

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

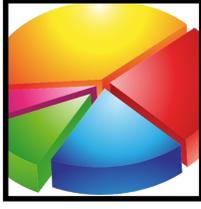
VOL. 3, ISSUE 2

4-6-23

## Look for these stories in this newsletter



Mansfield Recognized for Arts Support  
(See page 18)



Budget Process Underway for FY23-24  
(See page 4)



Celebrating the Earth  
(See page 12)



Upcoming Events  
(See page 29)

## Message from the Town Manager

### Growing into a New School and Plans for Mansfield's Future

Greetings Fellow Residents!



I hope this newsletter finds everyone thoroughly enjoying the start of spring after what will go down as one of the more mild Connecticut winters on record! The onset of spring allows folks to spend more time outdoors as the natural landscape springs back to life. This is also a very busy time of year in your municipal government, which we will lay out in this newsletter.

**Budget Deliberations Begin.** After months of in-depth planning and analysis, on March 29 I presented my formal Fiscal Year 2023/2024 budget recommendations to the Town Council ([View the presentation](#)). This is the beginning of a process that provides ample opportunity for input by the Town Council and other community stakeholders. The full schedule of the budget process, department presentations and review opportunities are outlined on page 6 of this newsletter. We encourage all of our residents to take advantage of the opportunities to learn about our proposed budget through the deliberative process this spring, and to mark your calendars to attend the Town Meeting on May 9 at Mansfield Middle School (this is when the Town Council's approved budget is officially adopted by taxpayers).

**Personnel Updates.** At the end of February, Allison Maynard, LCSW, joined the Town of Mansfield as Director of Human Services following the retirement Pat Schneider. Pat served Mansfield for near 10 years, and we wish her and her husband the very best in their retirement adventure. Allison came to Mansfield after serving as Director of Human Services in Somers. She was also previously the Director of Social Services for the Town of Vernon and has experienced directing a nonprofit social services agency in western Massachusetts. We are very excited that Allison has brought her considerable professional experience and enthusiasm for Human Services to the Town of Mansfield. (See more details about Allison's experience [on our website](#).)



I am also thrilled to share that Maria Capriola, who worked for the Town of Mansfield for many years, will be rejoining us in early-May as our Chief of Shared Services and Administration. Maria has served as Simsbury's Town Manager since 2018, and, prior to that, served in Mansfield alongside then Town Manager Matt Hart for more than ten years as both the Assistant to the Town Manager (2007-2012) and Assistant Town Manager (2012-2018). In the newly created Chief of Shared Services and Administration role, she will provide oversight of and counsel to multiple shared services departments and programs, including Finance, Human Resources, Communications, Facilities, Public Health, and Information Technology within the Town of Mansfield. This position also serves the Mansfield Public Schools, Regional School District 19 and municipal partners including the Eastern Highland Health District and Mansfield Downtown Partnership. The Chief of Shared Services and Administration subsumes the role of the Human Resource Director position that has been filled on an interim basis since October. Learn more about Maria's experience on [our website](#).



**Mansfield Elementary School.** In just a couple of weeks our new Mansfield Elementary School building will officially open for operation! This new state-of-the-art "net zero" school, which exemplifies Mansfield's enduring commitment to sustainability and public education, has had increasing public exposure through a variety of community events as the project team finishes punch list items and starts on

(Continued)



(Town Manager’s Message cont.)



closeout of exterior work now that the weather has improved. Elementary students recently took class field trips to the new school, and families had an opportunity to take part in self-guided walk-through tours each evening this past week. A recent neighbor walkthrough of the building was also well-attended and well-received. The district created [a self-guided tour map](#) explaining key features of the exterior campus. Community members will be invited to schedule a tour of the new school on Friday afternoons starting in late-April after students have fully moved in and a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony is also being planned for later in the spring.

**Community Engagement.** We continue to move forward with the master planning process for Mansfield Parks and Recreation that was launched in early-February, and are also in the process of initiating two additional town projects that will entail extensive amount of community engagement.



One such project entails the next phase of our ongoing comprehensive municipal facilities needs assessment that includes an evaluation of alternative approaches to upgrading town buildings in a manner that generates the most public benefit. It will be essential for us to obtain in-depth feedback from the public to help us best understand community needs with respect to our existing facilities and potential alternatives.

Additionally, the Town is embarking on an in-depth planning process to help guide future redevelopment of neighborhoods in the northwestern portion of Town that have been under-going significant changes in recent years as an ever-growing number of owner-occupied homes have transitioned into rental housing primarily leased by UConn students. These are very important projects for our community, and considerable effort will be made to alert the public of upcoming engagement opportunities and obtain valuable input using a wide range of traditional and digital methods.



**Modified Schedule Public Input.** As has been well-publicized over the last few months, a roughly six-month trial period for a modified work schedule (i.e., four-day work week) for municipal offices situated in Town Hall officially launched on January 9. Alternative work schedules are becoming increasingly adopted by municipal organizations, and the broad aim of this endeavor is to see if there are ways in which employee work-life balance can be enhanced, while at the same time ensuring that residents and visitors receive the same high-quality (or possibly better) service from our municipal government with extended hours for user convenience. The long-term efficacy of this model is being evaluated in an ongoing manner based on the experiences and feedback of employees and the public.

**Have you shared with us your opinion on the modified schedule at Town Offices? Please give us your feedback now through this form.**

On a related note, in an effort to encourage our residents and visitors to share feedback that enables us to continuously enhance the quality of our programs and services, we are in the process of installing point-of-service (POS) comment/suggestion boxes in all municipal buildings that provide direct service to the public. Patrons will be able to provide feedback on any topic of interest, including their experience as it relates to the modified hours of operation that are presently being piloted at Town Hall. These opportunities are being extended as an adjunct to the convenient-to-use [online feedback form](#) about the modified hours of operation schedule in Town Hall offices that was published back in January when we launched the current pilot program.

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**(Town Manager’s Message cont.)**

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](mailto: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.

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!

**Important Updates About Upcoming Utility Billings:**



Southern Mansfield Area– Sewer usage bills were distributed April 1 and are due by May 1, 2023.

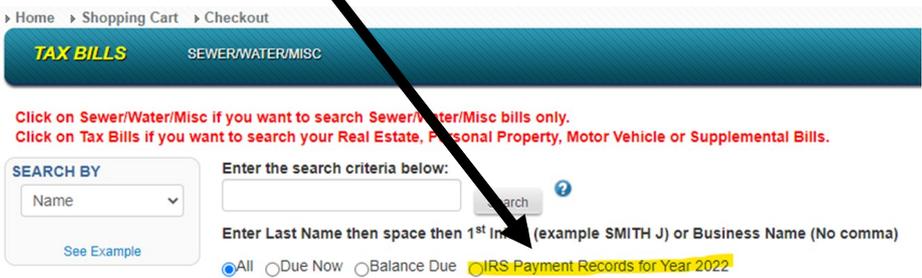
Storrs Four Corners Area – Sewer assessment bills for the new sewer lines were distributed April 1, 2023 and are due by May 1, 2023

Mansfield/Storrs – Refuse/trash bills were distributed April 1, 2023 and are due by May 1, 2023

**Did you know that your Federal/State Income Tax information is accessible through the town’s website—[www.mansfieldct.gov](http://www.mansfieldct.gov)?**

From the Home page, go to *Services* and click on [Pay My Tax Bill](#). Make sure to enter your name as instructed (last name then a space, then your first name).

There is a button (highlighted in yellow) you can select to narrow down your search specifically for the 2022 year. We hope this is useful!



**UConn  
Nutrition Students  
Present**

Family Friendly Nutrition

Feeding Your Family  
on a Budget

Creating Easy  
Meals & Snacks with  
Simple Ingredients

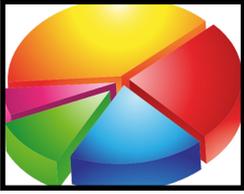
**April 24th 6-7 p.m.**  
CC Arts & Crafts Room

Bring your questions and your kids!  
10 S. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268  
[www.mansfielddcc.com](http://www.mansfielddcc.com) 860.429.3015

**Pre-registration Required**  
Activity #470091-D



## Town Manager Proposes Budget for 2023-24; Review Process Begins



The Fiscal Year 2023/24 budget review period officially commenced last Wednesday, March 29, when the Town Manager presented his official budget recommendations to the Town Council. The Town Council will now commence with a deliberative process that culminates with budget adoption in late-April, with final approval of the budget taking place at the annual Town Meeting on May 9, 2023.

Town staff began preparing this budget in December 2022, during a period of historically high inflation (roughly 7.5% at its peak) that was dramatically affecting the costs of labor, goods, and service. Although the rate of inflation has declined somewhat (closer to 6% at the time of this writing), it continues to be much higher than at any other point over the last decade. Although many market indices continue to point to ongoing economic growth and health at the local, state, regional, and national levels, there should be no question that this period of high inflation is continuing to have an impact on our municipal budget (and the finances of all residents of Mansfield) in significant ways. Municipal officials have worked carefully to prepare an operating budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) designed to accomplish the following:

- Maintain or enhance the quality of current programs and services
- Wisely use/leverage enhanced state aid funding
- Maintain pay-as-you-go capital plan
- Preserve/sustain the General Fund's presently healthy fund balance
- Minimize any increases in the mill rate and overall tax burden
- Achieve efficiencies (cost savings, digital access/transactions, etc.)
- Promote transparency and accessibility of local government
- Continue to plan for needed upgrades to municipal facilities and infrastructure
- Advance the priorities, goals and objectives of Mansfield Tomorrow
- Promote sustained local economic growth

Establishing a budget is not a simple task and we anticipate much discussion by the Town Council on how we meet these goals as the budget process proceeds during the month of April. We view the proposed spending plan as a starting point for Council discussion.

The Town Manager has recommended the following budgets for fiscal year (FY) 2023/24 for your review and consideration:

- The Proposed FY 2023/24 General Fund Budget totaling \$51,856,840 plus Mansfield's general fund contribution, estimated at \$11,951,245, to the Regional School District 19 (Region 19) budget. Combined these items total \$63,808,085.
- The Proposed FY 2023/24 Capital Fund Budget totaling \$5,263,250.

Staff has designed the Proposed FY 2023/24 Budget to maintain or enhance the quality of current programs and services, strive to be increasingly proactive with respect to capital improvement program investments, reflect stable funding levels of state aid, minimize any increase in the mill rate, continue to strengthen the Town's financial position, and accommodate other select Council policy objectives.

Under the proposed budget, all of our core services remain intact and there is no planned reduction in personnel. However, it should be noted that this year's proposed budget also does not propose any noteworthy increases to existing staffing levels. The only proposed additional staffing is in the Department of Building and Housing in the form of two part-time building inspectors intended to address the rising demand for inspection services during a period of accelerating construction (particularly with respect to multi-family housing developments). Beyond these additional investments tied to proposed service improvements, the majority of increases in this budget are fixed costs or are determined by contracts.

The proposed budget also builds on the Council's commitment to continue increasing the general fund contribution to the CIP at a level that, when combined with other revenue sources, allows the Town to finance most regular, recurring capital projects and initiatives on a pay-as-you-go or cash basis. For the Proposed FY 2023/24 CIP, we have recommended a general fund contribution of \$3,983,900 that includes \$365,000 in funding for renovations to the third floor of Mansfield Middle School and \$100,000 for school information technology needs. The CIP also includes \$2,750,000 for road resurfacing, drainage, engineering and transportation improvement projects; \$1,250,000 toward the cost of building repairs and developing conceptual design plans to guide future major facility upgrade projects; \$325,000 toward Fire/EMS

(Continued)



*(Town Manager’s Proposed Budget Continued)*



replacement equipment; \$315,000 for Parks & Recreation (i.e., replacement of equipment and improvements to park amenities), and; \$268,250 for community development needs. While this year’s budget proposes a substantial increase (\$1,183,895 or 38.4%) in the General Fund Contribution to Capital, we have also supported the capital program with monies from other funds.

With respect to tax revenues, the October 1, 2022 preliminary grand list has effectively remained level with an increase of only \$1,041,128 or 0.09%. Real estate has remained largely stable with a slight (\$1,765,300 or 0.18%) decrease from last year. Personal property tax revenues decreased by \$1,594,387 or 1.6%. Motor Vehicles have increased by \$4,400,815 or 4.1%. At the proposed mill rate of 31.88 (4.9% increase from the FY 22/23 mill rate of 30.38), this growth would generate approximately \$33,000 in new revenue.

As the Town Council is aware, legislative changes advanced by the Governor and adopted by the CT General Assembly during the 2022 legislative session included a property tax cap of 32.46 mills on motor vehicles. A proposed Motor Vehicle Tax Reimbursement grant administered by the state is being used to reimburse towns for revenue lost as a result of the cap. However, given that Mansfield’s projected FY 2023/24 mill rate is below this cap by 0.58 mills, the Motor Vehicle Tax Reimbursement grant will not apply to Mansfield.

Legislative changes relative to state aid funding that were enacted in 2021 have resulted in the Town of Mansfield receiving considerably more annual revenue in the form of payments-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) than it has historically received. More specifically, under the new funding formula, the Town is received approximately \$13.9 million in PILOT funding in FY 2021/22 and FY 2022/23, which represents a roughly \$4.7 million increase above the approximately \$8.2 million it had received for this same purpose in recent fiscal years. This elevated level of state aid made it possible for the Town to enhance the level of municipal services it provides its residents by adding a number of much needed positions in FY 2022/23. However, while Mansfield’s state aid totals included in the Governor’s proposed biennial budget for FY 2023/24 and FY 2024/2025 are being maintained at current levels (approximately \$24 million across all aid categories), it is important to understand that “level” funding still presents significant challenges with respect to supporting ongoing delivery of existing service levels as we simultaneously experience historically high rates of inflation (>6%) that are eroding the value of the dollar. More information on State Aid can be found in the Issue Paper.

The proposed budgets for the Town, Mansfield Public Schools, and Region 19 have collectively increased by \$3,522,964. Although this represents a substantial combined year-over-year increase in proposed appropriations, it must be understood how significantly this increase is being driven by inflationary factors as well as the desire to continue making substantial headway in addressing deferred capital improvement projects. Although the Town’s Grand List is expected to remain stable for one more year as projected dramatic growth in the Town’s Grand List will not come to fruition for at least one or two more years, the Town is expected to benefit from sustained PILOT funding and other forms of State Aid in FY 2023/2024 that are consistent with recent legislative changes in the funding formulas. This will enable the Town to maintain existing services and investing in much needed capital projects while increasing the mill rate by 4.93% (31.88 mills in FY 2023/24 vs. 30.38 mills in FY 2022/23). Based on the October 1, 2022 net abstract, the median home value in Mansfield stands at approximately \$160,200 in assessed value. As such, the median homeowner would see an annual increase in taxes of \$240 per year (\$20.00 per month).

The management team views the Town Manager’s Proposed FY 2023/24 Budget and capital improvement plan as a viable starting point for Council discussion. We understand that potential impact on the taxpayer needs to be considered carefully and we will assist the Council in making any desired adjustments.

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**Reminder from the Registrars: Two Important Votes this Spring**



The E.O. Smith Budget Referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 2 from 6am-8pm in the council chambers at the Town Hall. Town residents who are registered electors and non-residents who are U.S. citizens at least 18 years old who own property in Mansfield with an assessed value of at least \$1000 are eligible to vote.

The annual Town Meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 9 at 7pm in the auditorium at the Mansfield Middle School. Attendees will hear the proposed Town Budget and a vote on the adoption of the budget will be taken at the end of the meeting. Town residents who are registered electors and non-residents who are U.S. citizens at least 18 years old who own property in Mansfield with an assessed value of at least \$1000 are eligible to vote.

**Town of Mansfield’s Budget Development and Adoption Schedule**



The Town’s management team has compiled the Town Manager’s Proposed FY 2023/24 Budget and capital improvement plan as a starting point for Council discussion. Potential impacts on our taxpayers was carefully considered as the budget was developed, and we will assist the Council in making any desired adjustments.

Please join in on the process. The budget review is underway, and the schedule for upcoming sessions is provided below. All meetings may be attended in-person, or watch the live-stream virtually from your home: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/2062/Livestream-of-Meetings>

Date/Time	Purpose	Location
April 6 Thursday 6:30 PM	<b>Budget Review-General Fund and Capital:</b> General Government, Public Safety, Community Services, Community Development, Town-wide, Operating Transfers, Parks & Rec Fund, Mansfield Discovery Depot, Other Operating Fund	Council Chambers
April 10-14	School Vacation Week	
April 10 Monday, 7:00 PM	<b>Public Hearing on Budget at Regular Council Meeting</b>	Council Chambers
April 11 Tuesday 6:30 PM	<b>Budget Review-General Fund and Capital:</b> Public Works, Other funds: Town Aid, Sewer Operating, Solid Waste Fund, Transit Services, Debt Service, Health Insurance, Workers’ Comp, and Cemetery Fund. Other agencies: Eastern Highlands Health District and Mansfield Downtown Partnership	Council Chambers
April 18 Tuesday 6:30 PM	<b>Budget Review-General Fund and Capital:</b> Board of Education, Shared Facilities Management, Shared Finance, Shared Information Technology & Management Services Fund	Council Chambers
April 20 Thursday, 7 PM	<b>Budget Discussion</b> (for flagged items and discussions)	Council Chambers
April 24 Monday 6:00-7:00 PM	<b>Adoption of Budget</b> (Note: held prior to regular Town Council meeting)	Council Chambers
April 26 Wednesday 6:30 PM	<b>Adoption of Budget</b> (meeting held if necessary)	Council Chambers
May 1 Monday, 7:00 PM	<b>Region 19 Annual Meeting on Budget</b>	E.O. Smith High School Media Center
May 2 Tuesday	<b>Region 19 Budget Referendum</b> for Ashford, Mansfield, Willington voters	Polling Places
May 4 Thursday 6:00 PM	<b>Public Information Session</b> Town Council Adopted Budget	Council Chambers
May 9 Tuesday 7:00 PM	<b>Annual Town Meeting</b>	Mansfield Middle School Auditorium

**Find all the proposed budget details on the Mansfield [website: BUDGET](https://www.mansfieldct.gov/2062/BUDGET)**

## Sign up for CODE RED Emergency Alerts from the Town of Mansfield

Residents are encouraged to sign up for emergency notifications from the Town of Mansfield. The CodeRED emergency notification system serves as the backbone of the Town of Mansfield's emergency planning and communications outreach by sending telephone calls, text messages, emails and social media in an effort to effectively inform residents to protect life and property.

To sign-up for CodeRed emergency notifications, visit [our website](#)



## Human Services Urges Residents to Seek Renters' Rebate



Starting April 1st through October 1st Human Services will be assisting with applications for the State of Connecticut Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Tax Relief Program.

Basic eligibility qualifications for this program are:

- You must be 65 by Dec. 31, 2022
- Your gross income in 2022 FROM ALL SOURCES was **no more than \$49,100 for married/civil-unionized couples or \$40,300 if single.**
- You rent an apartment, house or mobile home lot and do not file under the Homeowner's Tax Credit program.
- You resided in the State of Connecticut during 2022 and presently reside in Mansfield.
- You are under age 65 and are totally and permanently disabled, receiving Social Security Disability or SSI.

Please call Human Services at 860-729-3314 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

## Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Financial Sustainability Strategy



On February 14 and 15, 2023, members of the Mansfield Parks and Recreation consulting team, Jamie Sabbach, Principal at 110%, Inc. and Ryan Short, CEO at CivicBrand, were on-site in the Town of Mansfield, Connecticut to conduct a series of engagement exercises relative to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This site visit consisted of staff workshops, interviews, and focus groups, as well as community focus groups, Town Council engagement, and public meetings.

Over the next several months a continuation of community engagement will continue in various forms, including community questionnaires, surveys, and public workshops and open houses. There will also be continued work on collecting and analyzing data on Mansfield demographics, local, regional, and national trends and facility, open space, parks, preserves, trails and recreation area analysis. To further assist in this process, 110% will visit Mansfield for a second time this spring to complete a comprehensive ADA compliance assessment of all indoor and outdoor facilities. The audit will identify any necessary accessibility upgrades and develop a strategy for implementing improvements.

Additionally, in the next step in the financial planning process, staff will work with 110% on defining and development of service categories which will represent all department services and a cost-of-services analysis. Based upon the results of the cost-of-service analysis and various reports generated from data analysis, there will be a review the revenues and expenses attributed to each individual service (classes, activities, events, rentals, special events, etc.) as well as recommend fees and charges based upon a determined cost or recovery/subsidy allocation goals.

We anticipate that the comprehensive Master Planning process will conclude in fall of 2023. To learn more, and to offer your input, please visit [mansfieldtomorrow.org](https://mansfieldtomorrow.org).


 MANSFIELD  
TOMORROW


 PARKS & REC  
MASTER PLAN

### Mansfield Youth Services Supports Families with Information and Care



#### Hidden in Plain Sight

Parents and other adults who work with youth are invited to join us on Wednesday April 19, 2023 at 5:30pm at Edwin O. Smith High School for an evening to learn ways to help identify warning signs that your young person might be using substances, and how to talk with them about it. For more information click here: <https://fb.me/e/10MWR5yOk>

#### Pinwheels for Prevention

On Thursday, March 30th, Mansfield Youth Services help to raise awareness about National Child Abuse Prevention Month by “planting” a Pinwheels for Prevention Garden at Mansfield’s Town Hall.



Pinwheels are the national symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention. The pinwheel represents the hope that every child will be raised in a healthy, safe and nurturing environment. It is also a call to action, encouraging people everywhere to recognize that children are our future and that we all have a role to play in keeping them safe. All children deserve great childhoods! Learn more about this at:

<https://preventchildabuse.org/resources/pinwheels-for-prevention/>

#### Poster Contest

In celebration of children and families during Child Abuse Prevention Month, we are inviting kids to show us their creativity with our First Annual Kids Art Contest! This year’s theme: *Who is your everyday hero?* Winners will be given a Family Fun basket with fun activities for the whole family! [Learn about the details!](#)

### Middle School Students Design and Donate Dog Beds to Animal Control



Mansfield Middle School students presented Mansfield Animal Control with 12 dog beds they researched, designed, assembled and sewed in Technology Education and Consumer Life Sciences classes. The students, Melia, Lily and Kyosi along with teachers, Bob Burrington and Nora Dickinson, detailed the project for the Board of Education on March 9. Students presented the beds and homemade dog treats to Animal Control Officer Rachel Leek to use at Mansfield’s shelter.

The staff at Mansfield Animal Control would like to thank the students of Mansfield Middle School for thinking of their community when developing an idea for this project. Not only did they gift us and other shelters in the area with a tremendous supply of home-baked and nutritious dog treats, they also did excellent research about the types of beds that work best in a shelter environment.

The shelter often receives donated soft beds for dogs. For the safety of new pets which may be lost, surrendered or abandoned, we cannot provide soft beds right away. Not only did these students take the time to figure out what type of beds were best suited for a shelter situation, but also designed and built them. Each bed also included touching messages from the students to the pets who will use them.

Our shelter staff and pets are extremely thankful for the students (and teachers) time and generosity.



### Environmental Planner Joins Planning and Development Department



The Planning and Development Department welcomes Michael Stankov as the Town's new Environmental Planner.

Michael holds a BS in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and a MS in Conservation Biology from the University of Connecticut. He will be working closely with the Agriculture, Parks and Natural Resources, and the Conservation Committees, and in support of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

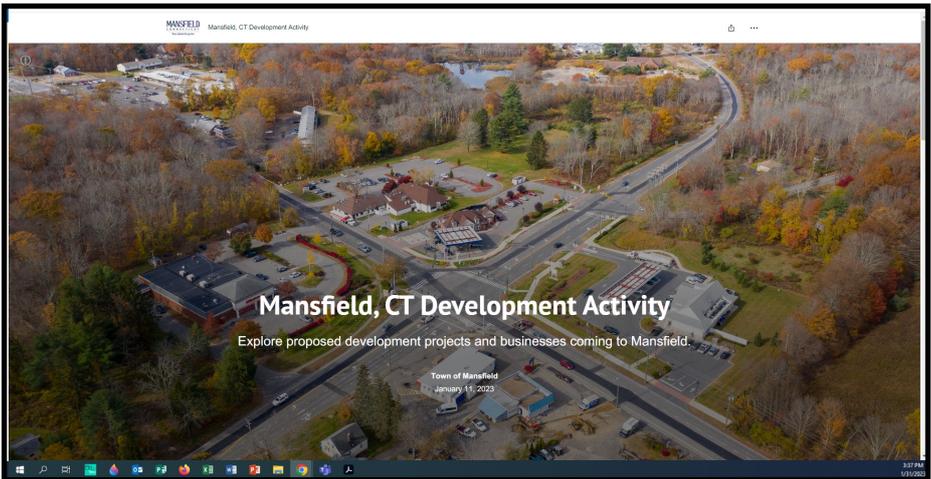


Most recently, Michael served as the Inland Wetlands Agent and the Zoning Enforcement Officer for the Town of Winchester, CT.

### Keep Up With the Latest News on Development Activity in Mansfield

There are many mixed-use and multi-family developments in various stages of the permitting process. The Planning Department maintains a [Development Activity](#) page on the website, which provides updates on upcoming and recently approved projects. We encourage residents to visit the site frequently.

Share Your thoughts! Please email the Department of Planning and Development at [planzonedept@mansfieldct.org](mailto:planzonedept@mansfieldct.org) with any questions, comments, or information about participating in a public hearing. Sign up to receive notifications of when a new agenda has been posted by signing up on the [Town's Website](#).



### Upcoming Public Hearings: The Inland Wetlands Agency has scheduled two public hearings:

May 1, 2023-Application of Benchmark Cascade, LLC for a permit to conduct regulated activities associated with a proposed multi-family housing project (approximately 84 units) located at 541 Middle Turnpike

May 1, 2023- Application of Benchmark Cascade, LLC for a permit to conduct regulated activities associated with a proposed mixed-use building (approximately 35 units) located at 555 Middle Turnpike







## FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING

American Red Cross Certification & Training

**Get Certified in Adult & Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED**

Register Now!  
Space is Limited

**SUNDAY, APRIL 23**  
**10 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE APR. 17  
CLASS HELD AT  
MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER  
ACTIVITY # 460002 - A  
FEE: \$82 MEMBERS, \$106 NON-MEMBERS

**TRAINING INCLUDES:**  
LEARNING LIFE SAVING SKILLS  
CPR FOR ADULT, CHILD & INFANT  
BASIC FIRST AID SKILLS



www.mansfieldcc.com | 860-429-3015 | 10 S. Eagleville Rd.

**Spring Renewal, Family Celebrations, and Human Rights**



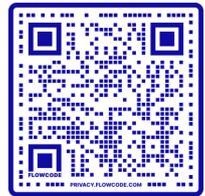
This year Passover, Easter and Eid all fall within days of each other. Passover is celebrated by Jews, Easter by Christians and Eid by Muslims. We have members of all these faith traditions living in Mansfield. Although the religions are different, these holidays are connected by the celebration of renewal, recommitment, liberation and deepening of our communal faith traditions. They all focus on understanding our history and finding ways to bring our many truths into the world to make life more meaningful for everyone in our community.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN, Dec.10, 1948) asserts that “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.” These three faith traditions are considered “People of the Book,” because we all rely on sacred scriptures to guide us, and we believe that we have a common ancestor in Abraham.

From a human rights perspective, let’s ask ourselves how much we know about each others’ beliefs. Do we have enough mutual understanding to understand our somewhat different value systems when decisions must be made for the good of the entire community? Do we have friends from the other traditions? Have we ever discussed our similarities or differences? How do we relate to the other people in our community who do not belong to any of these faith traditions but are entitled to the same human rights as everyone else?

In the spirit of renewal and human rights, let’s start talking to each other about our values, the kind of town we want to live in and the ways we listen to increase our understanding. Happy spring from the HRC!

*What is your experience with human rights in Mansfield? Mansfield Human Rights Commission has just begun our work and we welcome anyone who wants to be involved with us to look at [our page on the Town website](#). We are placing suggestion boxes in several public buildings for anyone who wants to let us know something about a human rights concern in town. You can [send us a message](#)— or just scan this QR Code.*



*-Submitted by Jane Fried, Chair, Mansfield Human Rights Commission*

**Learn About Other Cultures with the Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Calendar**

Mansfield Public Schools has introduced a new resource for staff and families in the community to support its Core Belief to *Lead with Equity*. A new online Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Calendar is a quick-reference tool about cultural, religious and national observances that are important to families in Mansfield.

The calendar, which is available in a simple pdf form and as an interactive tool, is available on the district’s website at <https://mansfieldct.gov/deicalendar>.

April 2023

**Easter**      **Celebrate Diversity Month**      **Passover**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Arab Heritage Month Autism Awareness Month Sexual Assault Awareness Month						1
2 Christian Palm Sunday	3	4 Jain Mahavir Jayanti	5 Jehovah's Witnesses Memorial of Jesus Christ's Death	6 Jewish Passover (the 4th Christian Maundy Thursday United States Tartan Day)	7 Christian Good Friday	8 Christian Holy Saturday
9 Christian Easter Sunday	10 Christian Easter Monday	11	12	13	14 Hindu Shri Lakshmi Navami	15 LGBTQ+ Day of Silence
16 Roman Catholic Feast of Divine Mercy Coptic Orthodox Christian Easter	17	18 Islamic Laylat al-Qadr	19	20	21 Baha'i Festival of Ridvan	22 International Earth Day Islamic Eid al-Fitr
23	24	25	26 LGBTQ+ Lesbian Visibility Day	27	28	29
30 Easter						

### Serve Your Community by Volunteering for a Board or Commission



The Town of Mansfield relies on its many boards and commissions/committees to advise the work of the Town Council and engage with Town staff on meaningful and productive activities that benefit the community. Volunteering to share your expertise and passion for Mansfield is also a great way to meet new friends within your community.

These boards and committees below currently have openings. The Town Council's Committee on Committees reviews and appoints those individuals who apply expressing interest to serve as a regular member, or as an alternate member. If you are interested in serving, please attend a meeting or two as a guest to learn more about the committee's work, then submit your interest through the [Boards and Committees web page](#). Visit that page, too, to learn more details about each of these groups and what they do. Thank you!

- Agriculture Committee- 1 alternate vacancy
- Arts Advisory Committee- 2 regular vacancies
- Cemetery Advisory Board- 1 regular vacancy
- Eastern Highlands Health District Board of Directors- 1 regular vacancy
- Eastern Regional Tourism District- 1 regular vacancy
- Economic Development Commission- 2 regular vacancies
- Board of Ethics- 1 alternate vacancy
- Historic District Commission- 1 regular vacancy, 3 alternate vacancies
- Housing Code Board of Appeals- 1 alternate vacancy
- Human Rights Commission- 1 alternate vacancy
- Human Services Advisory Committee- 4 regular vacancies
- Library Advisory Board- 2 regular vacancies
- Recreation Advisory Committee- 1 regular vacancy
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee- 2 regular vacancies
- Town/University Relations Committee- 1 regular vacancy

# Teen Center

## Now Open Saturdays!

### NEW HOURS

#### Middle School Hours

Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

#### High School Hours

Thursdays & Fridays 2:30 PM - 6:00 PM

#### ALL GRADES

Saturdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Teen Center is closed on Holidays and Mansfield School Vacation Days.

**SIGN UP FOR YOUR  
FREE TC  
MEMBERSHIP AT  
THE CC RECEPTION  
DESK TODAY!**





**Come celebrate spring, community and our earth!**

Join the Town of Mansfield and members of our community for an afternoon filled with family-fun and exciting activities.

**Earth Day Themed Family Fun Event at the Mansfield Community Center (Free to Mansfield Residents) Parking Lot Picassos Event . Town Booths . AND More!**

**Every Day is Earth Day! Celebrate Spring, Community and our Earth!**

The Mansfield Community Center will be a hub of Earth Day fun and information on April 22. All activities will be on site at the Mansfield Community Center and its grounds.

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. **Passport to Explore Your Backyard Kick-off Event** Check-in! Pick up your summer passport to help explore the parks. Stay for the guided hike at 10:30!

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - **Free Guided Hike in Whetton Woods**  
Leaves from the Mansfield Community Center. Meet in the Community Room. Families welcome, but hike is not stroller friendly.

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. **\*Parking Lot Picassos!** Register by April 16th (Free) to share your artist flare and decorate a Mansfield Community Center parking space with chalk art!

12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Family Fun Event!** Build a fort, tumble and play with the BIG BLUE BLOCKS and tot toys in the gym, or get a little adventurous on the giant inflatable gym slide, visit the track for Family track time, or play together in the Teen Center; available to families for ping pong, billiards, and more! Play on the pool WIBIT on Saturdays.

**12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Activity Booths Hosted by Community Friends!**

**Cardmaking** with the Arts Advisory Committee

**Children's Craft** with the Mansfield Public Library Staff

**Composting Information** with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee- free composting kits available while supplies last

**Recycling Activity** with the Mansfield Elementary 4th grade Eco Action Team

**Seed/seedling transplanting for children** (take home your work!) with the Mansfield Garden Club

**Stuffed Animal Clinic** - bring your favorite stuffed toy in need of repair!

1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

**Stories on the Lawn** with the Mansfield Public Library Staff

Access to this event is \*FREE to Mansfield residents. Residents of any town are welcome; purchase of a Mansfield Community Center day pass required for access to Family Fun event activities for non-residents.

\*Activities indicated with an asterisk require registration and may have an associated fee.

**Other Great Earth Day Activities on April 22**

**\*Saturday Social Group 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

SNSG is a drop in program for adults and teens (age 15+) with developmental and/or cognitive disabilities. Come participate in Earth Day themed activities, socialize, & make new friends! First time participants must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. \$6 for residents, \$7 for non-residents.

**\*Lyrid's Meteor Shower Group Viewing 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

Register by April 21st (Free) then come together to watch the largest Spring meteor shower peak. Bring blankets and viewing items and count how many shooting stars you can see!





**Repair Café, Saturday April 8**



What do you do with a dress that has a tear or a lamp that no longer works? Bring it to the Repair Café on Saturday, April 8, 2023 from 10 am to 2 pm, at the First Congregational Church, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic. The Repair Café is a FREE event open to the public. Skilled volunteers will repair – or teach you to repair – your broken item. Masks required.

**April Electronics Reuse Pilot at the Transfer Station**



For the Saturdays in April, the Town of Mansfield is piloting an electronics reuse table at the Transfer Station where residents drop off electronics, paint, plastic bags, etc.

Currently, electronics you bring for recycling are shredded, separated, and then recycled into new products. While recycling is better than placing electronics in the trash, REUSE is even better since it delays or eliminates the resources needed to manufacture used products into new.

Accepted items include; batteries, cables, iPads, keyboards, laptops, mice, phones, printers and power supplies/chargers, tools, audio equipment, test gear, radios, lamps, appliances, etc. During the pilot, we want to discover how many working items come and go. Electronics that hold personal information should be placed in recycling, not offered for reuse. If you are unsure, recycle instead.

At the end of April, we will evaluate the success of the pilot based on how many items were traded and the ease of managing an electronics swap table. The pilot could continue longer, be discontinued, or become a permanent fixture. If you have any questions, please contact the Mansfield Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-333 or [waltonvd@mansfieldct.org](mailto:waltonvd@mansfieldct.org)

**REMODELING?  
CONSIDER DECONSTRUCTION**

Deconstruction is the process of taking a building apart, piece by piece, and salvaging materials instead of demolishing them.

Up to 70% of materials can be recycled,  
and up to 25% of materials can be reused!

Save money on disposal costs

Get a tax deduction for donated materials

Save useful materials from landfills

Make home improvement more affordable for more people

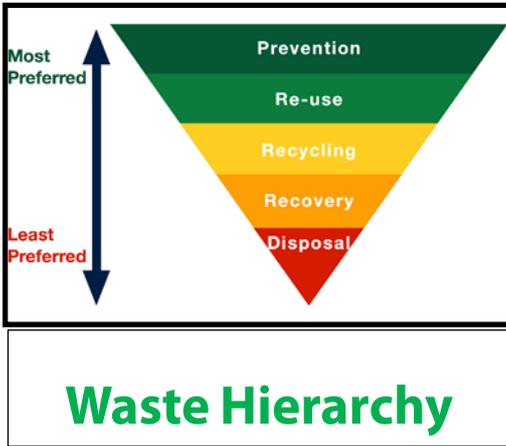


Learn more at: [centerforecotchnology.org/deconstruct](http://centerforecotchnology.org/deconstruct)





**ZERO Waste Schools Sets the Standard for our Community**



With the opening of a new net-zero energy elementary school, this has been a good time to evaluate school waste practices. Mansfield K-8 schools have been recycling and composting since the 1990s.

Yet looking at the waste hierarchy triangle, recycling and composting are not pinnacle actions, in fact they are in the middle of the most preferred/least preferred spectrum.

With the new school year, the Mansfield Recycling Coordinator and school staff has examined how the school can prevent waste. Enter the concept of zero waste.

To be clear, creating ZERO waste is aspirational. Yet setting a zero waste goal changes focus from recycling to waste prevention and reuse. On the waste hierarchy, preventing waste is the gold standard. By avoiding waste, there is no ecological footprint —zero resources are used to make a non-existent product, zero pollution created. The ideal waste prevention practice is in the design of a product. Make it durable and easy to repair. In fact some of our long-lived products are considered treasured antiques.

This year the Mansfield Recycling Coordinator has been working with the new school Food Service Director on how to prevent wasted food and packaging and recently reported the schools’ progress to the middle and elementary schools’ Parent-Teacher organizations.

What are some of the changes? Straws are available by request only. This year ketchup has been served in dispensers rather than individual packets. The schools have been using washable trays and silverware for many years, but this year, only washable silverware is offered at Mansfield Middle School (MMS). (The exception is when the dishwasher is broken.)

In the new Mansfield Elementary School (MES), more food will be cooked on site, reducing pre-packaged individual servings. More food service items will be washable, such as drinking cups and small and medium portion cups. Milk will be served out of a dispenser rather than individual milk cartons (cartons are currently are recycled). Actions like these build on each other and create meaningful impact.

**If MES and MMS, can manage these changes, what can we do at home? Here are some starter ideas:**

- Ordering take-out? Tell the restaurant to nix the condiment packets, plastic forks, spoons, straws.
- Packing lunches? Buy items in family-sized containers and portion into single-serve washable containers.
- Going out? Bring your washable water bottle with you.
- Looking for entertainment? Use the library to borrow books and games.
- Need a tool? Shop the Mansfield tool library first before making a purchase.
- Need new batteries? Replace disposable ones with rechargeable batteries.



### Adopt A Road and Help Clean Up Mansfield



Is there a particularly littered section of road in your neighborhood? Join residents or organizations that have committed to keep Mansfield clean by Adopting A Road.

Those who adopt a portion of a Mansfield road pick up litter at their convenience during the course of a year. By participating, you will not be subject to a charge at the Transfer Station for the litter. Bagged litter can be placed out with trash collection service. Contact the Public Works Department at 860-429-3333 or go to [www.mansfieldct.gov/litter](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/litter).

### April is Rid Litter Month

April has been designated as Rid Litter month. We invite you to beautify Mansfield by picking up litter along your stretch of road or favorite park. Bags of litter may be placed out with household trash for those with collection service or taken to the Mansfield Transfer Station for no charge.

### The Mansfield Public Library Seed Library is open!

The gardening season has begun. Stop on in and select some seeds. Try something new or select your favorites. Vegetable, herb and flower seeds are available. Grab some handouts or check out a book on gardening.

You don't think you have all the tools you need to plant a garden? Don't forget the Mansfield Public Library also has tools to check out for all your gardening needs!

Our Seed Library is about...

- Encouraging our community to dig in and garden
- Educating our community about growing, harvesting and saving seeds
- Creating a community-sustained seed collection at our library
- Nurturing a culture of sharing and abundance

## Mansfield's TAG SALE TRAIL

This annual town-wide tag sale event boasts a full morning of shopping and selling for bargain hunters and spring cleaners alike! Three ways to participate:

- Sell from the Mansfield Community Center Gymnasium - Open to residents of all towns. Guaranteed 10x10' dry location! Registration is first-come, first-served. Register by April 17th (no exceptions). Limited spaces available. No day-of registrations. **Register by April 17th**  
Free! Act. # 490002-A  
 Register me!
- Sell from your home or business/organization - **Register by April 17th (no exceptions)** to secure your spot on the map - and let us handle the advertising! Open to Mansfield residents and Mansfield business locations only. Single home sales: Free! Act. # 490002-B  
 Register me!  
Group/Multi sale or Business/Organization: Free! Act. # 490002-C  
 Register me!
- Shop 'til you drop! Trail maps available FREE online at [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com) and in hand copy at the Mansfield Community Center starting April 24th, 2023.

**Seller information:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of sale (full address):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description:** List here: sale items, rain date, etc. Descriptions will be listed as written up to 100 characters for home/business sales. Ex. Gardening tools, baby items...

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Open Sunday too? (locations listed on map):** yes / no \_\_\_\_\_

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Saturday,**  
**April 29th**  
**8am - 1pm**

THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD AND MANSFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR AGREEMENTS MADE BY PRIVATE PARTIES ON THE TRAIL



\*Image does not depict actual sale locations.

### Mansfield’s New Affordable Housing Committee Off to a Fast Start



The Town Council established an Affordable Housing Committee in 2021 to serve in an advisory capacity to the Council and other boards and commissions about how to increase the supply of affordable housing in our community. The Town Council also established a Housing Trust Fund and the Affordable Housing Committee will make recommendations to the Town Council about how the Trust Fund will be used.

Presently, pursuant to Mansfield’s Zoning Regulations, any new residential development over five units in the Town must set aside 15% of its units (recently increased from 10%) as affordable for people at 80% of the Area Median Income, there are also alternative ways to meet the regulations such as paying a fee to the Mansfield Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

The Affordable Housing Committee has been actively meeting for the last four months and is developing a Housing Trust Fund application, priorities for its use, and will work on strategies for other ways the Town can address affordable housing needs. [Learn more on their web page.](#)

The Affordable Housing Committee meets generally on the first Thursday of each month at 5 pm in Conference Room B. Committee Agendas and minutes are available at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/AgendaCenter>.

### Mansfield Senior Center Celebrates its Volunteers



Did you know that April is National Volunteer Month? It is a time to encourage volunteerism as well as a time to recognize those who step up and volunteer in our community.

At the Mansfield Senior Center our volunteers are at the heart of what we do, whether its greeting visitors to the center, helping with serving meals or delivering Meals on

Wheels, providing medical transportation, helping to set up for events, sharing their talents in group settings or just jumping in whenever we need a helping hand. The simple fact is that we could never do what we do without our volunteer crew. We take the time every April to recognize our volunteers with a luncheon or dinner and the hardest part of that is keeping the volunteers from volunteering to help!

We currently have two volunteers who deserve special recognition. Joan Doiron has been volunteering at the senior center for more than ten years. She helps pack and deliver meals-on-wheels, she works in the kitchen serving lunches, leads a number of groups and activities here, and jumps in wherever and whenever necessary. Her unflinching positivity and desire to help others makes her a truly special member of our volunteer team and our community.



Laura Netro-Price began volunteering at the center just a little over a year ago, but has thrown herself into her role with gusto! She covers our Reception Desk two mornings a week, and has quickly become adept at all of our procedures. She helps with our newsletter, our welcome packets, our monthly calendars and anything else we ask of her. She has even helped develop new programming, hosting several very popular and rollicking Family Feud game nights! She is currently helping us plan an opportunity to showcase our Seniors’ talents and artistic creations in May, and we are so thankful for all that she’s added to our program here!



We salute not only Joan and Laura, but all of our volunteers. As we celebrate them during National Volunteer Month, take to these words to heart:

***“Without volunteers, we’d be a nation without a soul.”***

-Rosalyann Carter



## PREKINDERGARTEN SCREENINGS

The Mansfield Public School District is conducting screenings for three and four year old children eligible for the 2023-2024 school year. (Children need to be 3 years of age by August 31, 2023 in order to be eligible for this screening.)

Screenings will take place on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

Located at the Mansfield Elementary School  
134 Warrenville Road, Mansfield Center

Please contact the Mansfield Elementary School at (860) 423-1611 to schedule your screening appointment today!



## MANSFIELD YOUTH SERVICES ART CONTEST

**THIS YEAR'S THEME: WHO IS YOUR EVERYDAY HERO?**

**Who:** Mansfield Youth Services presents the 1st Annual Child Abuse Prevention Month: *Kids' Art Contest*. The contest is open to children and youth in the following categories: K-4th and 5th-8th

**What:** In celebration of children and families during Child Abuse Prevention Month, we're inviting kids to show us their creativity with our Kids Art Contest!

**Where:** Artwork can be delivered to Mansfield Youth Services, 4S. Eagleville Rd. or may be emailed to [YSB@MansfieldCT.org](mailto:YSB@MansfieldCT.org) by the deadline.

**When:** The deadline for entries is **April 27th 2023**. Include complete and current contact information including, child's name, grade, phone number and email address on the back of poster entry. Winners will be selected and notified on April 27th. Winners will win a Family Fun basket of activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, MANSFIELD YOUTH SERVICES OR VISIT [CHILDWELFARE.GOV](http://CHILDWELFARE.GOV) FOR PARENTING RESOURCES TO PROMOTE FAMILY WELL BEING.



For Questions Contact: Kelly McKenney at [McKenneyKL@mansfieldct.org](mailto:McKenneyKL@mansfieldct.org) or 860-429-3392

**Downtown Storrs Celebrates National Poetry Month: April 2023**



We are all meant for something

~ From "Carrying" by U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites residents and visitors to celebrate National Poetry Month in Downtown Storrs this April.

Enjoy poetry-inspired window art at the Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry and on Wilbur Cross Way. Barnes & Noble UConn and the Mansfield Public Library Express will have displays highlighting their selections of poetry available for purchase or to borrow, respectively. Also at the Library Express, you can stretch your creative muscles with a DIY poetry board in the reading room or pick up a bite-sized piece of poetry\* from the poetry gumball machine in the Nash-Zimmer lobby (\*the poetry is not edible).

Take in the spring weather and some poetry with a "Poem Stroll" – Start at Insomnia Cookies and follow the posters to read "Swifts" by Anne Stevenson. On rainy days, look for our "Sidewalk Stanzas" around Betsy Paterson Square. Selections of poetry will appear when the sidewalk is wet and disappear when it's dry.

For more information, including a map of the Poem Stroll and the full poems of the Sidewalk Stanzas, visit [downtownstorrs.org/poetry](http://downtownstorrs.org/poetry).

**Read the Senior Sparks Featuring Services and Programs for Seniors**

If you are 55 or over and want to travel more, meet new friends, build a new skill, make some music, enjoy a meal with others, receive help doing your taxes or using a computer, then the Mansfield Senior Center is a great resource for you!

Start by reading through the latest issue of [Senior Sparks](#) to see what's in store this month!



**Paper-Shredding Event April 29, 9am to 12 noon at the Transfer Station**



- \$3.00 for a medium sized box of paper (approximately 12" x 10" x 17").
- Paper can be brought in bags or different sized boxes. Will be charged accordingly.
- There is no limit on the number of boxes.

**Town of Mansfield Recognized for Commitment to the Arts**



Windham Arts, in collaboration with the Partnership for the Arts, Culture and History presented the Town of Mansfield with a 2023 Community Arts Partnership Award.

The Town of Mansfield, as well as neighboring Coventry, received the award for their support of the Arts, especially throughout the pandemic, and for putting aside ARPA funding for art grants.

Windham Arts acknowledged that these towns "have shown consistent support for

creative businesses and persons in their communities, and have been important partners to help them be more sustainable, more influential and better able to add to the charm and vibrancy of their towns."

Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, accepted the award on behalf of the Town of Mansfield.



Town of Mansfield  
**Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony**

9:00 AM  
Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Parade will travel from the intersection of Route 195 and Bassetts Bridge Road in Mansfield Center down Cemetery Road to the ceremony site at the new Mansfield Center Cemetery.

*In the event of inclement weather, an abbreviated ceremony will be held in the Mansfield Middle School Gymnasium.*

**On Memorial Day we pay our respect to those who died protecting and preserving the freedoms we enjoy.  
Please join our community in honoring our fallen.**

**Veterans and active duty personnel are invited to march at the head of the parade.**

We are honored to have our veterans and service personnel join us on Bassetts Bridge Road/RT 195 at 8:30 AM on Memorial Day.

Call 860-429-3336, ext. 5 for more information.

**Please remember to thank those who have served our country.**

MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT  
Your place to grow

Agriculture producers, gardeners, and pollinator enthusiasts:

# Beekeeping Seminar

Join the Mansfield Agriculture Committee for a beekeeping 101 session with **Dominic Shooks of Shooks Apiaries** in Connecticut.

In this session, you'll learn the basics of beekeeping, how to start a hive and best practices. The event is free and open to anyone interested; you do not need to be a Mansfield resident to attend. We kindly ask that you RSVP for planning purposes.

Photo Credits Laura Stone

**Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 6:30 pm**  
RSVP by April 24<sup>th</sup> to Michael Stankov at [Stankovm@mansfieldct.org](mailto:Stankovm@mansfieldct.org)

Buchanan Auditorium  
Mansfield Public Library  
54 Warrenville Road  
Mansfield Center, CT

Sponsored by the Mansfield Agriculture Committee

### Spring is Here, and it’s Pothole Season, Too



As predictable as daffodils and peepers, unwelcomed potholes seem to return every spring. It’s a funny term, isn’t it, for those divots that form on roadways and driveways. Why do we even call them potholes? There are a few theories:

This could be true, but it sounds like a creative writing assignment for defining the origin of the word pothole: It all starts with English pottery makers in 15th and 16th century who would take advantage of the wagon wheel ruts in roads. The deep cuts into the road would allow for easy access to deposited clay beneath the roadway. It was a free source of clay pot raw materials. Those people driving wagons and coaches on these roads were aware of the cause for these aggravating holes and begrudgingly called them “potholes.”

According to an article found at <https://thenewswheel.com/why-is-a-pothole-called-a-pothole/>, the easy logical reason is language. The word “pothole” consists of the words “pot” and “hole.” “Hole” is uncomplicated to understand as it is a hole in the road. “Pot” however is not as straightforward. In Middle English, “pot” is an abbreviated way of saying “a deep hole.” But then the word “pothole” would be interpreted to mean a “deep hole hole”.

With the invention of the automobile, some people may have encountered a hole filled with rainwater or melted snow and noticed how it resembled a pot used for cooking. When talking to others they could have said, “I hit that hole that looked like a pot.” Eventually in the interest of brevity the line was condensed to pothole.

What causes a pothole?

An inability to support the weight of traffic by the paved surface and the material beneath (base or sub-base) creates a pothole. Two causes, water and traffic, are needed to create this failure.

Steps of pothole development:

1. Rain or melted snow soaks through pavement cracks and into the sub-base which does not drain well, making the sub-base soft and waterlogged.
2. The soaked area goes through many freeze and thaw cycles. Each time this occurs, the frozen area expands lifting and cracking the pavement further.
3. Ongoing traffic weakens the pavement, creating more cracks and fractures.
4. As the weather warms, the sub-base thaws and contracts creating a cavity under the pavement. As the freeze and thaw cycles repeat, the cavity grows.
5. Traffic eventually causes the weak cracked pavement to fail and to fall into the cavity, generating a pothole.

While Mansfield may not have many potholes on our paved roads, if you encounter one, please contact Public Works at 860-429-3331.

Some content taken from the 2020 American Public Works Association Pothole Fact Sheet <https://resourcecenter.apwa.net/1ie6uru/1>

Mt. Monadnock Day Hike

Join us for a day trip to Mount Monadnock. Transportation and hiking guide included! Just bring lunch, water, and a good pair of walking shoes.

APRIL  
**29TH**  
Weather Date: May 13th

REGISTER NOW:  
411008-A

110 S Eagleville Rd, Mansfield  
860.429.3015  
mansfieldcc.org

\$25 for residents, \$35 for non-residents

MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT  
Parks & Recreation

**MANSFIELD 100 MILE CHALLENGE**

Registration Code: 411007-A

Walk, hike, or run 100-Miles within the Mansfield area. Keep track on one of our tracking forms. When you complete the challenge, bring in your form for a commemorative item. Show off your accomplishment!

www.mansfieldcc.org  
860.429.3015  
10 South Eagleville Road  
Mansfield, CT, 06268



SUMMER 2023 APPLICATIONS

BETSY HAMILL MEMORIAL

# Campership

## COMING APRIL 17

<https://mansfieldct.gov/humanservices>  
[human.services@mansfieldct.org](mailto:human.services@mansfieldct.org)  
(860)429-3315



### Mansfield Fire Department Hosts Blood Drive Friday, April 21



The Mansfield Fire Department consistently hosts blood drives here in Mansfield to ensure there is a supply for those who need it when they need it most. Won't you consider rolling up your sleeve?

Friday, April 21, 2023 starting at 9:45 AM at Reynolds Hall at Station 107, 879 Stafford Road, Storrs

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit:

[RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: *Eagleville* to schedule an appointment.



**ALL BLOOD  
TYPES NEEDED**



**Help save a life.**  
Schedule your  
blood donation  
appointment today.

### Summer Stroll in Downtown Storrs, Thursday, May 25

**2023 DOWNTOWN STORRS EVENTS**

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP**  
*Business and Community*

**DOWNTOWN STORRS**  
*Eat · Explore · Enjoy*

Join the **Mansfield Downtown Partnership** for summer fun for all ages in **Downtown Storrs!**

**SUMMER STROLL**  
Thursday, May 25 | 5:00 - 8:00 PM

**SUMMER CONCERTS on the SQUARE**  
Thursdays in June & July | 6:30 - 8:00 PM

**JOHN E. JACKMAN TOUR de MANSFIELD**  
Saturday, June 3 | 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**MOONLIGHT MOVIES**  
Friday, Aug. 4, 11, & 18 | 7:30 PM

Find more info at:  
[downtownstorrs.org](http://downtownstorrs.org)  
@DowntownStorrs

Grab your coworkers, grab your friends, and head to Downtown Storrs for some after-work fun as the Mansfield Downtown Partnership kicks off our summer schedule!

Plans are in the works for a fun evening of lawn games, music, art, and guided walks. Look for details at [downtownstorrs.org/summerstroll](http://downtownstorrs.org/summerstroll) as the date approaches. Summer Stroll is free and open to everyone.

### 18<sup>th</sup> Annual John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield, Saturday, June 3

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership and Mansfield Community Center invite you to explore Mansfield by bicycle during the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield!

Choose from a 20-mile or 40-mile route, both of which begin and end at the Community Center, and follow Mansfield’s scenic roads through historic villages. Enjoy riding at your own pace, and build camaraderie with fellow cycling enthusiasts while sharing a group lunch following the rides.

For more information and to register for this event, visit [mansfieldct.gov/biketour](http://mansfieldct.gov/biketour).

*Free Family Paint Days!*

**1 Day Workshops (Families-Adults)**  
Put your own spin on a famous artwork in this beginner friendly class with step-by-step instructions. Sign up for each date separately. Each participant receives one canvas. An adult and child pair can work together. Pre-registration is required.

LOCATION: LENARD HALL    TIME: 5-7 P.M.    FEES: FREE



Vincent Van Gogh: "Landscape with Wheat Sheaves & Rising Moon" 1889  
Date: Thurs., April 27  
Act. # 430053-A



Yayoi Kusama: "Flowers" 1996  
Date: Thurs., May 11  
Act. # 430053-B



Henri Matisse: "Acanthus Moroccan Landscape" 1912  
Date: Thurs., June 8  
Act. # 430053-C

COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS LENARD HALL 450 S EAGLEVILLE ROAD STORRS, CT 06268  
860-429-3015 EXT. 6 WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM/CSA

## Change Your Smoke Alarm Batteries. You Could Be Saving Your Life.



The long-standing “Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries” campaign encourages the public to change their smoke alarm batteries when turning back clocks in the fall and ahead in the spring.

On March 12, states throughout the U.S. turned their clocks forward\* for Daylight Savings Time. Many people know to use this opportunity to change their home’s smoke alarm batteries as well.

Because working smoke alarms are a critical element of home fire safety, National Fire Protection Association supports all efforts to reinforce the importance of working batteries. However, today’s smoke alarms are not all designed the same, making battery messaging more nuanced.

Following is information to help make sure all smoke alarms have working batteries, accounting for the multiple types of smoke alarms on the market and their varying battery requirements:

- Smoke alarms with non-replaceable 10-year batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.
- Smoke alarms with any other type of battery need a new battery at least once a year. If that alarm chirps, warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
- When replacing a battery, follow manufacturer’s list of batteries on the back of the alarm or manufacturer’s instructions. Manufacturer’s instructions are specific to the batteries (brand and model) that must be used. The smoke alarm may not work properly if a different kind of battery is used.

Smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement. Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Today’s smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
- Smoke alarms are an important part of a [home fire escape plan](#).

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## Trooper Sanders Appreciated for Years of Service in Mansfield



Congratulations to Resident Trooper Jamie Sanders for his promotion to Sergeant.

Mansfield’s longest-serving trooper has been reassigned to a new Troop. Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth and Sgt. Timothy Merrill presented him with appreciation gifts before he departed.



## The Mansfield Public Library: Resources, Learning, Community.



All library programs are free and open to the public.

No registration is required, unless specially noted.

### Weekly Programs for All Ages!

**Toddler Time**, Tuesdays, 10:30-11 AM. Learn, dance and play through stories and songs at the library!

**Current Events and Politics Discussion Group**, Wednesdays, 1 – 2 PM. Drop-in, weekly adult discussion led by Warren Murphy, retired teacher of Government and Macroeconomics.

**Wonder Workshop**, Thursdays, 4 – 6 PM. A drop-in creative workshop, featuring STEAM activities, themed crafts, and tactile play. This program is best for preschool and elementary-school age children, but all families are welcome.

**Music and Movement**, Fridays, 10:30-11 AM. Let's move! Sing, dance and move your bodies in this interactive, music-based program. This program is best for ages 0-4, but all families are welcome.

**Friday Films**, Fridays, 1 – 3:30 PM. Interested in new movies? We will be playing a new film every Friday afternoon in our program room.

**Family Storytime**, Saturdays, 10:30 – 11:30 AM. Stories and songs followed by a simple craft and the playdough table. For young children accompanied by a caregiver.

### Monthly Programs

**Book Discussion Group.** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:45PM. Simply ask at the circulation desk for a copy of the book.

**Film Discussion** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6PM to watch and discuss a film together.

**Zoom Film Discussion.** Meets online on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8PM to discuss a film together.

**Knitting Group.** Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 2PM. Calling all knitters and crocheters! Come join us for an afternoon of social knitting

**Virtual Author Talks.** Enjoy a range of talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders. Usually 2-3 talks are scheduled each month. Upcoming authors include Kate Beaton and William Kent Krueger. Register for any author talk and check out the full listing of talks here: <https://libraryc.org/mansfieldpubliclibraryc>

### Adult Programs

#### Meditation as Medication--A Doctor's Perspective: Virtual Workshop

Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 6:00 pm, virtual program via Zoom

Can meditation improve high blood pressure, anxiety, depression, or pain? If a doctor told you to meditate, would you hesitate? Matthew Raider, MD, is a clinical physician and coordinating director of the Geriatric Teaching Program in Family Medicine at Middlesex Hospital in Connecticut. Learn how meditation can have a profound effect on your life. Dr. Raider is a co-author of the best-selling book, "Meditation as Medication for the Soul".

To register for the Zoom link, fill out the quick online form at:

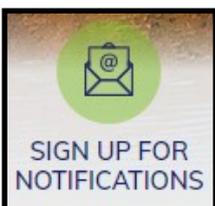
<https://mansfieldct.jotform.com/library/meditation-as-medication>

#### Full Performance of Ruth Bader Ginsburg: "I Dissent"

Saturday, April 29, 2023, 10:00 am, Mansfield Library, Buchanan Auditorium

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an American lawyer and jurist who served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1993 until her death in September 2020. She was the second woman and the first Jewish woman ever appointed to the Court and became the longest serving Jewish Justice. She stands out because she was not afraid to dissent, disapprove, and disagree with conditions of unfairness and inequality. This show, presented by Sheryl Faye, is the inspiring story of how she changed her life—and ours.

### Know about road construction and closure notifications, plus more!



If you want to receive alerts from the Town of Mansfield, just [visit the website under Sign Up for Notifications](#), and select *News & Press Releases*.

You will be informed when the Town has news you should know! Events. Emergencies. Traffic holdups. Road work.

### Prioritize Water Safety. Take the Safe Swimmer Pledge!



Mansfield Park & Recreation would like to recognize May as National Water Safety Month and we want to ensure that every member of your family is aware of water safety. This means being water competent, having swimming skills and knowing how to help others.

Children and adults should [learn to swim](#) so they at least achieve the skills of water competency: to be able to enter the water, get a breath, stay afloat, change position, swim a distance and then get out of the water safely.

**Spring swim lessons start as soon as April 10<sup>th</sup>.** [Registration is open now!](#) The swim program at the Mansfield Community Center focuses on water competency and swimming techniques with classes for children as young as 6 months up through adults.

Water safety isn't just about swimming! Awareness around water is always vital – so if you've been thinking about renting a [kayak or paddleboard](#), or planning a fishing trip to [Bicentennial Pond Recreation Area](#), always follow [water safety guidelines](#).

It is important to follow the [Circle of Drowning Prevention](#) to keep you and your family safe around the water:

- Provide close and constant attention to children you are supervising in or near water;
- Fence pools and spas with adequate barriers, including four-sided fencing;
- Learn swimming and water survival skills;
- Children, inexperienced swimmers, and all boaters should wear U.S. Coast Guard -approved life jackets; and
- Always swim in a lifeguarded area.

#### [Take the safe swimmer pledge!](#)

Send in a photo of you and your pledge to [parksandrec@mansfieldct.org](mailto:parksandrec@mansfieldct.org) by May 31<sup>st</sup> for recognition in our online photo reel.

Want to learn more? [Click here for information from the National Drowning Prevention Alliance.](#)

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### Watch for More News and Updates on our 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

#### INSTAGRAM:

Mansfield Downtown Partnership  
Taste of Mansfield

#### TWITTER:

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

#### Subscribe to our YOUTUBE channels

To view meetings:  
[mansfieldct.gov/video](http://mansfieldct.gov/video)

#### For other information:

[youtube.com/  
@townofmansfieldyoutube1177](http://youtube.com/@townofmansfieldyoutube1177)

### Spring Vacation is Here! Here are Some Great Activities for Families

**Sprouts Soccer with Vale East Sports.** Sat. 4/8 @ 11AM on the Library Lawn. Active soccer fun with Coach Nate! Soccer stories at 10:30AM.

**Animal Science with Ranger Bill.** Tues. 4/11 @ 3PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium. Learn about mammal skulls with The Last Green Valley!

**Spaceship Harmony with Michele Urban.** Weds. 4/12 @ 11AM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium. Sing & dance on a trip to outer space!

**Extended Wonder Workshop.** Thurs. 4/13 from 2-6PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium. Drop-in STEM play with science experiments!

**Hoopla Zone with Bring the Hoopla.** Fri. 4/14 @ 2-3:30PM on the Library Lawn. Interactive hula-hoop show!

**Spring Flower Fairy Stories with Thread City Classic Dance.** Sat 4/15 @ 10:30AM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium. Ballet showcase, stories, and ballerina crafts!



What do you do with the kids during April break? Send them to our April vacation camp. Daily activities & entertainment for all to enjoy.  
  
(For grades K-8)



**Sign Up Today!**  
[454004-1](#) - April 10  
[454004-2](#) - April 11  
[454004-3](#) - April 12  
[454004-4](#) - April 13  
[454004-5](#) - April 14  
  
Camp Day: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Location: Goodwin Elementary School  
Fee: \$54/day per resident,  
\$64/day per non-resident  
Space is limited, so hurry to register.



www.Mansfieldcc.com | (860) 429-3015 ext. 0 | 10 S Eagleville Road, Storrs Mansfield CT, 06268

### Mansfield Farms to Families Offering Fresh Farm Products



Are you interested in receiving locally grown food produced by area farms?

The Mansfield Farms to Families program may be for you! This program provides Mansfield residents access to fresh produce through free food distributions.

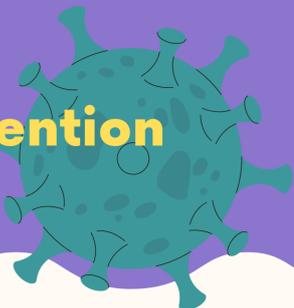
Households are invited to apply, and once you qualify, we ask you to pick up the fresh produce on a regular basis and make a commitment to participate throughout the harvest season, typically April through October. Households will be notified of the location and future distribution dates based on product availability.

Households will be notified of the location and future distribution dates based on product availability.

If you would like to be part of the Farms to Families program. Please email [MFFP@mansfieldct.org](mailto:MFFP@mansfieldct.org) or call 860-429-3315 for more information and/or an application.



## COVID-19 Awareness & Prevention Hosted by EHHD



**What:**

Covid-19 educational materials including:

- video streams
- wallet cards
- bookmarks
- 2 FREE At-Home Covid-19 test kits per person
- Free Covid-19 Vaccination
  - Initial series: Pfizer / Moderna / Novavax  
5 yrs+      12 yrs+      12 yrs+
  - Updated Boosters: Pfizer / Moderna  
5 yrs+      6yrs+
  - Walk-Ins welcome / [www.vams.cdc.gov](http://www.vams.cdc.gov) for appts
  - Bring Vaccine Records showing previous doses



**Where:**

Mansfield Town Hall Council Chambers

**When:**

Mondays (10am-1pm) & Thursdays (12-3pm)  
\*\*\*One Day Only: Wednesday Feb 1, 2023 (4-6pm)\*\*\*

**Who:**

Eastern Highlands Health District 860-429-3325



## 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 and in-person activities each month along with the [Mansfield Public Library](#) and the [Mansfield Community Center](#).

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
April 1	Saturday Story time, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 3	Bereavement Support Group, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 1/27)
April 4	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 4	Art Encounters: Celebrating Art by Women, 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a> (Cost: Free to UConn students/museum members, \$5 for non-members)
April 4	Earth Day Craft for Adults, 6 PM - 7:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 5	An Afternoon with James McCarthy, 1 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/3)
April 5	Skincare and Essential Oils, 1 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/3)
April 5	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 6	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd, 11:30 AM - 12 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
April 6	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 6	First Thursday at the Benton, 4:30 PM 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a>
April 7	LIBRARY CLOSED	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 7	Family Play Day, 5:30 AM - 8:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: Members get TWO free guests, non-members pay Family Day-Pass Special)
April 7	Spring Puppet Slam, 7 PM - 8 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a> (Pre-registration is required)
April 7	Family Fun Night!, 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM  Theme: World Health Day	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: FREE to members, non-members pay the daily guest rate)
April 8	Saturday Storytime - Soccer Stories!, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 8	Sprouts Soccer with Vale East Sports Club, 11 AM - 11:45 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 10 - 14	April Vacation Camp at Goodwin Elementary, 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: \$54/day per resident child, \$64/day per non-resident child)
April 10	Alzheimer's Association: The Warning Signs, 11 AM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/6)

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
April 11	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 11	Animal Science with Ranger Bill, 3 PM - 4 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 11	Mansfield Library Book Discussion Group, 6:45 PM - 8 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 12	Spaceship Harmony Family Concert with Michele Urban, 11 AM - 12 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 12	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 12	History for Fun: Mathew Brady, 1 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/10)
April 13	Wonder Workshop, 2 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 13	Mansfield Library Film Discussion Women Talking (2022), 6 PM - 8:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 14	Haircuts, 8:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262, cost: \$15)
April 14	Music & Movement, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 14	Mansfield Library Film Discussion Women Talking (2022), 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 14	Hoopla Zone with Bring the Hoopla, 2 PM - 3:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 14	Girl Named Tom, 8 PM - 10 PM at the Jorgensen	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a>
April 15	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 15	Spring Flower Fairy Story Hour with Thread City Classical Dance, 10:30 AM - 12 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 17	Family Play Day, 5:30 AM - 8:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: Members get TWO free guests, non-members pay Family Day-Pass Special)
April 17	UConn Piano Club Spring Concert, 5:30 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/13)
April 18	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
April 18	Meditation as Medication--A Doctor's Perspective: Virtual Workshop, 6 PM - 7:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 18	Classic Movie Night: <i>The Miracle of Morgan's Creek</i> , 4 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262)
April 19	Podiatrist visit, 9:30 AM - 12:15 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262, please bring your insurance card)
April 19	CT Humane Society: Pet Savvy Citizens, 1 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/17)
April 19	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 19	Zoom Film Discussion The King's Speech (2010), 8 PM - 9 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 20	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd, 11:30 AM - 12 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
April 20	Mansfield Library Knitting Group, 2 PM - 4 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 20	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 20	FREE Family Paint Night!, 5 PM - 7 PM, Painting: Van Gogh: Landscape with Leave Sheaves and Rising Moon	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
April 21	Hearing Clinic, 9 AM - 11:30 AM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262)
April 21	Music & Movement, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 21	Friday Films: A Man Called Otto, 1 PM - 3:10 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 22	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 22	Parking Lot Picasso's, 12 PM - 2 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 4/16)
April 22	Family Fun Day!, 12:30 PM - 3 PM  Theme: Earth Day	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: FREE to members, non-members pay the daily guest rate)
April 22	Lyrid's Meteor Shower Viewing, 10 PM - 11 PM at Bicentennial Pond	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
April 23	See the Forest through the Trees at Storrs Adventure Park	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Pre-registration REQUIRED)
April 23	American Red Cross Adult & Pediatric CPR BL, 10 AM - 2 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 4/17, cost: \$82 for members, \$106 for non-members)
April 25	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 26	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 27	I Am Zelda, 1 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/25)
April 27	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 28	Beekeeping Seminar featuring Dominic Shooks, Buchanan Auditorium, 6:30 PM hosted by the Agriculture Committee	<a href="mailto:Stankovm@mansfieldct.org">Stankovm@mansfieldct.org</a>
April 28	Friday Films: <i>Missing</i> (2023), 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 29	Trip to Daffodil Festival on Nantucket Island, 6 AM - 9:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 4/21, Cost: \$172)
April 29 (Rain Date: May 13)	Guided Hike Trip: Mount Monadnock, departure at 7 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: \$25 for residents, \$35 for non-residents)
April 29	Annual Town-Wide Tag Sale Trail, 8 AM - 1 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 4/17)
April 29	Full Performance of Ruth Bader Ginsburg: "I Dissent", 10 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
April 29	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 1	Author's Talk: Chick Pritchard, 1 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262 by 4/27)
May 3	Health & Comfort Foot Care, 9 AM - 3 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register at 860.429.0262)
May 3	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 4	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd, 11:30 AM - 12 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
May 4	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
May 5	Music & Movement, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 6	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 9	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 9	Mansfield Library Book Discussion Group, 6:45 PM - 8 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 10	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 11	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 11	FREE Family Paint Night!, 5 PM - 7 PM, Painting: Yayoi Kusama "Flowers"	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
May 12	Music & Movement, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 13	Spring Migrant Bird Walk at Mount Hope Park, 8 AM - 10 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 5/10, limited to 10 participants)
May 13	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 13	Family Fun Day!, 12:30 PM - 3 PM, Theme: Archery Day	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: FREE to members, non-members pay the daily guest rate)
May 14	Mom's Day at Bicentennial Pond, 8 AM - 9AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
May 14	American Red Cross Adult & Pediatric CPR BL, 10 AM - 2 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 5/8, cost: \$82 for members, \$106 for non-members)
May 16	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 17	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 18	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd, 11:30 AM - 12 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
May 18	Mansfield Library Knitting Group, 2 PM - 4 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 18	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 19	Music & Movement, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
May 19	Kids Night Out! 5 PM - 8 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: \$20 per resident, \$30 per non-resident)
May 20	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 23	Toddler Time, 10:30 AM - 11AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 24	Current Events and Politics Discussion Group, 1 PM - 3 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 25	Wonder Workshop, 4 PM - 6 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 26	Music & Movement, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 26	Family Fun Day!, 12:30 PM - 3 PM  Theme: Paper Airplane Day	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Cost: FREE to members, non-members pay the daily guest rate)
May 27	Saturday Storytime, 10:30 AM - 11 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
May 29	Mansfield Annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony, Mansfield Center, 9 AM	<a href="#">Town Manager's Office</a>

### Upcoming Municipal Meetings

For the most up-to-date schedule of Town meetings, go to our website at

<https://www.mansfieldct.gov/calendar.aspx?CID=32>

We encourage residents to participate in Mansfield’s governance. Many municipal meetings are still being held virtually, but some are fully in-person. Hybrid meeting options (a combination of virtual attendees from remote locations and in-person at a central location) are offered for the Town Council and The Board of Education

Regardless of the meeting format, residents may still submit Public Comment prior to meetings. You may view some meetings as they occur via Live Video Stream on our YouTube channel. Other meetings are recorded so you may review minutes and recordings after the fact.



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 you will see who to contact to receive call-in information.

Minutes of past meetings are also posted there.

**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 District	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	Cherie Trahan, Interim Finance Director	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  <b>EMERGENCY: 911</b>
Housing Authority	Rebecca Fields, Housing Authority Executive Director	860-487-0693 rfields@mansfieldhousingct.org
Human Resources	Lee Palmer, Interim Director of Human Resources	860-429-3380 HR@MansfieldCT.org
Human Services	Allison Maynard, Director of Human Services	860-429-3315 HumanServ@MansfieldCT.org
Information Technology	Jaime Russell, Information Technology Director	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, Director	860-429-3015 parks&rec@mansfieldct.org



## Please Contact Our Department Leaders for What You Need

Department	Department Leader	Contact
Planning & Development	Jennifer Kaufman, 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 Tim Merrill, 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