving your seat, we will provide you with the Zoom log-in information.

Please email the Partnership *no later* than Thursday, October 7 at 4:00 PM to ensure access to the presentation.

If you have questions about the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Downtown Storrs, or the strategic planning process, please contact the Partnership office at 860.429.2740 or mdp@mansfieldct.org.

Harvest Season is the Time to Appreciate Contributions of Our Farms



Fall is here in Mansfield and now is a good time to visit the Agriculture Committee’s [web page](#) to find out how you can support local farms, from giving a thumbs up to farm traffic to buying local.

Mansfield’s farms are a rich part of our history and key to creating a sustainable future. More than 75% of Mansfield is farm or forest. That means about 22,175 acres of our town is quietly—and often very scenically—busy growing food, lumber, firewood, sequestering carbon, employing people, and paying taxes.

Each of our farms has its own unique story, just as you and your family do. Our farms chose Mansfield as a place to grow their business and plant their roots. In turn, they strengthen our town by building community around their farms.

Benefits that farms provide can be hard to quantify. We call it the intangible benefits, and it may be what initially drew you to Mansfield. Our town has large swaths of farm and forestland that creates beautiful vistas in every corner. Farms support an abundant wildlife population, and farmers enhance our environment through stewardship of the land.

Growing agriculture has been a cornerstone of Mansfield since the town was founded. Part of growing agriculture is understanding the unique demands of the business. There are many ways that you can support local farms, including these adopted from the [AGvocate Program](#). We look forward to growing your family with our agricultural community. Our stories are intertwined as we work together to build community in Mansfield.

For a complete monthly listing of Senior Center services, dining opportunities, day trips and other social activities, check out the [Senior Sparks newsletter!](#)

SENIOR SPARKS
MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER NEWSLETTER
~OCTOBER 2021~

Mansfield Solid Waste Advisory Committee Seeks Members



The Town of Mansfield Solid Waste Advisory Committee has some vacancies and is looking for new members to join. The meetings are currently held the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 pm in the Mansfield Town Hall, 4 South Eagleville Road, Storrs.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee advises and makes recommendations to the Mansfield Town Council about policies and issues related to the residential refuse and recycling service, recycling, composting, waste prevention and reuse. Most recently, for example, the Committee was instrumental in the passage of the Town's ban on plastic retail bags.

If you, or someone you know, are Mansfield residents and would like to join a group of environmentally concerned individuals who work on solutions to reduce waste, please contact Ginny Walton, Mansfield Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-3333 or waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

As Fire Prevention Week™ approaches, the Mansfield Fire Department reminds residents to Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™



The Town The Mansfield Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®)—the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years—to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety."

This year's campaign, October 3-9, works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

"What do the sounds mean? Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family," says Lorraine Carli, vice-president of outreach and advocacy at NFPA.

The Mansfield Fire Department encourages all residents to embrace the 2021 Fire Prevention Week theme.

"It's important to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. When an alarm makes noise—a beeping sound or a chirping sound—you must take action!" says Mansfield Deputy Fire Marshal Andrew Franklin. "Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond. To learn the sounds of your specific smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, check the manufacturer's instructions that came in the box, or search the brand and model online."

The Mansfield Fire Department wants to share safety tips to help all residents "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety":

- A continuous set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

Make sure your smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in, please contact the Mansfield Fire Department at 860-429-3233. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit www.fpw.org.

Mansfield’s Swap Shop: Share Useful Treasures with Others



Tucked in the back corner of the Transfer Station recycle building is an area where you can shop for small household items for free. Donations from residents await a new life in the swap shop. You do not need to donate items to take items.

Dedicated volunteers pre-screen donations before setting them out for display and are marvels at keeping the swap shop organized. In the swap shop you will find a holiday table, athletic equipment, a craft corner, kitchen items, games and puzzles, books, stuffed animals, electronics and more.

There are some guidelines for donations. There is no charge for dropping off your first box (16” x 20” x 11”) of items that are in good condition, but subsequent donations are charged \$2.00 per box.

Items that are accepted at the swap shop include:

- Clean items needing no repair
- Small items (what one person can handle)
- Must be workable (no missing or damaged parts)
- Children’s clothing
- Electronics

Items that are not accepted at the swap shop include items needing parts such as a coffee maker without the pot or a puzzle missing pieces, dirty items (clean it and it becomes a welcome donation!), skis, ski boots, golf clubs, knives, record albums, hazardous chemicals or cleaning products and paint.

If you have furniture to pass on, please call Willimantic Area Interfaith Ministry at 456-7270. Adult clothing should be donated to Salvation Army or Bay State Textiles.

As always, hazardous chemicals such as adhesives or cleaners should be taken to the regional chemical waste drop-off facility. The Transfer Station attendant can provide you details about this. All paint should be placed in the recycling room.



“HOLIDAY WISHES” GIFT CARD DRIVE

Give the Gift of Choice and help empower your neighbors in Mansfield by donating a gift card for to the Mansfield "Holiday Wishes" gift-card drive for the 2021 Holiday Season!

The Town of Mansfield Human Services Department is hosting the "2021 Holiday Wishes" gift-card donation program for our local families in need. While we have collected physical gift items in prior years, gift card donations allow families to personally select specific items which would be best suited for their own family members.

Purchasing gift cards from area merchants is one great way to support local businesses, and many other gift cards can be conveniently purchased online. To allow enough time for shopping, please consider donating before 11/17/2021. Checks and cash are also appreciated.

Gift cards may be mailed to:

The Town of Mansfield Human Services Department
"Holiday Wishes" Program
303 Maple Road
Storrs-Mansfield, CT 06268

Thank you for helping Mansfield, CT residents have a warm and joyous holiday season!



What’s Happening in Town? Don’t miss these **EVENTS!**

Watch for more on the [Town of Mansfield website](#) . Watch for updates from the [Mansfield Senior Center](#) which hosts many online activities each month, as well as the [Mansfield Public Library](#) and [Mansfield Community Center](#).

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
October 2	18th Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival 2:00-8:00PM at Betsy Paterson Square	Downtown Storrs
October 2	Family Fun Day 9:00AM-2:00PM	Mansfield Community Center
October 2	Friends of the Mansfield Library Book Donation Day 9:00 AM-2:00PM	Mansfield Public Library
October 2	Family Storytime Outside at the Library Lawn, 10:30AM	Mansfield Public Library
October 3	Interfaith Service of Gratitude and Remembrance of our COVID journey, Jillson	
October 5	Meet Edgar Allan Poe, performed by Campbell Harmon 2:00PM	Mansfield Senior Center Register 860-429-0262 by 10/1
October 7	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Senior Center Parking Lot, 11:30-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services
October 9	Family Storytime Outside at the Library Lawn, 10:30AM	Mansfield Public Library
October 11	Community Paint Day; Drop in to Help Create MLK Mural, at Mansfield Public Library outdoors (In case of rain: Mansfield Middle School)	Town Manager’s Office
October 12	Zoom Book Discussion of Alice Munro’s <i>Dear Life</i> , 6:45-8:00 PM	mcmullanpc@mansfieldct.org for Zoom link or to request book Mansfield Public Library
October 13	5 Things to Know to Retire with Confidence, co-hosted with AAA Retire, 6:00PM via Zoom	Mansfield Public Library
October 13	Community Paint Day; Drop in to Help Create MLK Mural, at UConn Student Union 304B, 10:00AM-2:00PM	
October 15	Drive-through Lunch for Seniors, 11:30AM-12noon	Mansfield Senior Center (Reserve with \$5 payment by 10/8) 860-487-9877
October 16	Pumpnickel Puppets, Buchanan Auditorium,	Mansfield Public Library
October 19	Classic Movie, showing <i>Kind Hearts and Coronets</i>	Mansfield Senior Center Reserve by 10/14: 860-429-0262
October 21	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Senior Center Parking Lot, 11:30-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services

More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
October 22	Free Mansfield Day at Community Center for Mansfield Residents, 5:30-8:30PM	Mansfield Community Center
October 22	History for Fun Presentation about Mary Todd Lincoln, 1:30 PM	Mansfield Senior Center Register by 10/20, 860-429-0262
October 23	Book-signing with local author Carolyn Stearns, including a visit with her donkey, 1:30 PM	Mansfield Public Library
October 27	"Iceland through my Heart," Zoom presentation by Iceland scholar Gerry Griswold	Mansfield Public Library
October 29	Halloween-themed drive-through lunch pickup, 11:30AM-12 noon	Mansfield Senior Center Register with payment by 10/25, 860-487-9877
October 30	Annual Halloween Party at MCC for all ages, 5:00-6:30PM	Mansfield Community Center
October 30	Halloween Fun Outside including scavenger hunt plus more!, 2:00-4:00PM	Mansfield Public Library
November 2	Election Day at all Polling Stations	Registrars of Voters
November 4	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Senior Center Parking Lot, 11:30-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services
November 5	Veterans Day Tribute and Drive-through Luncheon, Free to all Mansfield veterans and their spouses, 11:30AM-12	Mansfield Senior Center Non-veterans please register with payment in person to Jordan Dabkowski by 10/27, \$10
November 10	"Cut the Cord" Zoom Program on procuring entertainment at less cost, 6:30PM	Mansfield Public Library
November 11	Town Offices Closed for Veterans' Day Holiday	
November 18	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Senior Center Parking Lot, 11:30-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services
November 20	Free Mansfield Day at Community Center for Mansfield Residents, 12:00PM-3:00 PM	Mansfield Community Center
November 25, 26	Town Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday	

Upcoming Municipal Meetings

We encourage residents to participate in Mansfield’s governance. Most municipal meetings are still being held virtually. However, residents may still submit Public Comment, attend these sessions to listen in live, and in some cases to view the meeting as it occurs via Live Video Stream.

▶ Human Rights Commission-Sub C
▶ Human Services Advisory Committ
▶ Inland/Wetlands Agency
▶ Library Advisory Board

To find the log-in information for each of these meetings, go to the [Agendas/Minutes](#) page on the town’s website. Look up the name of the committee, and click on the arrow to the left of the title. The agenda for the upcoming meeting will appear. Click on the pdf, and the log-in information for how to watch the meeting will be included there. Minutes of past meetings are also posted there.

Date	Meeting <i>(Some subcommittee meetings are not shown. Please check the website.)</i>	Place NOTE: Please check meeting agendas on our website to confirm location/meeting method. Some in-person meetings may resume soon.
October 1 7:00 PM	Transportation Advisory Committee	
October 4 6:30 PM	Inland Wetlands Agency/ Planning Zoning Commission	
October 7 4:30 PM	Mansfield Downtown Partner- ship Board of Directors	
October 12 1:00 PM	Town-University Relations Committee	
October 12 7:00 PM	Town Council	
October 13 6:00 PM	Sustainability Committee	
October 13 7:00 PM	Human Rights Commission	
October 13 7:00 PM	Town Council-Ad Hoc Committee on Affordable	
October 14 3:30 PM	Planning Zoning Commission Regulatory Review Committee	
October 14 4:00 PM	School Building Committee	
October 14 6:00 PM	Committee on Committees	
October 14 7:00 PM	Mansfield Board of Education	Council Chambers
October 14 7:00 PM	Transportation Advisory Committee	
October 18 9:30 AM	Commission on Aging	
October 18 6:30 PM	Planning and Zoning Commission	
October 19 12:00 noon	Youth Services Advisory Board	
October 19 5:30 PM	Solid Waste Advisory Committee	
October 20 7:00 PM	Conservation Commission	
October 21 6:00 PM	Economic Development Commission	

Municipal Meetings *Cont.*

Date	Meeting	Place <i>NOTE: Please check meeting agendas on our website to confirm location/ meeting method. Some in-person meetings may resume soon.</i>
October 25 6:00 PM	Town Council Personnel Committee	
October 25 7:00 PM	Town Council	
October 26 6:30 PM	Zoning Board of Appeals	
October 27 9:00 AM	Traffic Authority	
October 27 6:30 PM	Historic District Commission	
October 28 7:00 PM	Mansfield Board of Education	Council Chambers
November 4 3:30 PM	Planning and Zoning Regulatory Review Committee	
November 4 4:30 PM	Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors	
November 8 9:30 AM	Commission on Aging Committee	
November 8 7:00 PM	Town Council	
November 9 12:00 noon	Youth Services Advisory Board	
November 9 7:00 PM	Agriculture Committee	
November 10 6:00 PM	Sustainability Committee	
November 10 7:00 PM	Human Rights Commission	
November 10 7:00 PM	Town Council Ad Hoc Committee on Affordable Housing Board	
November 15 6:30 PM	Inland Wetlands Agency/ Planning Zoning Commission	
November 16 5:30 PM	Solid Waste Advisory Committee	
November 16 6:30 PM	Zoning Board of Appeals	
November 16 7:00 PM	Parks and Natural Resources Committee	
November 17 6:30 PM	Historic District Commission	
November 17 7:00 PM	Conservation Commission	
November 17 3:30 PM	Planning Zoning Commission Regulatory Review Committee	
November 18 6:00 PM	Committee on Committees	
November 18 6:00 PM	Economic Development Commission	
November 18 7:00 PM	Mansfield Board of Education	Council Chambers

Municipal Meetings Cont.

Date	Meeting	Place <i>NOTE: Please check meeting agendas on our website to confirm location/ meeting method. Some in-person meetings may resume soon.</i>
November 22 6:00 PM	Town Council Personnel Committee	
November 22 7:00 PM	Town Council	
November 24 9:00 AM	Traffic Authority	

Please Contact Our Department Leaders for What You Need



Our staff is ready to help answer any questions you have about how to access the services of your community. Please reach out to them by phone or by email for anything you need.

Department	Department Leader	Contact
Animal Control	Noranne Nielsen, Animal Control Officer	860-487-0137 ACO@mansfieldct.org
Assessor	Rochelle Lambert, Assessor	860-429-3311 Assessor@mansfieldct.org
Building and Housing Inspection	Michael Ninteau, Building & Housing Director	860-429-3324 BldgDept@mansfieldct.org
Downtown Partnership	Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director	860-429-2740 MDP@mansfieldct.org
Eastern Highlands Health	Robert Miller, M.P.H., R.S., Director of Health	860-429-3325 ehhd@ehhd.org
Emergency Management	Adam Libros, Emergency Management Director	860-429-3328 OEM@MansfieldCT.org
Facilities	Allen Corson, Facilities Director	860-429-3320 facilities@mansfieldct.org
Finance	Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance	860-429-3345 FinanceDept@mansfieldct.org
Fire Marshal	Adam Libros, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal	860-429-3328 FireMarshal@mansfieldct.org
Fire & Emergency Services	Fred Mitchell, Fire Chief	860-429-3323 firedept@mansfieldct.org EMERGENCY: 911
Housing Authority	Rebecca Fields, Housing Authority Executive Director	860-487-0693 rfields@mansfieldhousingct.org
Human Resources	Holly Schaefer, Human Resources Director	860-429-3380 HR@MansfieldCT.org
Human Services	Patricia Schneider, Director of Human Services	860-429-3315 HumanServ@MansfieldCT.org
Information Technology	Jaime Russell, Information Technology	860-429-3384 technology@mansfieldct.org
Mansfield Discovery Depot	Debbie Plourde, Director	(860) 487-0062 MDD@mansfieldct.org
Parks & Recreation/ Mansfield Community Center	Jay O'Keefe, Acting Director	860-429-3015 parks&rec@mansfieldct.org



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Department	Department Leader	Contact
Planning & Development	Linda Painter, AICP Director	860-429-3330 PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org
Public Library	Leslie McDonough, Library Director	860-423-2501 MansfieldLi- brary@MansfieldCT.org
Public Works	John Carrington, Public Works Director	860-429-3331 PublicWorks@mansfieldct.org
Registrars of Voters	Anne Greineder, Democratic Registrar Vera Ward, Republican Registrar	860-429-3368 860-429-3369 VoterRegistrars@mansfieldct.org
Senior Center	Sarah Taylor, Senior Center Supervisor	860-429-0262 TaylorS@mansfieldct.org
State Police (Resident State Trooper)	Sergeant Stephen King, Resident State Trooper Sergeant	860-429-6024 Police@mansfieldct.org
Tax/Revenue Collections	Jerl Casey, Collector of Revenue	860-429-3307 Taxes@mansfieldct.org
Trash and Recycling	Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator	860-429-3333 waltonvd@mansfieldct.org
Town Clerk	Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk	860-429-3302 TownClerk@MansfieldCT.org
Town Manager	Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager	860-429-3336 TownMngr@mansfieldct.org
Youth Services	Katherine J. Bell, Psy.D Youth Services Supervisor	860-429-3319 BellKJ@mansfieldct.org