

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

VOL. 2, ISSUE 1

2-1-22

Look for these stories in this newsletter



Parks & Rec
Director Selected
(See page 4)



Restorative Justice
Program for Youth
(See page 7)



Mansfield to Launch
New GIS Platform
(See page 2)



Upcoming Events
(See page 18)

Mansfield is Off to a Fast Start in 2022



Greetings Fellow Residents!

This past week we experienced a significant snowfall and single-digit temperatures. For hearty New Englanders, this is just what we expect in early February. The best news-- just six more weeks until the start of spring!

We live in unprecedented times, and this year has jumped off with robust activity. We hope you will learn about some of the opportunities before us in Mansfield, as well as some challenges, in this newsletter.

ARPA Update. Now that the Treasury Department has issued its final guidelines for municipalities about the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Mansfield is moving forward with making final decisions on how to invest our roughly \$7.5 million allocation of ARPA funds to deliver the greatest benefit to our community. This amount does not include ARPA Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund allocations received by Mansfield Public Schools (\$754,781) or Regional School District #19 (\$835,051). The Town Council will host special meetings to review and deliberate on the projects the Town Manager has proposed, with input from Town of Mansfield department heads and other stakeholders. These meetings will be open to the public. Our intent is to finalize the Town's ARPA spending plans by early spring.

Budget Planning Begins. Beginning in late-December 2021, department heads began preparing their respective 2022-23 operating budget and capital improvement requests. These requests have subsequently gone through an initial round of review and analysis with Finance Director Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill and me. This phase of the budget process culminates with the formulation of my official annual budget and capital project recommendations that will be initially presented to the Town Council on March 30 and subsequently shared via a public information session on April 6. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to learn about our budgeting plans through the process this spring.

COVID-19 Supplies. The State of Connecticut provided Mansfield with 4,600 COVID-19 home test kits and more than 50,000 N95 masks in the month of January, and we have taken great care to distribute these materials where they are needed most. After our initial distribution to the general public on January 3, we have worked to ensure our most vulnerable populations have received these supplies. Our emergency services staff have coordinated closely with the Human Services Department, Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD), emergency services personnel, and essential services in the business sector to provide the home test kits to those who need them most. If you are in need of N95 masks or home test kits, please reach out to the Human Services Department at 860.487.9875.

We are encouraged that COVID-19 positivity rates have started to decline as we inch toward spring. However, we know that the health of our community relies on a majority of our residents becoming vaccinated, including the booster. We also strongly encourage parents who have not yet scheduled a vaccine for their children ages 5 to 11 or 12 to 18 to do that right away. If you have questions about the safety of the vaccine for children, please reach out to your family doctor and get the facts. EHHD continues to offer convenient clinics here at Town Hall Mondays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Thursdays 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. These vaccines are administered free of charge and appointments can be secured through the VAMS system. We sincerely hope that our community members will stay vigilant and be patient with maintaining precautions including masking inside public places in Mansfield.

COVID-19 RESOURCES

For COVID-19 testing sites, or for how to access vaccines and boosters shots, visit:

www.ehhd.org/

www.vaccines.gov

(Continued)



(Town Manager’s Message cont.)

Pedestrian Safety Concerns. Many residents have reached out to us about their concerns for pedestrian safety on state and town roads in our community. These concerns were magnified following the tragic death of a UConn graduate student on South Eagleville Road last fall. We have partnered with UConn in reaching out to the State Department of Transportation (DOT) to elevate pedestrian safety projects in the downtown area (with a particular focus on State Route 195 and State Route 275), and DOT is being responsive to our expressed need by expediting completion of several local safety improvement projects, including the installation of multiple rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) at heavily used crosswalks.

Pushing Toward Net Neutrality. Since sustainability is such a priority here in our community, I am excited about the plans that have been put in place to create a large-scale (roughly 2.4 MW) solar installation at the Town’s existing capped landfill located to the rear of the Transfer Station. This project is expected to generate enough green energy to offset approximately 95% of the energy consumed by both our municipal government and Mansfield Public Schools, and this will take us much closer to achieving the Town Council’s expressed goal of achieving net neutrality by the year 2030. To learn more about it, you can listen to the recording of the presentation made to the Town Council on January 24, and we will be communicating more about it in the coming weeks.

Finally, if you have friends or family who may be interested in receiving this electronic newsletter, but may not yet be subscribed, please forward a copy of this newsletter to them. And, remember, subscribing to receive the newsletter, and other updates from your town, is easy to do. (See box to the right.)

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 active throughout the rest of the winter season. There is much to enjoy here in our fine town!

Very respectfully,



Ryan J. Aylesworth
Town Manager

Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is easy and straight-forward. 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!

NEW! Town Parcel Viewer Platform Launching Soon



For nearly 15 years, the Town of Mansfield has hosted a Town Geographic Information System (GIS) interactive parcel viewer to allow the public to view parcel information and map data for Mansfield.

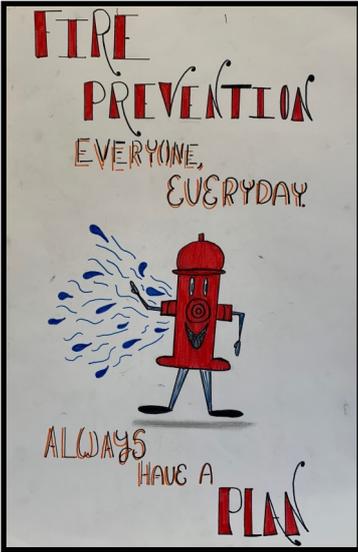
The Town is very excited about the new parcel viewer product called AxisGIS that will be replacing, in early March of this year, our current platform MainstreetGIS.

AxisGIS will provide all the function and data currently available, as well as new tools to better serve the needs of the public. To allow the public ample time to become comfortably familiar with the AxisGIS viewer, the Town intends to maintain hosting of both MainstreetGIS and AxisGIS for up to three months. MainstreetGIS will then be removed and AxisGIS will be the sole viewer available.

If you are interested in becoming acquainted with AxisGIS prior to Mansfield’s March launch, you can visit our neighbor town Windham that is already hosting this platform at, <https://www.axisgis.com/windhamct/>

If you have any questions you are welcome to call the Town of Mansfield’s GIS Coordinator at 860.429.3331.

Mansfield Fire Safety Poster Contest Winners Selected



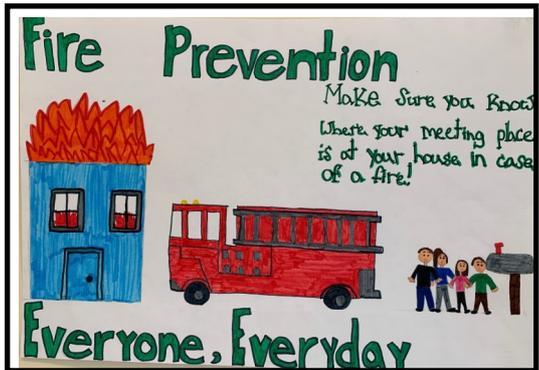
Mansfield Fire and Emergency Services, Office of Fire Marshal, sponsored the annual Fire Safety Poster Contest for grade 5 students at Mansfield Middle School. The winning poster (at left) was designed by Daphne Christenson. The runner-up poster was submitted by Eleni Niarhakos.

The contest is held statewide, and top designs are selected to be featured in the State Fire Prevention Calendar. The purpose of the Fire Prevention Poster contest is to make school children and their families aware that preventing fires requires everyone being alert every day to those dangers which cause fires, and to develop an interest in fire prevention/fire safety. Students are encouraged to share what they learn and creatively interpret the theme: *Fire Prevention: Everyone. Every Day.*

Daphne’s poster will be submitted to the Tolland County competition for selection of county winners which will appear in the State’s 2023 Fire Prevention Calendar.

Mansfield Town Hall employees are engaged to help judge the poster contest, each voting for their top two.

The Office of Fire Marshal appreciates the support of the teachers who encourage students to participate in the contest. Best of luck to Daphne at the next level of competition!



Mansfield Reinforces its Commitment to Sustainability



Sustainable CT is a free, voluntary certification program intended to inspire, support and celebrate thriving and resilient Connecticut communities. Sustainable CT also provides opportunities for grant funding to help communities promote economic well-being and enhance equity, all while respecting the finite capacity of the natural environment. The program is designed to support all Connecticut municipalities, regardless of size, geography or resources. It empowers municipalities to create high collective impact for current and future residents.

In 2019 Mansfield was awarded silver certification for achieving nine sustainable impact areas. Since certification lasts for three years, it is time for Mansfield to enhance and renew its certification.

This year’s twelve action categories include homelessness prevention, inclusive and equitable communities, thriving local economies, natural resources, arts and culture, resilient planning, diverse transportation systems, efficient and renewable energy, inclusive engagement, health and wellbeing, diverse housing and innovative strategies. The highest certification, silver, requires three equity actions and at least one action from each category for a total of 400 points.

Towns are encouraged to collaborate with other towns and community organizations in this process. If you are part of an organization that is working on a project that falls into one of these categories, please contact the Mansfield team leader, Virginia Walton, at 860-429-3333, waltonvd@mansfieldct.org or Jennifer Kaufman at 860-429-3335, kaufmanjs@mansfieldct.org.

Winter is a great time to discover ART as an outlet



When you think about Parks & Recreation activities, don’t forget that Art is a great way to energize yourself. Try one of these [upcoming programs at Mansfield Community Center](#):
 -Around the World in 64 days Art Class
 -Rock-n-Roll Drumming for Teens
 -Open Studio Space for Artists

And ask about private music lessons through our Community School of the Arts!

Will My Roof Handle the Snow Load?



Mansfield’s Building Office often receives questions regarding the capacity of roofs to support snow. The weight of snow varies greatly based on the water content. The Connecticut State Building Code requires that residential roofs are designed and constructed to support 30 pounds per square foot. The requirement is 35 pounds per square foot for commercial structures.

What does that mean in terms of actual snow? A structure built to present code should be able to support the following:

While these totals are quite different, type of precipitation is not the only variables. Drifting can concentrate heavy loads in some areas while stripping other areas clean. The good news is that these concentrated loads are calculated for most commercial buildings during design, and smaller residential structures usually greatly exceed the code minimum for strength.

Residential	Commercial
• 115” Light Dry Snow	• 134” Light Dry Snow
• 17.4” Heavy Wet Snow	• 20.3” Heavy Wet Snow
• 6.3” of Ice	• 7.5” of Ice
• 5.7” of Water	• 6.6” of Water

If we receive several storms, you may want to contact a reputable engineer or contractor to analyze your actual conditions and recommend what, if any, action is required. It is always a good idea to be sure roof drainage is kept clear and in good repair.

Please feel free to contact the Mansfield Building Department at 860.429.3324 with questions.

Jay O’Keefe Selected as Director of Mansfield Parks & Recreation



Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth has announced that the Town of Mansfield has named Jay O’Keefe as Director of Mansfield Parks & Recreation.

Mr. O’Keefe, formerly Assistant Director in Mansfield, has served as the Acting Director of the department for the past 14 months. The Town of Mansfield initiated a thorough nationwide search to fill the Director position in the fall of 2021. The prior Director of Parks & Recreation, Curt Vincente, retired in September 2020 after 30 years of distinguished service to the town.

Jay O’Keefe joined the Town of Mansfield in 1994 as a Recreation Supervisor, and subsequently earned promotion to Assistant Director in 2003. Prior to his time with the Town of Mansfield, he worked in recreation positions with MARC of Middlesex County as Director of Leisure Services and Public Education as well as The Institute of Living/Hartford Hospital as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist earlier in his career. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Parks and Recreation Management from Southern Connecticut State University and is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional.

Jay played an instrumental role in planning, building and launching the 36,000 square-foot Mansfield Community Center, a popular Town facility that includes aquatics, fitness, a gymnasium, a track, and a teen center and programming for all ages. In addition to managing the community center, his department operates Lenard Hall and a robust community arts program, and organizes more than 1,000 revenue-generating programs annually.

Mansfield Parks & Recreation is also responsible for the upkeep and improvement of Mansfield’s extensive athletic fields, parks and open space, and staff work closely with the Department of Planning and Development and other municipal departments to achieve long-term goals of the town.

Jay is committed to making recreational opportunities accessible to people of all backgrounds and abilities, and is proactive in managing programs for people with special needs. Under his leadership, the department has earned Better Sports for Kids Quality Program Provider recognition, and was awarded the Innovative Program of the year by the Connecticut Parks and Recreation Association.

Mr. O’Keefe worked in various seasonal positions for Mansfield Parks & Recreation during his high school and college years. Additionally, he previously served as Head Track & Field and Cross Country Coach for Edwin O. Smith High School. He and his wife Kim returned to live in Mansfield with their two children in 2002.

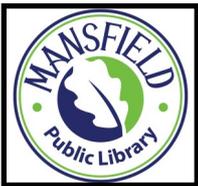
Public Hearing Continued to February 7 on Mixed-Use Development

The Standard at Four Corners

Special Permit Application for a 398-unit mixed-use development on the site of Holiday Mall and the former Willards and former Rosal's/Two Steps on Route 44. Application materials and comments from the first public hearing are available at <https://mansfield.civicweb.net/document/38503?splitscreen=true>. The public hearing has been continued to February 7, 2022.



Mansfield Public Library Focuses Planning on Community Services



A strategic plan is something most organizations prepare every few years. They identify needs and assets in order to set long-term goals, and work to accomplish those goals. The Mansfield Library, like most public libraries, exists to meet the needs of our patrons. Because we have daily direct contact with the community, we have our ears to the ground when it comes to needs, issues and trends expressed by the people we serve. This is a critical part of our ongoing work—to meet people where they are and break down barriers to access.

This makes our approach to strategic planning somewhat different than it would be for other organizations. We all see how quickly information is generated and shared, how situations change and affect each person in a unique way. So our approach to planning is not to set firm action steps or identify percent increases in a statistic that may be irrelevant in a year. Instead, we look to the hopes and dreams of our community and asked them some deeper questions. “What kind of community do you want to live in?” “What do you see as a roadblock to this?” “What do you think would help to reach this ideal state?” By asking questions to get to the heart of what our community members want in their lives, we can then work backwards and try to develop programs and services that will help them reach these desires.

We took our community conversations and developed some key areas of focus. We identified *Creative Expression*, *Civic Engagement*, *Inclusion and Belonging*, and *Sustainability* as areas where we can provide services and programming to meet needs. With these areas of focus as guides, rather than plans set in stone, we free ourselves to bend and pivot based on community needs and changes that affect how we should approach our services.

We believe, through this responsive approach to planning, that we can continue to provide the services that our community finds valuable and helpful. In our mission statement, we describe our library as providing a place for lifelong learning, and as the twists and turns of life progress, we endeavor to be here for our friends and neighbors whenever they need us.

SENIOR SPARKS
MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER NEWSLETTER
~ FEBRUARY 2022 ~

There’s always something fun happening at the Mansfield Senior Center! For all the upcoming programs, and information on meal menu and other services, read the latest issue of [Senior Sparks!](#)

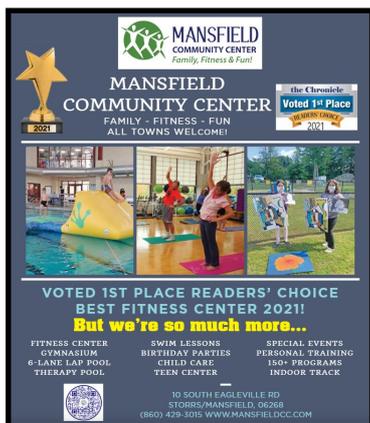
Paper Shredding at the Transfer Station on April 2, 2022



Have you been cleaning out old files this winter? Bring your sensitive documents to be shredded at the Transfer Station on Saturday, April 2, 2022 from 9 AM to 12 noon. Documents will be shredded in your presence.

The charge is \$3.00 per medium-sized box or equivalent. There is no limit on quantity.

Welcoming Winter with Mansfield Parks & Rec Activities



Does the cold frigid weather have you down? Come “warm up” with some fitness activity at the Mansfield Community Center! When considering progress towards new years goals, think broadly about your opportunities. Consider [downloading \(or creating\) a habit tracker](#) to help you gain awareness of your new habits! Maybe trying a quick group fitness class (like the [new Super Sampler](#)) is what you need. Perhaps a dance program is a step in the right direction or playing hoops gets your heart pumping. Or is going for a swim, remembering summer fun, your motivation?

The Community Center offers this, and more. If you haven’t stopped by in a while, now is a great time to do a free [one-week trial](#); available to anyone who has not had a paid or trial membership in two or more years.

If indoor activities aren’t for you right now, participate in on-demand streaming of Mossa Moves fitness programs; [where subscribing through this link](#) helps support your Community Center! And don’t forget that Mansfield parks and trails remain open to explore during the winter months. Check mansfieldct.gov/parksandpreserves for trail guides suggesting accessibility for cross-country skiing, [family trail activities](#), try a [winter scavenger hunt](#), or [rent snowshoes](#) (adult and children’s sizes available) at the Community Center for a new way to explore your town this season. Better yet, [sign up now](#) for the free guided hike/snowshoe event at Schoolhouse Brook Park on Saturday, February 26th (snowshoes not provided).

For more fun, be sure to mark the calendar for these events:

- Saturday, February 12 – FREE Family Paint Day! Pre-registration required. Limited spaces.
- Saturday, February 12 – Saturday Social Group
- Tuesday, February 15 - [A Good Nights Rest](#) Health and Fitness Seminar – Free to Community Center Members; \$10 to non-members.
- Thursday, February 17 – Submission Deadline - the [Wonder of Winter Community Art Exhibit](#)
- Friday, February 18 – Recreation Rescue – No School? No problem! Join the fun
- Saturday, February 19 - FREE MANSFIELD DAY at the Mansfield Community Center!
- Tuesday, February 22 – British Line of Succession Seminar with Janet Avery; \$6 for residents. Pre-registration required.
- Saturday, February 26 – FREE Guided Hike/Snowshoe at Schoolhouse Brook Park
- Friday, March 4 – FREE MANSFIELD DAY at the Mansfield Community Center!
- Sunday, March 6 – FREE Winter Trees of the Moss Sanctuary
- Saturday, March 12 – FREE Family Paint Day! Pre-registration required. Limited spaces.
- [Additional Parks and Rec events](#)

Don’t overlook these life-skill opportunities:

- Babysitter Safety class – February 26th
- American Red Cross Adult & Pediatric CPR Certification Class – February 6th
- Camp Mansfield Job Applications Available February 7th-March 21st.

In case you decide hibernation is more your style, watch your mailbox for the Spring (yes, SPRING!) edition of the Mansfield Parks and Recreation brochure, complete with the next season of fun.

This spring we look forward to the return of the Tag Sale Trail, the opening of Summer Camp registration, and more! Brochures are scheduled to reach homes approximately March 4th, with program registration opening at the end of March, and classes starting as early as the first week of April.

Mansfield Partners with Neighbor Towns to Create Restorative Justice Program for Youth



The Mansfield Town Council recently authorized Mansfield’s agreement with the towns of Willington and Ashford to form a shared restorative justice diversion program. Known as the Willington Ashford Mansfield Restorative Diversion Team, or WAM RDT, the program will be run by the Youth Service Bureaus to serve the youth of these three towns.

Restorative justice diversion programs keep young people out of contact with the juvenile justice system, and focus on repairing harms done and rebuilding connection to community to help prevent the young person from causing future harms.

The Connecticut Youth Services Association supports many Youth Service Bureaus across the state in similar diversion programs. The Mansfield Youth Service Bureau is thrilled to be teaming up with the Willington and Ashford Youth Service Bureaus, and are grateful to members of the diversion team across our communities for being willing to volunteer their time and compassion serve our youth with us. An orientation for diversion team members was held in January in preparation for the launch.

Animal Control Department Urges Residents: Don’t Feed Wildlife



State officials warn that feeding bears, coyotes, foxes or bobcats can lead to violent confrontations between humans and animals, but at the moment there is little role for the state agency to play beyond educating people about the danger. The state already prohibits the feeding of wild animals like bear and coyote on state land, and federal law already bans feeding wild animals on federal properties. However, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has no authority

to address issues on private property.

Mansfield currently has no such ordinance banning wildlife feeding on private property, but Mansfield Animal Control urges all residents to consider the negative effects of feeding any wildlife.

The ability for DEEP to regulate feeding on private property would provide a way to reduce interactions between the public and animals such as bear or coyote, which are often negative. Some private landowners have continued to put out food to attract bears and other wild creatures to their property. As a result, the number of negative interactions between the public and these wild animals is increasing.

DEEP warns the public that feeding wildlife intentionally or unintentionally (unsecured garbage cans) can reduce these animals’ fear of humans. Feeding leads wild animals to associate humans with food and increase animal and human interactions putting both the humans and the animals at risk. Wildlife that do not show a natural fear of humans are often mistaken for sick and suspected rabid animals. DEEP reported more than 20 cases of bears entering homes in Connecticut in 2018 between June and August.

The lack of state authority has caused municipalities to consider passing their own ordinances banning the feeding of wild animals. Manchester adopted a new ordinance that will prohibit the intentional, regular, or continuous feeding of unconfined wildlife in any public park, town-owned property, or private property including bears, coyotes, deer, foxes, geese, and turkeys.

If you really care for animals in the wild, please let them stay wild. For questions, please contact the Animal Control Department at 860-487-0137.

Avoid feeding wildlife.

In our modern and globalized world, our actions often affect wildlife in unintended harmful ways and cause habitats to become more fragile. Feeding wildlife is no exception.

Below are some common negative consequences of feeding wildlife:

- 1 Increased road strikes
- 2 Changes in population dynamics and a reduction in biodiversity
- 3 Increased risk of health issues and disease transfer
- 4 Increased numbers of small predators like raccoons
- 5 Desensitization to humans
- 6 Introduction of invasive species

Please remember, fed is dead.
Do not feed wildlife. Create habitat instead.

The Land Between

Fresh Food Through Mansfield Farms to Families: Apply for 2022



Are you interested in benefiting from a program to receive locally grown food produced by area farms? The Mansfield Farms to Families program may be for you! This program, renewed in 2022 with support from the Ossen Foundation, provides Mansfield residents access to fresh produce with partially sponsored CSA's and food distributions—fresh foods affordable for your family.

Once you're approved for the program, we ask you to pick up the fresh produce on a regular basis and make a commitment to participate throughout the harvest season, typically June through October. Households will be notified of the pickup location and future distribution dates based on product availability.



If you would like to be part of the Mansfield Farms to Families program. Please email MFFP@mansfieldct.org or call 860.429.3315 for more information, or visit the Human Services website to find the [application online](#).

Public Works and How to Deal with the Hazards of Winter



Winter is here, and will be for several more weeks. When there is frozen precipitation, sleet, ice, and/or snow, the Mansfield Department of Public Works (DPW) is treating roads with treated salt and removing snow from town roads and parking lots.

In winter, DPW often receives complaints about mailboxes. The only efficient and economical way to plow our roads is by

casting snow off the snow plow to the sides of the road. This thrown snow can considerably impact a mailbox and cause damage. Mailboxes must be securely fastened to a sturdy post in the ground to reduce or resist the impact of thrown snow. The mailbox, post, and arm should be at least (8") inches from the face of curb or edge of pavement in order to prevent direct contact by the snowplow.

If a Town snowplow directly hits a mailbox, it must be reported to Public Works Department immediately after the storm. A plow hitting a mailbox would cause significant damage and the Town will replace it with a standard mailbox and post. We will not replace a custom mailbox and post in-kind. We will not replace a mailbox or post that displays dry rot, is unstable, or is too close to the road. The Town will not replace the mailbox and/or post when the box is knocked over by snow or slush that is thrown off the plow. The Town will also not replace a mailbox that a private operator hit or pushed snow into while plowing your or your neighbor's driveway.

We also receive complaints about plows depositing snow in driveways after you have worked so hard shoveling, snow blowing, or plowing your driveway. In most cases, this incident means you cleared your driveway before we finished completely clearing your road. So please wait until the snowplow truck has cleared curb to curb or gutter to gutter before removing snow from the end of your driveway.

If you reside on a low volume traffic road, a neighborhood road with minimal traffic, but cannot wait for the DPW to clear the entire width of your road to the gutter/curb line, and want to minimize (not eliminate) the amount of snow deposited in your driveway, below is a diagram that might help you.

We recommend that you shovel about 3 feet into the roadway and 10 - 20 feet to the right (when looking at your home) of your driveway. **Warning: You are still going to get snow in your driveway but it should be reduced.**

If you live on a high volume traffic load, the risk is not worth the reward. Clear your driveway after we have cleared the road to the gutter/curb line.

Please remember always to be safe, watch for traffic and not to overexert yourself when shoveling.



Volunteers Craft a Snow Sculpture on the Library Lawn



Yinghai (Haiger) Fan, a native of China and a sculptor living in Mansfield is teaming up with Mansfield artist Scott Rhoades to create a larger-than-life snow sculpture this week.

Stop by the Mansfield Public Library over the next few days and see what they create from this fluffy white medium.




“GETTING HER VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19 MEANS LESS WORRY AND MORE LEARNING.”

I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!



COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for everyone 5 years and older. Learn more about protecting your child at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Your Efforts Can Contribute to Local Habitat for Our Pollinators



The Mansfield Town Council adopted a Pollinator Resolution in 2020, and since spring of 2021, Mansfield staff has been working in collaboration with Chaplin, Windham and Ashford groups, Joshua Trust, Eastern Connecticut State University and [The Last Green Valley](#) with the goal of establishing contiguous, safe habitat for birds, bees, butterflies and other insects. Eastern Connecticut contains bountiful trails and rivers which can become part of a documented pollinator pathway that can include private and public spaces, from small flower boxes or curbside strips to large parcels of land.

Pollinators come in all shapes and sizes, from tiny wasps to butterflies to humming-birds. Many insects have evolved to be plant specific and depend exclusively on native plants to host their larvae. Most local bees only have a travel range of half a mile before they need to refuel. Similarly, many native plants depend on specific soil conditions and pollinators to bear fruit. As a result, we need to involve our community in connecting our fragmented nature preserves, parks, town owned properties and our backyards with pollinator friendly plants. Can you help?

Regardless of where you live, your efforts can make a difference to our pollinator numbers and will help improve the quality of our town's air, water and soil. You can start your participation by taking the pollinator pledge. Please visit www.pollinator-pathway.org/towns/Mansfield to join the effort.

Update on the New Mansfield Elementary School February 8



Mansfield Public Schools Superintendent Kelly Lyman will be presenting an update for community members and families about the new Mansfield Elementary School at Mansfield Public Library's Buchanan Auditorium on Tuesday, February 8 at 5:30 PM.

Board of Education Chair Kathleen Ward will join Superintendent Lyman at the program to provide an update on the construction progress of the new

Mansfield Elementary School, Connecticut's first net-zero public school. They will also share background about the goals for the learning spaces, details of the design plans, interior and exterior, and progress in the construction.

The school district has been sharing details about the school design with Parent-Teacher Organizations in presentations tailored to families, and recently at the Senior Center. The Mansfield Board of Education also [published a special edition of a community-wide e-newsletter](#) providing details on the transition activities for students and staff to guide establishment of a new unified culture at the new school.

The new Mansfield Elementary School is scheduled to open for school year 2022-23.

**Mansfield
Public Library**

Tuesday, February 8
5:30 PM
Buchanan Auditorium
54 Warrenville Road

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

Subscribe to our YOUTUBE channel to view meetings:
mansfieldct.gov/video

Historical Society Receives Grants to Advance Digital Platform



The Mansfield Historical Society is starting 2022 with encouraging funding news with the awarding of two grants to support its initiatives here.

The Historical Society has been awarded \$8,400 from Connecticut Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant (CTCFOSG), one of 624 organizations in Connecticut to receive funding. The CTCFOSGs are part of \$30.7M of support allocated to arts, humanities, and cultural nonprofits through CT Humanities over the next two years by the Connecticut General Assembly and approved by Governor Ned Lamont.

The Mansfield Historical Society is also a recipient of a \$5,460 CT Humanities SHARP Capacity Grant. Last spring the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) received \$135 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, as approved by Congress. The state humanities councils, including CT Humanities, each received a portion of the NEH award to support museums, archives, historic sites, and other humanities-focused nonprofits. The Mansfield Historical Society was one of 69 organizations in Connecticut that were awarded ARPA funding totaling \$640,192 from CT Humanities.

The CT Humanities SHARP Capacity Grant will support the Mansfield Historical Society’s collaboration with UConn’s Digital Public History Internship Program. The intern will help the society to update its website and explore new ways to present digital content. The grant will help provide an upgrade of computer equipment to better support the intern’s work and enhance daily operations. Visit their website to learn more about the [Mansfield Historical Society](#).

Mansfield Seeks Volunteers for New Affordable Housing Committee



On October 25, 2021, the Town Council unanimously approved the creation of a standing [Affordable Housing Committee](#), whose mission is to increase access to and availability of affordable housing in Mansfield. The Committee will serve in advisory capacity to the Town Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and other Town bodies on issues related to affordable housing including implementation of the Town’s affordable housing plan. The Committee will also take a lead role in helping the Council identify sources of funding, priorities and programs for the [Affordable Housing Trust Fund](#) created by the Council on November 8, 2021, including making recommendations on proposed expenditures from the Trust Fund.

If you are passionate about increasing opportunities to affordable housing in Mansfield, this may be your opportunity to put ideas into action. We are currently accepting applications for membership on the Affordable Housing Committee, with terms of two years and four years available.

In addition to supporting the committee’s mission, we are also seeking members who are reflective of the demographics of the community and region and who have experience in real estate/property development, finance/accounting and architecture, landscape architecture, engineering or community planning.

Current and/or prospective residents of affordable housing are also encouraged to apply at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/FormCenter/TownWide-37/Boards-and-Committees-75>.



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	\$105,500

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?
planzonedep@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

Community Supported Agriculture

Learn about local CSAs at
www.TasteofMansfieldCT.org

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a subscription to a season's worth of sustainable, locally grown produce distributed to members throughout the harvesting season. CSA members enjoy the quality of fresh fruits and vegetables, while supporting their local farmer. Every farm is different, but all stand by the same principles: to connect with the community, to provide healthy, often organic, produce, flowers, and sometimes eggs and meat, directly to consumers, and to build a more vibrant local food system.



Sign up in late
February!



Mansfield Parks & Recreation is Hiring!



Mansfield Parks and Recreation is currently seeking applicants for numerous part time positions within the department.

Available positions vary throughout the year, but often include Fitness Assistants, Lifeguards, WSI Certified Swim Instructors, Customer Service Representatives (for the Community Center and Lenard Hall), Child Care Staff, Before and After School

Program staff, and Teen Center staff, and Program Instructors for all ages in a variety of categories.

Additionally, each spring includes Camp Mansfield staff recruitment, including a seasonal Camp Director, Counselors, Head Counselors, Specialists, and a Camp Nurse. For available positions and descriptions, please visit www.mansfieldct.gov/jobs and select "Parks and Recreation".



EXPERTS' PICK:

Best Breakfast
FRESH FORK CAFÉ

READERS' CHOICE:

Overall Excellence - Tolland County
Best New American - Tolland County
Best Appetizers - Tolland County
Best Beer Selection - Tolland County

FENTON RIVER GRILL

Best Lunch - Tolland County
Hidden Gem - Tolland County

FARMERS COW CALFÉ & CREAMERY

Most Romantic - Tolland County
Best Japanese - Tolland County

ASIAN BISTRO

Best Mexican - Tolland County
COYOTE FLACO





Do you need a helping hand with food or childcare?

COVID-19 Assistance Available



CHILDCARE 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

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

Get a Helping Hand with Food and Childcare Assistance

We continue 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.

Mansfield Fire Department Swears in New Volunteers from UConn



The Mansfield Fire Department recently held a recruitment drive. The results of the volunteer recruitment drive brought in eight new firefighter's and emergency medical technicians (EMT) who are also students at UConn.

The recruits are completing their orientation, encouraged to spend as much time as possible at the fire stations with the firefighting and emergency response staff. Each volunteer brings to Mansfield a variety of interests and fire service experiences. The Town of Mansfield appreciates their involvement, and looks forward to their talents as active members of the department.

Residents Encouraged to Volunteer for Town Committee



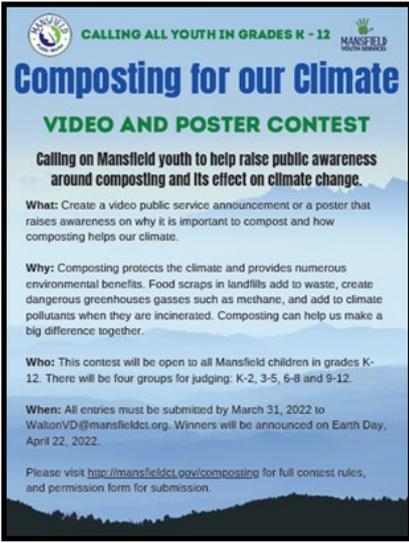
Mansfield has a long history of citizen participation in government. In May 1703, the Connecticut General Assembly revised local town boundary lines to ensure Mansfield residents could access a town meetinghouse without having to cross the "bad and dangerous" Natchaug River. This commitment to citizen involvement determined the very boundaries of Mansfield!

Today, Mansfield is fortunate to have many passionate and dedicated citizens on more than 30 volunteer boards and committees. With committees specializing in areas such as sustainability, the arts, recreation, agriculture, human rights, and so much more, there is a committee to match most all interests.

The Town of Mansfield encourages residents to consider serving in some capacity here. To get started, all that is required is a simple application and a brief interview. While some committee positions are appointed by the Town Manager, the majority are appointed by the Town Council. A committee appointment made by the Town Council requires an interview with the Council's subcommittee – aptly (and amusingly) – named the Committee on Committees.

To see a list of Mansfield's boards and committees and apply to volunteer, check out our [Boards & Committees webpage](#). **Current vacancies exist on the following committees: the newly established Affordable Housing Committee, Agriculture Committee, Conservation Commission, Economic Development Commission, Historic District Commission, Housing Code Board of Appeals, Human Services Advisory Committee, Library Advisory Board, Solid Waste Advisory Committee, and the Water System Advisory Committee.**

Video and Poster Contest to Raise Awareness about Composting



Mansfield Youth Services and the Mansfield Solid Waste Advisory Committee are hosting a “Composting for our Climate” video and poster contest. All youth, kindergarten through twelfth grade, are invited to help raise awareness about composting and its positive effect on the climate by bringing their creativity to this contest.

Winning videos and posters will be selected from four age groups. Winners will receive a tour of the recycling facility, Willimantic Waste Paper, and tickets to the Adventure Park at Storrs.

All entries must be submitted by March 31, 2022. For contest rules, visit www.mansfieldct.gov/composting.

Mansfield Middle School Roof Replacement Project Progresses; Installation of Solar Panels Coming Soon



The Facilities Department is responsible for maintaining all of the Town of Mansfield’s buildings. Amidst the many projects our department is currently involved with around the Town, one of the bigger projects is the roof replacement at the Mansfield Middle School. The school was built in 1969, and the existing roof had been in place since 1989—more than 30 years.

The total area of roofing that is being replaced is approximately 90,000 sq. ft. To put that into perspective, this would be the equivalent of replacing the roofs on about 45 houses.

The process of roofing a commercial building is different from that of a residential home. With large flat commercial roofs, there are multiple layers that are put down to make up the roofing. This is referred to as a layered roof, and in particular, a two-ply bituminous roof.

First, contractors pull up all layers of old material. Then they put down insulation and in some cases, the insulation is layered to provide some degree of pitch on a largely flat roof for drainage. Then they use hot tar to affix rolls of roofing material, which is the first layer. After this, a second layer of roofing material is put down with more hot tar, which is used as the glue to hold everything together and hold everything down. Some of the finish work like flashing and caps are put on all roof edges afterwards.

Once the new roof is installed, the plan is to install solar panels on the new roof. These solar panels will produce about a quarter of the energy that the building uses.

The roofing is being installed by The Imperial Company Restoration Contractor. Project plans were made by Silver Petrucelli & Associates, and the Clerk of the Works is Colliers Project Leaders.

The project was started in October, and the re-roofing phase of the project is expected to be completed by the end of April.



Winter Reminders For Those With Trash and Recycle Service



Sign Up For E-mail Notifications - Be informed of trash service changes in the event of inclement weather by going to www.mansfieldct.gov. Select the "Sign up for Notifications" icon, type in your e-mail address and select the Trash Service icon. We send out notices only when there is a change in the service.

During a Snow Storm. When snow comes, please do not place your containers on the road. Snow plows need access to clear the roads. Consider skipping collection and putting out extra the following week or drop your items at the transfer station at no cost. In either case, notify the Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-3333 or waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

Mansfield Community Center's Free Teen Center Hours Extended!



Did you know:

- Teen Center memberships are FREE to all youth in grades 5 to 12?
- The Mansfield Teen Center is in walking distance of E.O. Smith High School?
- There is an Mansfield Middle School bus that goes right to the Community Center after school?

Middle School hours: Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday, 3pm-6pm
High School hours: Thursday and Friday, 2:30pm-6pm

[Click Here](#) for the Teen Center Membership Form.

Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Pre-order Sale Begins March 14

Once again, the Town is offering a compost bin and rain barrel pre-order sale through Enviroworld. Last year's sale was deemed a success with residents purchasing 76 rain barrels and 47 compost bins plus an assortment of accessories. This year compost bins will cost \$45 and the kitchen collection containers \$5. Once the sale begins, orders can be placed by going to www.enviroworld.us/mansfieldct. Residents must be available to pick up their order at the Mansfield Transfer Station on April 30, 2022 from 9 am to 1 pm. Prior to the sale, flyer information will be posted on the www.mansfieldct.gov/composting_webpage.



Your place to grow

Town of Mansfield is holding a Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Pre-Order Sale

PRE-ORDER SALE RUNS FROM MARCH 14, 2022 TO APRIL 16, 2022

Orders are only taken online. Accept debit card and credit cards

For Residents Only

Orders will be available for pick-up on
SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022 9 AM - 1 PM
at the Mansfield Transfer Station
221 Warrenville Road, Mansfield Center, CT 06250

Order today: www.enviroworld.us/mansfieldct

Adjusted price with Town of Mansfield \$15 subsidy

\$45

- Large 11 cubic foot/311 liter capacity
- Manufactured of 100% recycled content
- Oversized easy-access top opening
- Strong unibody construction
- Fits easily in an average sedan
- Reduce your waste





- Unique square shape and attractive neutral color
- Large 55 gallon (208 liter) capacity
- Easily accommodates existing downspouts
- Includes overflow spout and 4" hose to easily link two or more barrels for multi-barrel installations or to redirect overflow away from foundations
- Elevated spigot accommodates watering cans
- Insect resistant stainless steel filter

\$70

For more information on this event, please contact: Virginia Walton
860-429-3333 or waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.
To learn more about how to compost, visit www.mansfieldct.gov/composting.



Mansfield and Willimantic Collaborate on Restaurant Week Plans to Encourage New Visitors

The Town of Mansfield’s economic development team has joined up with Thread City Development, Inc. in Downtown Willimantic to collaborate on a promotion to bring new customers out to local restaurants in the two communities. The Mansfield-Willi Restaurant Week will run Monday, February 21 through Sunday, March 6, 2022.

“We know that sharing a meal with friends is one of those activities that people enjoy most,” says Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership who also leads Mansfield’s economic development initiatives. “Whether people want to take home a special meal or come out of hibernation in late winter by dining out, our Restaurant Week will provide that chance. Our hospitality community offers an array of dining experiences, and we aim to position this area as a great dining destination,” she adds.

Participating restaurants, which include counter and full-service, will offer multi-course offerings for a single price, known as *prix-fixe*. The promotion will include breakfast, lunch and/or dinner menus. Dog Lane Café, Fenton River Grille, Little Aladdin, Gansett Wraps, Fresh Fork Café, Coyote Flaco and Hops 44 are local venues making menu plans for the promotion.

“As the centers of cultural and economic activity in our region, we have a rich array of restaurants between Downtown Willimantic and Mansfield. Think about it—it’s a culinary melting pot of ethnic foods to explore,” says Chris McNaboe, President of Thread City Development. “The past two years have created unprecedented challenges for our restaurants. This is another opportunity to support our favorite establishments when they need it most.”

Listen for more about Mansfield-Willi Restaurant Week on Wayne Norman February 15 at 7:40 AM when the team will be rolling out details from restaurants participating in the promotion. Watch social media or the Mansfield Downtown Partnership pages for details closer to the February 21 launch date.

Heat Up the Griddle—It’s Maple Syrup Season!



Maple syrup is a common kitchen ingredient that is served with pancakes and waffles but there are people who don’t actually know how the sweet, golden brown liquid is made.

Maple syrup is made from the sap of a sugar maple tree that is collected and boiled down into the sticky liquid we enjoy. There are only a few weeks each year when these trees can be tapped which is when temperatures are in the 20s at night and reach 40°F-50°F during the day. To collect the sap, a tap must be inserted in the trunk of the tree, then the watery sap drips into a bucket. The sap will flow freely when the conditions are right, and collecting sap demands persistent attention.

Once the sap is collected it can be made into maple syrup simply by boiling the sap down into a syrup once the boiling liquid reaches 219°F. Once it reaches 219°F it is filtered and bottled.

Two of the farms in Mansfield ,CT where local Connecticut maple syrup is sold are the [Varga Family Farm](#) and [Bailey’s Maple Syrup and Honey](#). You can also find local syrup at [Mansfield Supply](#), [Lisa’s Chocolates](#), [G.M. Thompson & Sons](#), the [Storrs Farmers’ Market](#) and at [Stearns Farm Stand](#).



Contributed by Margaret Prosperie, Storrs Regional FFA Student, Edwin O. Smith High School working with the Agriculture Committee.

Mansfield Fire Department Reminds You to Be Careful with Heaters



When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations:

HEATER CHECKLIST

- Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.
- Keep children away from the space heater.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.

Types of electric space heaters

Oil or water-filled radiator
Heated oil or water travels through the heater.

Fan-forced heater
A fan blows warm air over metal coils.

Ceramic heater
Air is warmed over a ceramic heating element.

Infrared heaters
Heat is created by infrared bulbs.

Fact

Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

For Yourself. For Others. Know How to Be Safe on Ice.

What if you fall through the ice? Call for help if there are people nearby.

Don't remove winter clothing. Trapped air can help provide warmth and flotation. This is especially true with a snowmobile suit.

Turn toward the direction you came. That's where you'll probably find the strongest ice.

Place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface. If you have a pair of nails, sharpened screwdrivers or ice picks, use them to pull yourself up onto the ice.

Kick your legs and work your way back onto the solid ice. If your clothes have trapped a lot of water, you may have to lift yourself partially out of the water on your elbows to let the water drain before starting forward.

What if someone else falls in? First, call 911 for help if you or someone nearby has a phone. Resist the urge to run up to the edge of the hole. This would most likely result in two victims in the water.

Remember to Preach, Reach, Throw, Go:

Preach. Shout to the victim to reassure them that help is on the way.

Reach. If you can safely reach the victim from shore, extend an object such as a rope, tree branch, jumper cables or ladder to them. If the person starts to pull you in, release your grip on the object and start over.

Throw. From shore, toss one end of a rope or something that will float to the victim. Have them tie the rope around themselves before they are too weakened by the cold to grasp it.

Go. If the situation is too dangerous for you to perform a rescue, don't go out onto the ice. Call 911 for help. Untrained rescuers can become victims themselves.

4" 5-7" 8-12" 12-15"

MINIMUM GUIDELINES FOR NEW, CLEAR ICE

Ice is never 100% safe!

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
February 4	History for Fun: St. Valentine's Day. Interactive presentation	Mansfield Senior Center (Reserve by 2/2) 860-429-0262
February 5	Drop-in Crafts for the Lunar New Year: The Year of the Tiger, 11 AM-4PM	Mansfield Public Library
February 8	Growing Our New School; presentation with Supt. Kelly Lyman, Buchanan Auditorium, 5:30 PM	Mansfield Public Library
February 8	Mansfield Library Book Dis- cussion Group, <i>Lincoln in the Bardo</i> by George Saunders, 6:45 via Zoom	Mansfield Public Library
February 9	Presentation on CT Legal Services focusing on elder law and COVID-19 impacts	Mansfield Senior Center, (Reserve by 2-7) 860-429-0262
February 10	Free FOODSHARE Distribu- tion, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM- 12 noon	Mansfield Human Services
February 11	Drive-thru Fresh Friday Meal for Seniors, 11:30 AM-12 noon	Mansfield Senior Center (Reserve with \$7 payment by 2/4) 860-429-0262
February 12	Free Family Paint Day	Mansfield Community Center Pre-registration required
February 12	Drop-in Crafts: Make Valentines, 11:00 AM- 4:00 PM	Mansfield Public Library
February 15	" A Good Night's Rest " Health and Fitness Seminar	Mansfield Community Center Free to MCC members, Non- members \$10; Must pre-register
February 15	Classic Movie Night showing "Theodora Goes Wild", 4:00 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register by 2/11) 860-429-0262
February 15	Hear about Mansfield-Willi Restaurant Week on Wayne Norman's show, WILI-AM at 7:40 AM	WILI-AM
February 17	" The Wonder of Winter " Community Art Exhibit Submission Deadline.	Mansfield Community Center
February 17	Lesbian Film Series & Discus- sion, "Strangers in Good Company", 1:00 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register by 2/15) 860-429-0262
February 18	Recreation Rescue for this day off from school	Mansfield Community Center
February 19	Free Day for Mansfield Residents at MCC, 7:00 AM- 4:00 PM	Mansfield Community Center

More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
February 21 to March 6	Mansfield-Willi Restaurant Week	Mansfield Downtown Partnership
February 22	British Line of Succession Seminar with Janet Avery	Mansfield Community Center Must pre-register, \$6
February 24	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services or call 860-429-3315
February 25	Drive-Thru Fresh Friday Luncheon for Seniors, 11:30 AM-12 noon	Mansfield Senior Center (Register with \$7 payment by 2/18), Call 860-487-9877
February 26	Free- Guided Hike/Snowshoe at Schoolhouse Brook Park	Mansfield Community Center and Mansfield Parks & Rec
February 26	Babysitter Safety Class	Mansfield Community Center
March 4	Hear Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth on Wayne Norman's morning show on WILLI-AM at 7:40 AM	TownMngr@mansfieldct.org
March 4	Free Day for Mansfield Residents at MCC, 5:30 AM-8:30 PM	Mansfield Community Center
March 6	Free -Winter Trees of the Moss Sanctuary	Mansfield Community Center and Mansfield Parks & Rec
March 8	Mansfield Library Book Discussion Group, Online 6:45 PM	Mansfield Public Library
March 9	The Dogs of Chernobyl-35 Years Later, Online, 6:30 PM	Mansfield Public Library
March 10	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services or call 860-429-3315
March 12	Free Family Paint Day	Mansfield Community Center Pre-registration required
March 24	Free FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	Mansfield Human Services or call 860-429-3315

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, view some meetings as they occur via Live Video Stream on our YouTube channel, or review minutes and recordings after the fact.

▶ 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.
February 2 5:30 PM	Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC)	
February 3 4:30 PM	Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors	
February 3 10:00 AM	Planning Zoning Commission Regulatory Review Committee	
February 7 6:00 PM	Inland Wetlands Agency/ Planning Zoning Commission	
February 8 12:00 PM	Youth Services Advisory Board	
February 8 1:00 PM	Town-University Relations Committee	
February 8 6:00 PM	Celebrate Mansfield Festival Committee	Mansfield Downtown Partnership offices
February 8 7:00 PM	Transportation Advisory Committee	Conference Room B, Town Hall
February 9 7:00 PM	Human Rights Commission	
February 9 7:00 PM	Sustainability Committee	
February 10 4:00 PM	School Building Committee	
February 10 7:00 PM	Mansfield Board of Education	Council Chambers
February 14 9:30 AM	Commission on Aging	
February 14 6:00 PM	Town Council-Finance Committee	
February 14 7:00 PM	Town Council	
February 15 5:30 PM	Solid Waste Advisory Committee	
February 16 7:00 PM	Conservation Commission	
February 16 7:00 PM	Human Rights Commission-Communications- Outreach Committee	
February 17 10:00 AM	Planning and Zoning Commission-Regulatory Review	

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>
February 17 6:00 PM	Economic Development Commission	
February 22 6:00 PM	Planning and Zoning Commission	
February 22 6:30 PM	Human Rights Commission-Town Charge Committee	
February 22 6:30 PM	Zoning Board of Appeals	
February 23 9:00 AM	Traffic Authority	Conference Room B, Town Hall
February 23 3:30 PM	Human Services Advisory Board (Special Meeting)	
February 23 6:30 PM	Historic District Commission	
February 24 4:00 PM	School Building Committee	
February 28, 5:30 PM	Personnel Committee-Town Council	
February 28 7:00 PM	Town Council	
March 1 7:00 PM	Library Advisory Board	
March 3 10:00 AM	Planning Zoning Commission-Regulatory Review Committee	
March 3 4:30 PM	Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors	
March 7 6:00 PM	Inland Wetlands Agency/ Planning Zoning Commission	
March 8 12:00 noon	Youth Services Advisory Board	
March 8 7:00 PM	Agricultural Committee	
March 8 5:00 PM	Celebrate Mansfield Festival Committee	
March 9 6:00 PM	Sustainability Committee	
March 9 7:00 PM	Human Rights Commission	
March 10 4:00 PM	School Building Committee	
March 10 7:00 PM	Board of Education	Council Chambers
March 14 9:30 AM	Commission on Aging Committee	
March 14 7:00 PM	Town Council	
March 14 6:00 PM	Town Council-Finance Committee	
March 15 5:30 PM	Solid Waste Advisory Committee	Conference Room B
March 15 7:00 PM	Parks and Natural Resource Committee	

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>
March 16 7:00 PM	Conservation Commission	
March 16 7:00 PM	Human Rights Commission- Communications-Outreach	
March 17 7:00 PM	Planning and Zoning- Regulatory Review Committee	
March 17 6:00 PM	Economic Development Commission	
March 21 6:00 PM	Planning and Zoning	
March 22 6:30 PM	Human Rights Commission- Town Charge Committee	
March 22 6:30 PM	Zoning Board of Appeals	
March 23 9:00 AM	Traffic Authority	Conference Room B
March 23 6:30 PM	Historic District Commission	
March 24 4:00 PM	School Building Committee	
March 30 6:30 PM	Town Manager’s Budget Presentation to the Town Council	

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	Jay O'Keefe, Director	860-429-3015 parks&rec@mansfieldct.org



Please Contact Our Department Leaders for What You Need

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