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Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth, Town Council members Carlita Cotton, David Litrico, and Bill Tomecko, and Rep. Gregg Haddad marched in the Memorial Day Parade.

Message from the Town Manager

A Shared Commitment to Community

Greetings Fellow Residents!

As we enter the summer season, I want to take a moment to reflect on several exciting developments that underscore our shared commitment to community, collaboration, and forward-looking planning.

We begin with heartfelt gratitude to all who participated in and supported our recent Memorial Day parade and ceremony. From veterans and active-duty service members to student musicians, Mansfield Fire Department honor guard, civic organizations, and volunteers, this year’s event was a moving and unifying celebration of remembrance and honoring the ultimate sacrifice made by U.S. service men and women to protect the freedoms we hold dear. The weather was wonderful, and the turnout and community spirit on display were truly inspiring and reminded us of the strength we find in honoring our shared history. I want to sincere thanks to my Executive Assistant

(Continued on page 2)



America, Connecticut, and Mansfield Prepare to Celebrate 250 Years of Independence

As the year 2026 approaches, our country is preparing to celebrate our 250th year. It is an opportunity for reflection on the ideals of the founders of the nation, but also a time to consider the path forward in expanding our realization of those ideals today. The State of Connecticut is inviting all communities to create local celebrations that Tell Inclusive Stories, engage people for the Common Good, Do History, and celebrate the Power of Place.

Are you engaged with a committee, an organization, a faith-based community, or a business that would like to help Mansfield celebrate? The Town of Mansfield is willing to help promote lectures, tours, workshops, exhibits—whatever the community creates to mark and commemorate the ideals and values of America’s 250th year. Mansfield’s commission has formed that includes UConn, Town staff, and Mansfield Historical Society members who are here to help. Former Secretary of the State and former Mansfield State Representative Denise Merrill is also the honorary Chair of the [Connecticut 250 Commission!](#)

For details, and to indicate your group’s interest in organizing a tribute to this year-long celebration, please visit this special web page we have created and complete the form: mansfieldct.gov/america250



Message from the Town Manager (cont.)

Kim Kowalyshyn, for her tireless work in recent weeks organizing this year's ceremony. I would also like to thank Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk, for all the assistance and support she extended. The hard work of these two individuals in particular ensured that this year's program was a success.

Budget FY2025/26 On May 13, Mansfield residents came together for the Annual Town Meeting and voted in favor of adopting the Fiscal Year 2025/26 budget. An amendment to increase the Mansfield Board of Education budget by \$57,845 was offered by a voter during floor debate and the motion carried. The FY 2025/26, as amended, was passed by a vote of 131-15. The approved budget provides the funding necessary to maintain the high-quality municipal services residents use every day, enables enhancement of services in several key areas, and advances capital improvements that support public infrastructure, public safety, municipal facilities, parks and recreational assets, and other critical projects.

Each year, following final adoption of the ensuing fiscal year's annual budget at Town Meeting, the Town Council votes to formally set a new property tax ("mill") rate for the ensuing fiscal year so that the first semi-annual tax bills can in turn be issued with a July 1, 2025 due date. In order to adequately fund the FY 2025/26 budget, as approved by Town Meeting, and based on projected state aid and other sources of non-tax revenue, staff recommended that the mill rate for FY 2025/26 be set at 20.00 mills (\$20 for every \$1,000 in assessed valuation), which represents a 10.52 mill decrease (roughly 34.5%) from the present mill rate (30.52). Town Council voted at its May 27 regular business meeting to set the mill rate at 20.00.

Shortly after the conclusion of this year's Town Meeting, a provision in the Town Charter that enables a resident to petition for a referendum on the approved budget was invoked. As a result, voters will have the opportunity to cast their ballots to approve or reject the budget as adopted at Town Meeting. Town Council will soon set the date, time of voting, and location of the referendum. Additional information about the referendum date and voting procedures will be shared as it becomes available.



Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth and staff members presented an overview on town government for two Civics classes from E.O. Smith High School.

New Affordable Housing Opens its Doors. I am also happy to share that the Eagleville Green Affordable Housing Project on South Eagleville Road was completed in recent weeks and its first residents are moving in. This important milestone represents a meaningful investment in inclusive housing and neighborhood vitality. Thanks to the collaboration of state and local partners, and with the support of housing advocates and community members, Eagleville Green will provide high-quality, energy-efficient homes for dozens of individuals and families who contribute to the fabric of our town. As a reminder, this is a 42-unit mixed income residential community with 34 (80%) of the units being deed-restricted as affordable. Completion of this very important affordable housing project has been eagerly awaited for some time and stakeholders are in the process of making arrangements for a grand opening celebration.



Mansfield and UConn Work on Shared Goals. Our ongoing partnership with the University of Connecticut continues to strengthen and yield benefits for both the campus and the broader Mansfield community. In recent months, we have

had the pleasure of engaging in constructive and forward-thinking dialogue with President Radenka Maric and her senior leadership team. These conversations have focused on shared goals, including housing needs (students, faculty/staff, and the broader Mansfield community), opportunities for business development that complement and leverage UConn's presence, and infrastructure issues (specifically water, sewer, and pedestrian safety).

President Maric has conveyed her vision for a UConn main campus that is an active hub of activity 365 days out of the year to help both with student/workforce recruitment, and also to sustain and grow local businesses that often struggle during the summer months. We are grateful for UConn's spirit of collaboration, desire to work together on common goals, and mutual respect and look forward to deepening these efforts in the months ahead.

We are also extremely grateful for the effort UConn students made to pick up litter in our community as part of their Spring Weekend activities in late April. More than 210 bags of litter were collected! This was the second collaboration with the UConn Office of Sustainability to coordinate ["Don't Mess with Mansfield."](#)



(Continued)

NEWS & UPDATES



Message from the Town Manager (cont.)

New Superintendent for Mansfield Schools. This past month, the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education announced its selection of Candace Morell as the next Mansfield Public Schools Superintendent. Mrs. Morell, who serves as the district's Director of Teaching and Learning, will succeed Peter Dart effective July 1, 2025 upon his retirement. A detailed press release can be accessed [here](#). I and the rest of the Town's management team very much look forward to welcoming Mrs. Morell into her new role and collaborating closely on shared goals for the community.

Plan of Conservation and Development Progresses. Lastly, I'm pleased to report that the update to the *Mansfield Tomorrow* Plan of Conservation and Development is progressing well. This plan will serve as our roadmap for growth, preservation, and resilience over the next decade. Through robust public engagement, data-driven analysis, and cross-departmental collaboration, we are crafting a plan that reflects the evolving needs and aspirations of our diverse community. Nearly 1,400 individuals have completed our survey, and many residents attended our in-person and pop-up input opportunities. I encourage all residents to stay engaged and share their perspectives as this important work continues: www.mansfieldtomorrow.org

As always, thank you for your commitment to making Mansfield a place where innovation, inclusion, and community pride thrive. I wish you a safe, healthy, and fulfilling start to your summer. I hope to see you all at the concerts in Betsy Paterson Square, at the ballfields, or on the hiking trails as we enjoy all that Mansfield offers in these warm months.

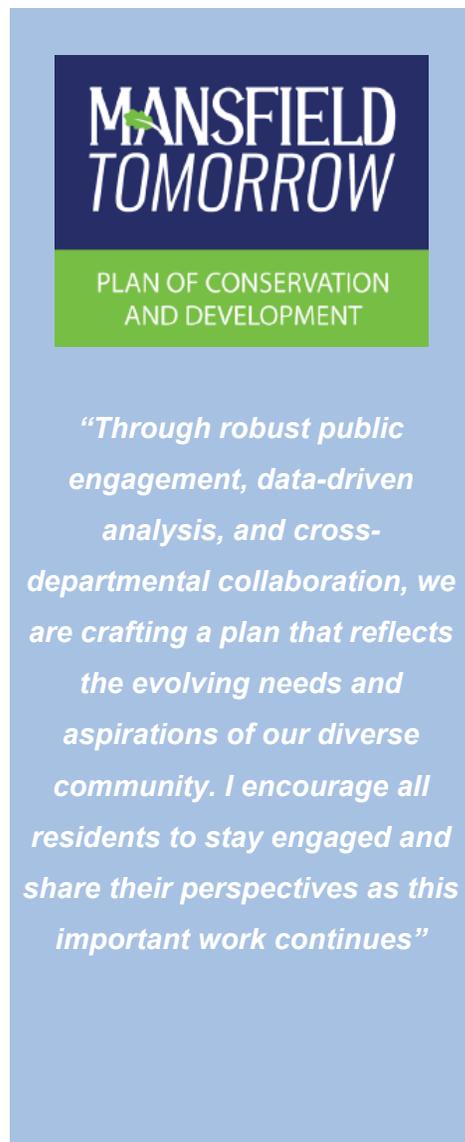
Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Manager's Office, 860-429-3336 or townmanager@mansfieldct.org, if you have constructive feedback on how the depth and breadth of information provided in the newsletter can be optimized to meet the needs of our residents.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude for your ongoing support and engagement. Together, we are building a future that reflects the shared vision of our community.

Very respectfully,



Ryan J. Aylesworth



**MANSFIELD
TOMORROW**

PLAN OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

“Through robust public engagement, data-driven analysis, and cross-departmental collaboration, we are crafting a plan that reflects the evolving needs and aspirations of our diverse community. I encourage all residents to stay engaged and share their perspectives as this important work continues”



Mansfield is Your Place for Summer Fun!

Visit mansfieldct.gov/summer for fun for all ages, all season long!



Mansfield Tomorrow: Share a Vision for Our Plan. Our Future.

Take the survey for the chance to win a \$25 gift card to a local business!

The Town of Mansfield is updating its Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), also known as *Mansfield Tomorrow*. This critical plan will shape how Mansfield evolves and will guide decisions about town services, infrastructure, housing, business development, and environmental protection over the next decade.

Community members are encouraged to provide input by completing the survey, available since March 13. As of the end of May, more than 1,375 responses have been received. The survey will only remain open through the first week of June—please take time to complete it now.



Final Week to Take the Survey and Provide Your Input!

An Ad Hoc Committee has helped department staff to lead the update process. The committee includes members of the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Town Council, the Town Manager, Director of Planning and Development, Chief of Shared Services, and Director of Public Works. This group meets monthly to guide the update, informed by a robust public engagement process, and the next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2025.

Citizen volunteers of the many Boards and Commissions as well as Town Department Heads have also supported the update by providing feedback on what we've accomplished within the 2015 plan, and visioning for 2025 within their respective focus areas.

FHI Studio/IMEG has begun drafting the plan. The Ad Hoc Committee will review chapters over the summer, with a public presentation is anticipated in the fall.

Stay informed and follow the plan's progress:

www.mansfieldtomorrow.org

**MANSFIELD
TOMORROW**

PLAN OF
CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT



Help Shape Mansfield's Future!

The Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) outlines Mansfield's vision for the future. The Town is in the process of updating the Plan to respond to current needs and issues.



Take the Survey! Join the Conversation.

Visit MansfieldTomorrow.org to learn more

Northwest Mansfield Neighborhood Plan Endorsed by Town Council

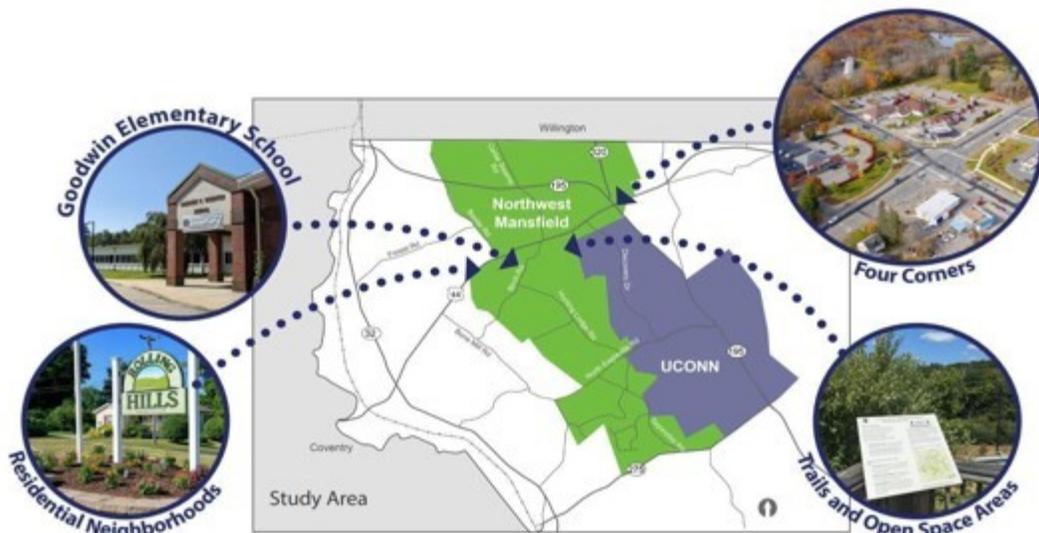
Town staff and the Town's consultant, FHI Studio (now IMEG), presented the draft Northwest Mansfield Vision and Strategy Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Town Council, and the public on March 12, 2025.

The Planning and Zoning Commission hosted a meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025 about the NW Mansfield Vision and Strategy Plan and invited feedback to the draft plan. The Commission referred the plan as written for consideration by the Town Council which voted to accept it. Formal action will be taken by the Commission after consideration by the Town Council. If adopted, the plan's goals, actions, and strategies will be incorporated into the 2025 Mansfield Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

You can review the plan [here](#).

**MANSFIELD
TOMORROW**

**NW NEIGHBORHOOD
PLAN**



NEWS & UPDATES

Important Notice from the Revenue Collections Office:

Sewer, Tax, and Trash Bills Reminder

If you have not done so yet, please pay your April 2025 Refuse and Sewer bills to avoid service interruption or liens on the property. These utility bills were due by May 1st.

The July 2025 Tax bills are projected to be mailed on June 26th or June 27th this year, pending budget approval and the setting of the Mill Rate. These bills are due by August 1st, 2025.

[Online payments](#) through the Town of Mansfield's website are available for a service fee. Credit or Debit cards are charged 2.99%, and EFT bank account transfers are charged a flat fee of \$1.95. Utility bills can be looked up by the bill number, while tax bills can be found by searching your name or address.

If you have any questions, please contact the Revenue Collections office at 860.429.3307



June is Dog Licensing Month

Connecticut dog license renewal is due during the month of June. Please go to www.MansfieldCT.gov/dogs for licensing information. Payments may be made online, by mail, or in person at the Town Clerk's Office. If your dog needs to have their rabies vaccine updated to qualify for registration this year, please take advantage of this convenient clinic!



MANSFIELD RABIES CLINIC

SATURDAY JUNE 7th 2025

10AM-12PM

DRIVE THROUGH STYLE

Location: Former Annie Vinton School,
306 Stafford Rd., Mansfield CT



- In cooperation with Mansfield Animal Control, NECTAR, East Brook Animal Hospital and Hebron Vet
- Cost: \$15 per vaccine (cash or check)
- Up to 2 vaccines free per household with proof of low income.
- Dogs must be leashed
- One cat per carrier
- To receive a 3-year vaccine, please bring proof of prior rabies vaccination.

Please call Mansfield Animal Control with any questions 860-487-0137



Mansfield Fee Waiver Ordinance

What is the Fee Waiver Program?

The Fee Waiver Program has been in place to help ensure that all residents can participate in Town programs and services, no matter their financial situation. If cost has ever been a barrier, this program is here to help!

What does the Program cover?

Through the program, eligible residents can receive reduced fees for a wide range of offerings provided by Town departments. Whether it's recreational activities, youth programs, community events, or other services—this support is available and ready to make a difference

Here are a few programs that you can apply the fee waiver to:

Parks & Recreation programs
Summer Camp
Before and after school programs
Recycling and refuse fees
and so much more.

Learn more by clicking [HERE](#)

Exclusions apply

The program year runs from July 1 - June 30. Annual renewals required.



MANSFIELD
CONNECTICUT

Your place to grow



Take a Hike! Parks and Trails Are Here for You to Enjoy!

You've probably noticed our new parks and trails signage across Town. This calls attention to how many wonderful resources Mansfield has for you to explore!

Outdoor recreational opportunities abound for all ages and abilities. Find a map to all the trails, and more on [our website!](#)



NEWS&UPDATES

Mansfield Senior Center Celebrates Its Community Volunteers

The Mansfield Senior Center benefits extensively from the valuable help of community volunteers. These caring individuals give freely of their time and energy. Volunteers assist with distributing food at bi-weekly [FoodShare events](#), serving lunches and preparing tables at the [Maple Road Café and congregate lunch](#), welcoming guests and answering questions in their role as volunteer receptionists, providing [medical appointment rides](#) to Mansfield seniors, leading a wide variety of [activity groups](#), delivering meals for the [Meals on Wheels program](#), advising the Town Council, Town Manager, and Director of Human Services through their appointments on the [Commission on Aging](#), and so much more. The volunteer program also provides a valuable community connection with UConn, with many student volunteers coming to the center through the UConn Community Outreach program.

In April the Senior Center celebrated and honored the contributions of the approximate 80 volunteers at a “busy-bees” themed Volunteer Appreciation Lunch. Staff presented on the contributions of the group, and on the benefits and value of their service.

We continue to offer our sincere thanks for all that our volunteers provide to the Mansfield Senior Center operation.



Renie Steinway, Senior Center Volunteer of the Year



The Mansfield Senior Center is proud to announce this year’s Volunteer of the Year – the “Queen Bee” herself, Renie Steinway.

Renie is the source of the beautiful flower arrangements on our tables at lunch and the front desk. She sometimes comes in multiple hours before food service to update the flowers. As a member of the garden club, she helps others in beautifying the gardens outside the senior center. She also frequently serves as a liaison between the Garden Club board and Senior Center staff in arranging meeting space and time.

She also provides meaningful support in our kitchen helping to prep meals, package them for takeout and serving everyone during our normal lunches. Renie regularly offers to come in to help out with our cafes on Fridays, frequently offering at the point when the staff is trying to figure out exactly how we are going to manage everything! She keeps us smiling with her sense of humor, frequently sharing a joke or cartoon to make us laugh.



Community Gathers for Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Members of the community lined Rte. 195 for the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26 to honor veterans and remember those who have fallen in defense of our country. U.S. Air Force Veteran Jeremiah Macht led the parade along with veterans and the Mansfield Fire Department Honor Guard, and he also served as Master of Ceremonies for the ceremony that followed at the new Mansfield Center Cemetery. The E.O. Smith Marching Band and the Mansfield Middle School Band marched along the parade route through Mansfield Center lifting spirits with patriotic songs, and performed at the ceremony. Scout Troop 56 placed flags at the graves of veterans prior to Memorial Day. They also marched in the parade along with Cub Scout Pack 61, and Little League teams. Mayor Toni Moran rode in one of the three classic cars driven by volunteers in the parade, and elected leaders including State Representative Gregg Haddad and Town Council Members also marched. Mansfield's fire and emergency vehicles joined the parade as well.

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Andrew Bourquin was the keynote speaker. Andrew served as a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps from 1987 to 1991. He was part of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, and served as a 0311 rifleman in an infantry unit. In 1990, he was activated and deployed to the Gulf War, where he was wounded in action and awarded the Purple Heart. Today, he is a Spanish and French teacher at E.O. Smith High School. Mr. Bourquin shared his perspective about Memorial Day, recounting that his father and grandfather both served in wartime and influenced his attitude about serving.

Dr. Carlita Cotton offered a moment of reflection to honor Mansfield native Harold Lewis who died in an Iran desert 45 years ago. (See page 9 for details about his service.) Representative Haddad presented the Governor's Memorial Day Proclamation, and Fire Department Chaplain Rev. Jim Mercurio offered the Invocation and Benediction. A three-volley salute to honor the fallen was fired at both the new and old cemeteries, followed by the playing of Taps. Town officials sincerely appreciate all the members of the community who participated or attended this community gathering.



Mansfield Senior Center is a Coool Place to Be in the Summer. And Every Day!

The June 2025 Senior Sparks newsletter is out! [Click here to find it online](#), and don't forget to [subscribe](#) to receive it right in your inbox each month.

In June we'll participate in Pride month with a [tie-dyeing activity](#) (just in time for the Town of Mansfield Pride event), facilitate an [open conversation on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder](#) (all are welcome), and enjoy the kick-off to summer with a [carnival event](#), complete with [Maple Road Café](#) (café's on 6/13 and 6/23, all are welcome). We'll also take time to focus on our [cognitive health](#), celebrating Brain Awareness Month, and [learn about A.I.](#) with our partner program with the Mansfield Public Library Digital Navigators.

The Ice Cream Summer Series continues with a trip to Fish Family Farm! Join us as we gallivant around on an Antiquing Trail, and trips to Meigs Point, Roger Williams Zoo, the Peabody Museum, Connecticut River Cruise, and Lavender Pond Farm.

The Senior Center will continue opportunities to gather for the spring [MSC Chorus Concert](#), [bereavement support](#), [caregiver support](#), [Commission on Aging](#), [Human Rights Commission Feedback Session](#), Father's Day Café, [June Birthday Lunch](#) and congregate meals (just \$5, dine in or take out), [Paint Night](#), daily activity groups, and [fitness programs](#).

Watch for upcoming announcements for July including an AARP presentation on Fraud Prevention, and the Senior Summer Camp event!

[Senior Center](#) activities are open to individuals age 55+ from all towns unless otherwise specified. Fees may apply. New members are always welcome! Membership is free.



A Memorial Day Tribute to Mansfield's Major Harold "Hal" Lewis



A special reflection presented by Retired U.S. Air Force NCO and Town Councilor Carlita Cotton at the Mansfield Memorial Day Ceremony May 26 at the new Mansfield Center Cemetery.

Today, we gather in solemn remembrance of those who gave their lives in service to our nation. Among them is one of Mansfield's own—Major Harold "Hal" L. Lewis Jr., a proud graduate of E.O. Smith High School and a courageous Air Force pilot who made the ultimate sacrifice during Operation Eagle Claw forty-five years ago on April 25, 1980.

In response to the Iran hostage crisis, where 53 Americans were held captive, our nation turned to its bravest to attempt a daring rescue mission. Major Lewis was at the heart of that mission. As the pilot of a C-130 cargo plane, he was refueling a helicopter in the desert under the cover of night when a tragic accident took his life and the lives of seven others.

Although the mission did not succeed, its legacy forever changed the face of American military operations. Out of the loss and hardship came the formation of Joint Special Operations Command—ensuring that our elite forces would never again face such a mission unprepared or unsupported.

Major Lewis's courage lives on in that legacy, and in the hearts of his hometown community. Today, and always, we honor his memory—not just for how he died, but for how he lived: with courage, with honor, and in service to others.

May we never ever forget his sacrifice, and may we strive each day to be worthy of the freedom he died defending

Summer Concerts on the Square Return Throughout June and July

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership is pleased to announce its 2025 [Summer Concerts on the Square!](#) The Partnership and the Town of Mansfield will host free concerts every Thursday in June and July on Betsy Paterson Square in [Downtown Storrs](#). All performances will take place from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. All of the concerts are free and open to the public. The rain dates are on the following Tuesday, unless otherwise noted.

This year's series will feature performers from as close to home as Hartford and as far afield as Nashville, TN. Audiences will enjoy performances of cumbia, rock, bluegrass, indie pop, funk, and more.

Among the regular performances is a special event, a Community Bluegrass Jam! Bring your (acoustic) instruments and join Waldron's Studio 88 and the Mansfield Pickers for an evening of community-driven music. All ages, all abilities welcome to pick along - or just sit back and enjoy the music!

Visitors are welcome to bring a blanket or a lawn chair and enjoy the music with their friends and neighbors. Stop for dinner at one of the many [great restaurants](#) in Downtown Storrs before the show or pick up some take-out and bring it to the Square (please note: alcohol is not permitted).

For more information, please visit mansfieldmusic.org. For weather updates and other announcements, please follow Downtown Storrs on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



SUMMER CONCERTS on the SQUARE
Thursdays
June & July
6:30-8:00 PM
Betsy Paterson Square

06.05 LA MANGA
Afro-Colombian Music - Oral traditions of the Caribbean Coast // New York

06.12 CARRIE ASHTON
Modern Country/Rock // Connecticut

06.19 THE VICES
Rock & Roll // Connecticut

06.26 BARNEY CORTEZ
Indie Rock // Philadelphia

07.03 COMMUNITY BLUEGRASS JAM
with Waldron's Studio 88 and The Mansfield Pickers

07.10 COPILOT
Rock-Pop // Boston

07.17 KIND HEARTED STRANGERS
Rock & Roll // Nashville

07.24 KIMAYA DIGGS
Indie Pop // Massachusetts

07.31 FUNKY DAWGZ
Funk/Jazz // Connecticut

DOWNTOWN STORRS
Eat • Explore • Enjoy

2025 Schedule

Thursdays // June & July // 6:30 - 8:00 PM // Betsy Paterson Square

Check out these great bands and their websites for more information:

- 06.05 [LA MANGA](#)
- 06.12 [CARRIE ASHTON](#)
- 06.19 [THE VICES](#)
- 06.26 [BARNEY CORTEZ](#)
- 07.03 [COMMUNITY BLUEGRASS JAM](#) with WALDRON'S STUDIO 88 and the MANSFIELD PICKERS
- 07.10 [COPILOT](#)
- 07.17 [KIND HEARTED STRANGERS](#) Rain date: Monday, July 21
- 07.24 [KIMAYA DIGGS](#) Rain date: Thursday, August 7
- 07.31 [FUNKY DAWGZ](#)



A Heartfelt Thank You from Mansfield Human Services

As we reflect on the past year, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to those in our community who have generously supported all of our Human Services programs. Whether that is one of our multiple food initiatives (pantry, meal kits, FoodShare mobile location, etc.), our back-to-school program, or one of our seasonal programs, you have provided income-constrained families with opportunities that may not have existed otherwise.



The Betsy Hamill Camperships is one such program which helps these struggling families by providing the enriching experience of camp for their children to attend during the summer months. These initiatives are entirely community-funded, and we simply couldn't operate them without your kindness and generosity. Your contributions—whether through monetary donations, food items, or time and labor—have made a real, tangible impact on the lives of your neighbors. Thank you for being the backbone of these essential programs.

We would also like to highlight the **Mansfield Farms to Family Program**, a groundbreaking initiative conceived within the partnership of the Taste of

Mansfield which is a collaboration of Town departments and committees, Storrs Farmers Market, and UConn Extension. This innovative program purchases fresh products through 16 area farms providing them with a reliable market for their fresh, local food and helping to sustain their operations. Through the four years, we have grown to support 125 households with fresh, nutritious and locally grown foods. Initially funded through grants from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, the Ossen Foundation, and most recently American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars, this program has flourished.

However, with the sun setting on ARPA funds, and shrinking grant opportunities, this program faces an uncertain future after this growing season. As we look to the future, we are actively exploring other grant opportunities through foundations, fundraising opportunities, and sponsorships to ensure its continuation. We would hate to see such a vital and community-enriching program come to an end. Farmers and families alike benefit from this collaboration.

As always, it is your generosity that powers all of our work. From food programs to farm support, everything we do is made possible by neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you for making Mansfield a stronger, more compassionate community

If you would like to make a personal donation to a Human Services Department program, please send a check to Mansfield Human Services, 303 Maple Road, Mansfield, CT 06268



Mansfield Residents Invited to Try Out MCC Facilities for Free This Summer

**JOIN US FOR
FREE MANSFIELD DAYS**

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025 (FAMILY FUN EVENT)
FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2025
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025 (FAMILY FUN EVENT)

PROOF OF MANSFIELD RESIDENCY REQUIRED

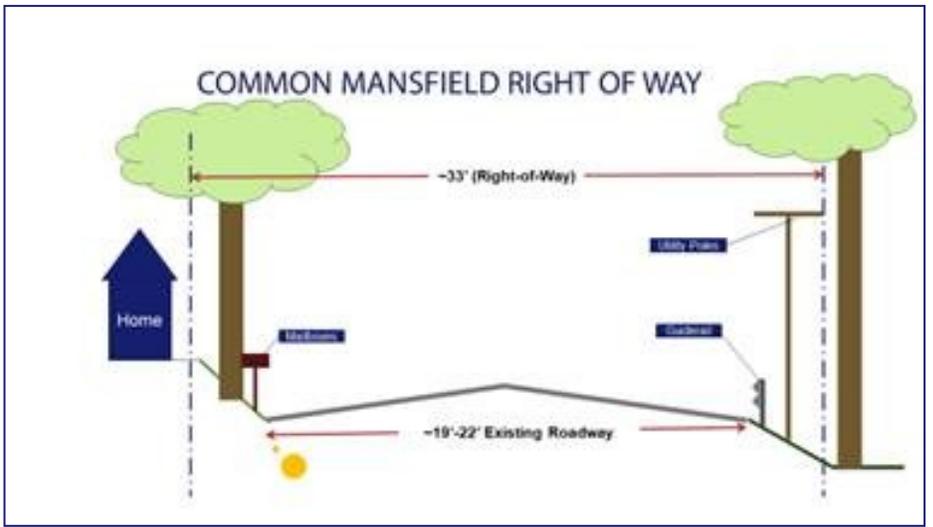
MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
Family, Fitness & Fun!

MANSFIELD RESIDENTS RECEIVE FREE GENERAL ADMISSION TO THE MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH FACILITY SCHEDULES. PLEASE VISIT WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM FOR SCHEDULES MORE INFORMATION.

Paving your Driveway Requires a Permit— It’s About Infrastructure Protection

A driveway is a property owner’s connection to the Town or State road adjacent to their property. A driveway apron is the transitional area where your driveway meets the street by crossing and/or accessing the Town’s or State’s right-of-way. When any work is performed in the Town’s or State’s right-of-way, a permit is required. So when paving or repaving your driveway to the road, requires a permit.

For those paving to a State Road, you will need an Encroachment Permit, available online at: https://portal.ct.gov/dot/permits/highways/encroachment-permit?language=en_US.



For those who have a driveway connecting to a Town road, the Mansfield Code of Ordinances authorizes the Public Works Director, by Chapter 143, Article III to require a permit. Specifically:

143-13. Permit required; standards; fees. A. No person, other than the Town of Mansfield, shall widen, open, alter, make any repairs or excavate in, place any permanent item on, dig below the surface of any street or sidewalk under the jurisdiction of the Town of Mansfield or do any other work, construction or storing of material within the right-of-way of any town road, unless he has obtained a permit to do so from the Director of Public Works, or from his duly authorized agent.



This permit is the means by which the Town maintains the integrity of its roadway infrastructure. Infrastructure includes road surface, sidewalks, drainage, drainage structures, sanitary sewers, sanitary sewer structures, and water supply lines.

To ensure one is aware of any infrastructure, a requirement of the permit is a Call Before You Dig (CBYD) number. CBYD must be notified of the proposed driveway work at least three working days prior to the work, so underground utilities can be marked and then avoided during the construction. Also during driveway paving, no work shall result in the concentration and discharge of surface or subsurface water onto public or private property resulting in damage that property.

At the completion of construction, an inspection is necessary to maintain the integrity of the Town’s infrastructure ensuring that the work meets particular specifications. These specifications are available on the Town’s website and from the Town’s Engineering Office, located at 4 South Eagleville Rd. If you are in doubt about whether you need a permit, please call the Engineering Office at 860 429-3331 or email dpw@mansfieldct.org.

GAME & PUZZLE SWAP

7/19/25 @ 2:00-4:00 pm
Mansfield Library, Buchanan Auditorium

Swap items may be dropped off 7/14/25-7/18/25 during normal library hours

HAVE LEFTOVERS FROM A CATERED EVENT?

Join Mansfield’s Food Rescue Effort!

To participate, contact the Mansfield food rescue coordinator:

Virginia Walton
860.429.3333
waltonvd@mansfieldct.org

Recognizing Post-Traumatic Stress and Disability Pride in June and July



AN OPEN CONVERSATION ON

PTSD

LED BY JESSICA ST. LOUIS, LCSW

June is PTSD awareness month.

- Trauma is common. About 70% of people experience or witness a traumatic event in their lifetimes.
- PTSD can appear as experiencing unwanted memories, avoiding reminders of the event, having negative thoughts and feelings, or feeling on edge.
- PTSD affects family and friends of those living with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.
- Resources and treatments can help, and there *are* options.

Join us for a open conversation on PTSD - causes, signs/symptoms, and options for help. Let us answer questions to help you or a loved one or friend.

Thursday, June 26th, 11 a.m. All are welcome.
Please confirm your attendance by 6/23 to 860-429-0262
Mansfield Senior Center, 303 Maple Road, Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268



As part of Mansfield's ongoing commitment to building a more inclusive, compassionate, and informed community, the Human Services Department proudly recognizes **June as Pride Month and PTSD Awareness Month**, and **July as Disability Pride Month**.

These observances are an opportunity to reflect, learn, and take action—to end stigma, promote acceptance, and ensure everyone feels seen, respected, and supported. Whether it's standing with the LGBTQ+ community, supporting those affected by trauma, or celebrating the contributions of people with disabilities, awareness and education strengthen our community.

Throughout June and July, we'll be sharing educational content and resources on our Instagram and Facebook pages, and hosting community events. Everyone is welcome—whether you're here to learn, connect, or share your story.

July is Disability Pride Month

Let's celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 35th Anniversary! The ADA works to ensure all people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. Learn more during the month of July by following Mansfield Human Services on Facebook and Instagram!



Disability Pride Month – July 2025 Disability Pride Month celebrates the diversity, resilience, and contributions of people with disabilities. It's a chance to promote accessibility, challenge stereotypes, and recognize disability as a natural and valuable part of human diversity.

Please Dial 9-1-1 in EMERGENCY situations.

Recently, there has been an increase of calls to the firehouses for emergencies.

Mansfield Fire Department stations are not always staffed, especially when firefighters are responding to calls. Your emergency is a priority and needs to be answered!

Never hesitate to use the 911 system to report any emergency. Delays can complicate the handling of your situation

Mansfield's residents and visitors 911 calls are answered by Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service. They are a regional 911 center located close by on the historic Tolland Green. These professionals are in the best situation to get you the help you need—just explain your situation clearly.





Summer Camps Snapshot!

WE MAKE HAPPY CAMPERS!

June 16-20 Day-By-Day Camp: Mini Master Piece Studio - Famous Artist Series

June 23-27 Bees, Butterflies & Beyond! Native Pollinator Series for Young Artists Camp, Girls Basketball Camp, CIT for Girls Basketball Camp, & Incredifix Film Camp

June 30-July 3 Co-Ed Basketball Camp

July 7-11 Creative Kids: Art with Nature Exploration

July 14-18 Playwell Teknologies Lego Camp

July 21-25 Theater Camp-Alice in Wonderland with Miss Kelly, & Chess Wizards Camp

July 28-Aug. 1 Creative Kids: Fabric Upcycling, TWO WEEKS! Theater Camp-Wizard of Oz with Miss Kelly, & Ray Reid Soccer School Young Stars Camp

Aug. 4-8 TWO WEEKS! Theater Camp-Wizard of Oz with Miss Kelly, & Minds In Motion Camp

Aug. 11-15 Storybook Ballet & Broadway Musical Theater Program

Registration is open!

NON-RESIDENTS WELCOME

8 WEEKS OF CAMP MANSFIELD DAY CAMP!
JUNE 23-AUG. 15




www.mansfieldcc.com 860-429-3015



JULY 2025 NATIONAL PARKS & RECREATION MONTH

Celebrate with the Mansfield Parks and Recreation!



TAKE A HIKE ON ONE OF OUR MANY TRAILS

Go to pages 50-56 in the Summer Brochure for a map of trails located here in Mansfield Connecticut! There are many trails to choose from, in fact we have 35 miles of town maintained trails



TAKE A DIP IN THE POND

Go to Bicentennial Pond to go swimming or fishing. The pond will even be open on July 4th, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Don't forget about Camp Mansfield. Check out pages 20-21 in the Summer Brochure.



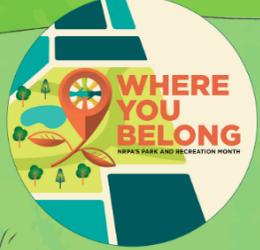
SPORTS PROGRAMS AND SPORTS CAMPS

See pages 46-48 for our sports programs and Page 17 for our sports camps! We have many sports activities to keep kids busy. We even have drop in sports times in our gymnasium for adults, see page 11.



LOVE PAINTING?

Check out our Community paint days on page 23, and paint pouring class on page 27. Want to stay outside? Check out our outdoor painting series on page 53!

SCAN FOR THE SUMMER BROCHURE

Town Clerk's Office Offers New Service to Access Vital Records Online

Have you tried the Town of Mansfield's newest online service!? Customers may now order Mansfield vital records from the Town Clerk's Office online from your home or phone! Using the VitalChek service, customers may request birth, marriage, and death certificates, upload the required identification, and pay for their order.

Customers are able to purchase their records without having to come visit the Clerk's Office. The Town Clerk's Office processes the orders and mails them via [Check out VitalChek today!](#)

The Town Clerk's Office offers many services and is a terrific source for information. Visit our website to access VitalCheck, as well as Property Check, another valuable resource for property owners.



John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield Explores Mansfield's Scenic Roads June 7



20TH ANNUAL!

JOHN E. JACKMAN TOUR de MANSFIELD
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025 | 7:00 AM -1:00 PM

The Mansfield Community Center, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, and the Town of Mansfield are proud to present the 20th Annual John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield. Explore Mansfield's scenic roads, historic villages, and vibrant downtown with residents and friends. Choose either the 20-mile or 40-mile route based on your experience and comfort level. All rides will take place on open roads. Experience riding on roads is strongly recommended. Older children with road riding experience are welcome to ride with an adult. All participants must wear a helmet and follow the rules of the road.

All rides begin and end at the Mansfield Community Center, where registered participants will enjoy lunch following their rides. The first 100 riders to sign in will receive an event t-shirt. All registered riders receive lunch.

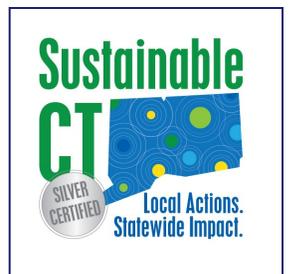
For more information and to register, visit: mansfieldct.gov/biketour

Mansfield Earns Designation as Climate Leader from Sustainable CT

Sustainable CT, a voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities, has announced that Mansfield has earned the designation as Climate Leader. Climate Leader designation is awarded to municipalities that demonstrate outstanding leadership in addressing climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing climate resilience strategies.

"We're thrilled to celebrate these towns for their impressive achievements," said Jessica LeClair, executive director of Sustainable CT. "Their certifications and climate leadership exemplify the dedication and innovative spirit that are essential for building a sustainable future. We congratulate each community for their hard work and commitment to making Connecticut a better place to live, work, and visit."

At present time, Mansfield is Silver Certified, and is working to submit its application to earn Gold Certification. Mansfield was among five towns recognized for their exceptional commitment to sustainability. Vernon achieved Gold Certification, the Town of Marlborough achieved Silver, and the cities of Stamford and Norwalk were recognized



NEWS & UPDATES

E.O. Smith High School Works to Leverage Sustainable CT Community Match Fund Grant to Purchase Washable Food Service Ware

In August 2023 EO Smith began a food rescue program, along with Mansfield Middle School and Mansfield Elementary School, so that any unserved, leftover meals from E.O. Smith High School are delivered to the Covenant Soup Kitchen, not tossed into the trash. Between the high school, middle school and elementary school, about 16,000 pounds of edible food will have been donated by the end of the school year (4 tons/year). Organized through the Mansfield Public Works Department, volunteers transport leftovers to the soup kitchen Monday through Friday.

To eliminate waste, E.O. Smith is turning to the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund to raise money for the initial purchases of washable food trays and silverware and composting equipment

The school hopes to raise \$3,925 that will be matched dollar-for-dollar by Sustainable CT for a total budget of \$7,850.

By instituting these changes, E.O. Smith will be functioning the same way as Mansfield Elementary and Middle Schools by fully composting .



This year EO Smith made a food share table more prominent in the cafeteria. Students place unopened, sealed food or uneaten fruit on the designated share table where the food can be taken by students to eat. If there is leftover food on the share table at the end of the lunch waves, it is donated to the soup kitchen.

This school year E.O. Smith started composting kitchen food prep scraps, such as potato peels and outer lettuce leaves cut off by staff during kitchen prep. The school replaced plastic spoons, forks and knives with compostable, wooden cutlery. By switching, the wooden cutlery can be composted with the kitchen scraps. The wooden ware and kitchen food prep scraps are taken to the Mansfield Transfer Station where they are being composted in the leaf pile. This is organized through the Mansfield Public Works Department. The finished compost is available for Mansfield residents to use in their gardens.

Mansfield's elementary and middle schools have been composting lunch food scrap (plate scrapings) since the late 1990s. With recycling and composting, the schools divert more than half of their waste, reducing the burden of trash incineration. The Mansfield Middle School alone has composted about 200,000 pounds of food scraps since they began in more than 25 years ago.

EO Smith and town staff and students wish to continue the trajectory of waste reduction by buying washable food trays and silverware to reduce the amount of trash produced at lunchtime, and buying equipment to allow lunchtime composting.

By converting to washable items, fewer pieces of disposable plastic will end up in the food scrap barrel, and the school will reduce the amount of trash

they dispose, lowering their cost for trash disposal. Roughly, about 10 tons (20,000 pounds) of food scraps can be removed from the trash by composting. The goal is to begin the use of washable food service ware and composting at the beginning of next school year.

To do so, E.O. Smith will be turning to the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund to raise money for the initial purchases. The school hopes to raise \$3,925 that will be matched dollar-for-dollar by Sustainable CT for a total budget of \$7,850. By instituting these changes, E.O. Smith will be functioning the same way as Mansfield Elementary and Middle Schools.



"Incoming Mansfield ninth graders should feel right at home with the process since they have been doing this since kindergarten," according to Mansfield Recycling Coordinator Virginia Walton. Ms. Walton has been working with the school to initiate these changes over the past two years. "It is exciting to see the E.O. Smith embrace this change."

Using the sort line at Mansfield Elementary School as the model, E.O. Smith plans to adopt a similar set-up in their cafeteria.

The fundraiser will begin in June and last for two months. [Use this link](#) to make a donation, please.



Army Corps Host Open House to Present Draft Master Plan for Mansfield Hollow Lake

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New England District will host an open house on June 10 in Mansfield, CT, to share details on a draft revision of the 1979 Mansfield Hollow Lake Master Plan.

The open house will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Mansfield Library Buchanan Auditorium at 54 Warrenville Road in Mansfield Center. The public open house will cover the proposed changes to the current Mansfield Hollow Lake Master Plan. Team members will share instructions on how to submit comments and provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide feedback. A 30-day public comment period will begin on June 10th, 2025, and end on July 10th, 2025.



Master Plan Overview The Master Plan is defined as the strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all recreational, natural, and cultural resources throughout the life of the water resource development project. It defines "how" USACE will manage the resources for public use and conservation.

The current Mansfield Hollow Lake Master Plan, last approved in 1979, needs revision to address changes in regional land use, population, outdoor recreation trends, and the USACE management policy. Key topics to be discussed in the revised Master Plan include revised land use classifications, new natural and recreational resource management objectives, recreation facility needs, and special issues such as invasive species management and threatened and endangered species habitat.

The Master Plan revision will not address the technical and operational aspects of the lake related to flood risk management or the water conservation missions of the project.

Submitting Comments & Reviewing Draft Plans: Comments must be submitted in writing at the open house or digitally via the comment form on the Master Plan Revision webpage during the 30-day public comment period that begins on June 10th, 2025, and ends on July 10th, 2025 (<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Mansfield-Hollow-Lake/Mansfield-Hollow-Lake-Master-Plan/>) or emailed to mansfieldhollowmasterplan@usace.army.mil.

On June 10, the website will also have digital copies of the draft Master Plan, Environmental Assessment and associated documents, a comment form with instructions, and a downloadable presentation covering the topics highlighted in the open house.

About Mansfield Hollow Lake. Mansfield Hollow Dam lies on the confluence of the Natchaug, Fenton and Mt. Hope Rivers in Mansfield. The dam is part of a network of six flood risk management dams in the Thames River Basin constructed and maintained by the New England District. Construction of the dam began in 1949 and was completed in May 1952 at a cost of \$6.5 million. The dam consists of earthfill with stone slope protection. It has a length of 14,050 feet and a height of 68 feet. The project also consists of six earthfill dikes with stone slope protection that total 2,656 feet in length and have a maximum height of 53 feet.

USACE manages the natural resources at Mansfield Hollow Lake for multiple uses to include flood risk management, wildlife habitat, forest production, watershed protection and outdoor recreation. While the main purpose of Mansfield Hollow Lake is to provide flood risk management to the Thames River Basin, over the years the lake has become a recreational draw for approximately 575,000 visitors a year.

With over 15 miles of trails, 2,472 acres of land, 450 acres of water, picnic areas, and a boat launch, the lake can accommodate a wide range of outdoor enthusiasts. USACE owns 2,472 acres at the project site, of which the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection leases approximately 2,300 acres for recreation and natural resource management. For more information about Mansfield Hollow Lake, visit the project website at <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Mansfield-Hollow-Lake/>.

Living with Wildlife: Common Sense Advice from Mansfield Animal Control



Mansfield residents live in an area with a large amount of forests that provide habitats for many wildlife species. We have the ability to observe and have a unique relationship with nature. As our population increases, we continue to encroach on these habitats meaning that we cross paths with wildlife on a regular basis. While most people enjoy their wildlife encounters for some, when animals come into our yards and homes it can be a nuisance. Animals have evolved to coexist with us and in the same vein; we much learn to adapt our behavior so we can coexist with them.

All animals play a role in the ecosystem. Most people know what a crucial role bees, as pollinators, play but they are not the only creatures that are part of the delicate balance of nature. Woodchuck help to aerate the soil, raccoon and chipmunk aid in seed dispersal as well as mice and rats, who in addition, act as valuable prey items for other animals. Opossum aid in pest control and skunk play a role in all three: seed dispersal, pest control and soil health. Even "insignificant" creatures have a vital role in the biosphere.

Using humane solutions is E-A-S-Y!

Exclusion tactics, like these, keep animals from taking up residence in your yard or home:

-Eliminate Food Sources- Use wildlife proof containers for trash, clean up food waste (including pet food) and cast off from bird feeders.

-Attract Predators- attract species like raptors to your yard to keep rodent populations in check

-Seal Access Areas- Wildlife is opportunistic use materials to block openings ¼ in or more

-Yard Clean Up- Trim branches away from your home to eliminate access to your roof. Clean up brush piles that might be attractive homes or nesting material.

Fertility control products are also available to control rodent populations Contraceptol, which comes in a powdered form, and Evolve (soft bait) and ContraPest (liquid) produced by Senestech can be loaded into bait boxes and have no adverse effects on predators.

Here in Mansfield we can live cooperatively with wildlife and use humane, effective and sustainable methods to live in balance with nature.

What not to do:

Poison The use of poison to eliminate wildlife in yards and homes is detrimental to the ecosystem. Bait boxes not only poison mice and rats; they also endanger larger animals and raptors that depend on these items as prey. Many raptor species like owls, hawks and eagles die each year due to prey items that have ingested rodenticides. Horizon Wings, in Ashford and A Place Called Hope, in Killingworth are two Connecticut rehabber's for raptors that deal with these cases. For more information visit: [APCH Rodenticide Poisoning](#)



Trapping The use of Have-a-Hart traps to control wildlife may seem like a more humane solution. However, what most people do not realize is how inhumane trapping and relocating wildlife actually is. Wild animals adapt to living in certain areas, they find safe places to nest, rear their young, and find access to food and water. They also learn to co-exist with other animals in that habitat. When you relocate an animal, you are dropping them off in unfamiliar surroundings, potentially even leaving their young behind in a burrow to fend for themselves. Think of it as waking up in a completely different place, with no food, water or cellphone and no idea if you are in hostile territory or not.

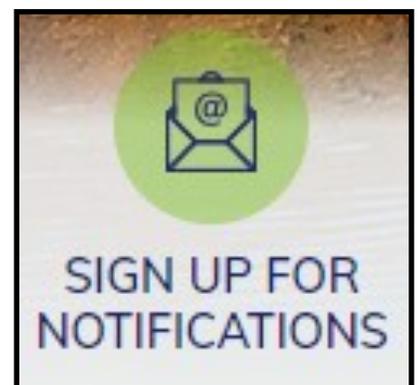
Besides being inhumane, trapping and poisoning are also ineffective ways to deal with wildlife. Neither method changes the habitat, which the animals found appealing in the first place. Though the initial animals may no longer be there, it will not take long for others to move in.

Sign Up for Notifications from Your Town

[This is where you sign up](#) to get notifications about Events, Town Meetings, Library Information, News, and other happenings in town.

You can select which information that you wish to receive by selecting from committees and sources

Know what's happening. Sign up today!



Mansfield Receives First Donation in Deconstruction Pilot Program

A Mansfield couple and their local contractor, Molochnick Builders, became the first contributors to the Mansfield Deconstruction pilot intended to reduce building waste. The Town of Mansfield is partnering with [The ReCONNstruction Center](#), a non-profit building reuse store in New Britain, CT, to salvage building materials from Mansfield construction projects that are in good, usable condition. Instead of these materials ending up in an out-of-state landfill, they will be offered for sale at The ReCONNstruction Center so they can be re-purposed.



The first donation included used and new doors, some still in their original packaging, plus a variety of windows.

What is the benefit to a contractor to take the time to carefully extract these materials for reuse? First, building contractors doing work in Mansfield can donate these perfectly good building materials for free right at the Transfer Station. By participating, contractors can reduce their waste disposal costs, receive a tax-deductible receipt, keep good materials out of the landfill and provide discounted goods that will be sold at the ReCONNstruction Center.

All donations must be prearranged. To participate contact Mansfield Recycling Coordinator, Virginia Walton at 860-429-3333 or watonvd@mansfieldct.org.



Celebrating the start of the deconstruction pilot are (left to right) Transfer Station Supervisor Buddy Fontaine, Charles Paonessa and Tim Parola from The ReCONNstruction Center, Consultant Nick DeVito of CET, Contractor Steve Molochnick, homeowners Rusty Jennings and May Mundkur, and Mansfield Recycling Coordinator Ginny Walton. Through pre-arrangement, donated building materials rescued from renovation projects can be brought to the Transfer Station where they are stored until the ReCONNstruction Center can pick them up. Mansfield is piloting this program in Eastern Connecticut. The first donation of materials was made by Chaplin contractor Steve Molochnik of Builders from a project in a Mansfield home. The donated items can only be received from contractors.





LIVE BAND & ENTERTAINMENT!

CELEBRATE PRIDE
Friday, June 6, 2025 5-8pm
Betsy Paterson Square
Downtown Storrs, CT

COME JOIN THE FUN!
LOCAL LGBTQIA2S+ SUPPORTS,
UCONN DAIRY BAR ICE-CREAM TRUCK,
SELFIE-STATIONS, FREE FLAGS & PINS,
FREE TIE-DYE-YOUR-PRIDE SHIRTS,
AND MORE!



Mansfield Raises the Flag for Pride Month



Dozens of enthusiasts joined the Pride flag raising ceremony to mark June as Pride month in Mansfield. Pride flags will fly at town offices and facilities all month. Mayor Toni Moran hosted the ceremony and read the Pride Proclamation adopted by the Town Council, and Town Council members Carlita Cotton and Ron Schurin helped to hoist the flag at the Town Hall.

Members of the Human Rights Commission Jeannine Kanadia and Grace Pereira Lopes described the meaning of the colors and symbols of the flag.

After opening the ceremony with a song, “The Times They are A-Changin’” by Bob Dylan, Mansfield Public Schools Superintendent Peter Dart offered special remarks. Accompanying with his guitar, Superintendent Dart led the crowd in singing “This Land is Your Land” by Pete Seeger to conclude the flag-raising.

Free Pride flags are available to pick up while they last at Town offices, provided by Mansfield Youth Services. For more activities and resources, visit mansfieldct.gov/pride



The Vital Importance of a Human Rights Education

Human rights are inherent freedoms and protections assumed for all humans upon birth regardless of location or condition. They are non-partisan, universal, and considered 'inalienable', or, never to be separated from the person. They are also considered 'a symbolic standard', as each country with membership to the United Nations can decide how many (or how few) internationally established rights they incorporate into national jurisprudence.

The term 'human rights' sometimes evokes association with wide-scale international justice, far from us as individuals. In reality, human rights exist all around us. They form the very foundation of our daily life, offering context for our relationships with national and international governments, the environment, and each other. When we begin to learn these vital freedoms from an early age, and how they apply in national, local, and individual contexts, we can better understand why the world works the way that it does. This inspires empathy and a drive to see a historically unequal and challenged world become a more inclusive and free place.

Growing up in Mansfield, my peers and I were privileged to be continuously equipped with the language to understand the world around us. Rather than learning histories clouded by supremacy of one race and erasure of others, from an early age we learned the vital importance of equality, politics, freedoms, rights, and democracy in Social Studies and English classes. We were taught to read and celebrate "banned" books, protesting against censorship inspired by hateful organs of fascism. We were exposed to experiences, knowledge, and the unadulterated history of our country and world history, including stories by and about marginalized people and communities.

Our early education cemented the importance of honoring and creating empathy, safeguarding human rights and social freedoms for all. Stoking the ember of interest sparked in my youth, I studied political science and human rights at UConn, taking a specific interest in genocide research. Only in adulthood did I truly realize the impact of a free, fair, equal, uncensored public education. Nationally and globally education is being compressed and clouded, with history changed to fit certain narratives and to omit others. It is more important now than ever to equip individuals early in their lives with the idea that human rights and social protest are internal and external, inalienable and universal. Equality is the only way for our world to progress.

Education is a vital human right, and human rights education is vital.

-Contributed by Grace Pereira Lopes, Member, Mansfield Human Rights Commission



The term 'human rights' sometimes evokes association with wide-scale international justice, far from us as individuals.

In reality, human rights exist all around us.



NEWS & UPDATES

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

- Go to this page on the town's website: <http://mansfieldct.gov/list.aspx>
- Enter your best email in the "Email Address" field
- Under the "Notify Me" section of the page check the box for "News & Press Releases" (and check out other topics you might want to be notified about, from committees to events.)

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!

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to sign up for notifications!



Professional Municipal Clerks Week Amplifies this Important Role at Town Hall

Please join us in celebrating the historic Office of the Town Clerk. The 56th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week was May 4 to May 10, 2025. This annual observance offers a special opportunity to recognize and honor the critical role municipal clerks play in our communities.

One of the most integral roles in municipal government, the Office of the Town Clerk exists as a direct link between residents and their government. Charged with following over 500 Connecticut State Statutes, the Town Clerk serves as a nonpartisan public servant. The Clerk takes all minutes for the Town Council, is the Registrar of Vital Statistics for the Town (which includes births, marriages and deaths), acts as a custodian of town records of various kinds, and is the administrator of the Town Seal. They are essential in ensuring transparency, efficiency, and the smooth operation of local government.

The Office of the Town Clerk serves thousands of internal and external customers each year. The Clerk's Office is oftentimes the first contact a new constituent has with their government. Whether folks are doing historical research, registering a new dog, recording new land records, filing a Trade Name Certificate or simply have an inquiry, the Town Clerk's Office provides service.

Quietly and fairly, the role of the Town Clerk is to remain an impartial office of professionals dedicated to keeping the Town's records. The Town of Mansfield Town Clerk's Office uses the guided principles of four Core Values: Records Accessibility, Records Preservation, Outstanding Customer Service and Knowledge. Using these Core Values, the Town Clerk's Office is always innovating new resources and methodologies to help customers access the information they seek.

The Town of Mansfield's Town Clerk is Sara-Ann Chaine. Assistant Clerks are Monica Ferrara and Stephanie Huber. All three Clerks are Certified Connecticut Town Clerks through the Connecticut Town Clerks Association. Certification requires two years of continuous studies and a passing final exam grade.

The eminent political scientist, Professor William Bennett Munro, writing in one of the first textbooks on municipal administration said of the office of the town clerk:

"No other office in municipal service has so many contacts. It serves the mayor, the city council, the city manager, and all administrative departments without exception. All of them call upon it, almost daily, for some service or information. Its work is not spectacular, but it demands versatility, alertness, accuracy, and no end of patience. The public does not realize how many loose ends of city administration this office pulls together."

These words, written well over 50 years ago, are still appropriate and pertinent today.



Mansfield Town Clerks pose with the Democracy Cup and Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas when she presented the cup to Mansfield in 2023



Resident State Troopers attended Bike Week activities at Mansfield Elementary School where grade 4 students learn to ride bicycles safely over three days of sessions. Sergeant King, Trooper Aldasch, and Trooper Butler assisted staff and community volunteers who taught students bicycle skills. At the end, proficient riders join the group ride, a peloton, through local neighborhoods while the troopers ensured traffic gave the riders plenty of space.

Bike Mansfield collaborated with Mansfield Elementary to launch Bike Week last year purchasing equipment and a trailer so full classes could ride together. Eastern Highlands Health District purchased personal helmets for each child to keep.



The Mansfield Public Library—Springing Up with Activities for all Ages!

The Mansfield Public Library—the staff is always planning new and exciting programs for adults, for families, for teens, and tots! Here’s a quick snapshot of what’s happening at the library in June and July. Want to find all the details? [Check out our website!](#)

Summer Family Events:

Throughout June- Art Display from the Students of Mansfield Elementary School

- Summer Kickoff Party!, June 21
- The Poop Museum, June 24
- Family Movie Night, July 1
- All About Snakes! With Riverside Reptiles, July 10
- Science Heroes: Adventure of the Missing Color, July 16
- Poppi’s Planet!, July 22
- Game On! Magic Show with Mike Bent, July 26
- Creature Camouflage Colors w/ Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, August 1
- Annual Ice Cream Social, August 16

Weekly Children’s Events:

- Stories on the Lawn, Tuesdays at 10:30 AM *Outdoors when possible*
- Wonder Workshop, Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 PM (Drop-in!)
- Music & Movement, Fridays at 10:30 AM
- Saturday Storytimes, Saturdays at 10:30 AM

Teen Nights:

Teen Nights run every Thursday starting June 26 through August 14! Any Middle School or High School student can join for fun with friends, cool activities, & free pizza.

Summer Teen Nights will kick off on Thursday, June 26 with a Teen/Tween-Only Ice Cream Sundae Party! *Teen Nights are open only to rising 5th graders through 12th graders.*

Adults:

- Matt’s Matinees: Black Bag, June 7
- Meditation: Healing the Body, Mind, and Spirit, June 10, Virtual
- Summer Reading Kickoff Party for Adults, Teens, & Kids!, June 21
- Gold-Gilded Shell Trinket Dishes, June 24



(Continued)



The Mansfield Public Library— Fun for all Ages! (Cont.)

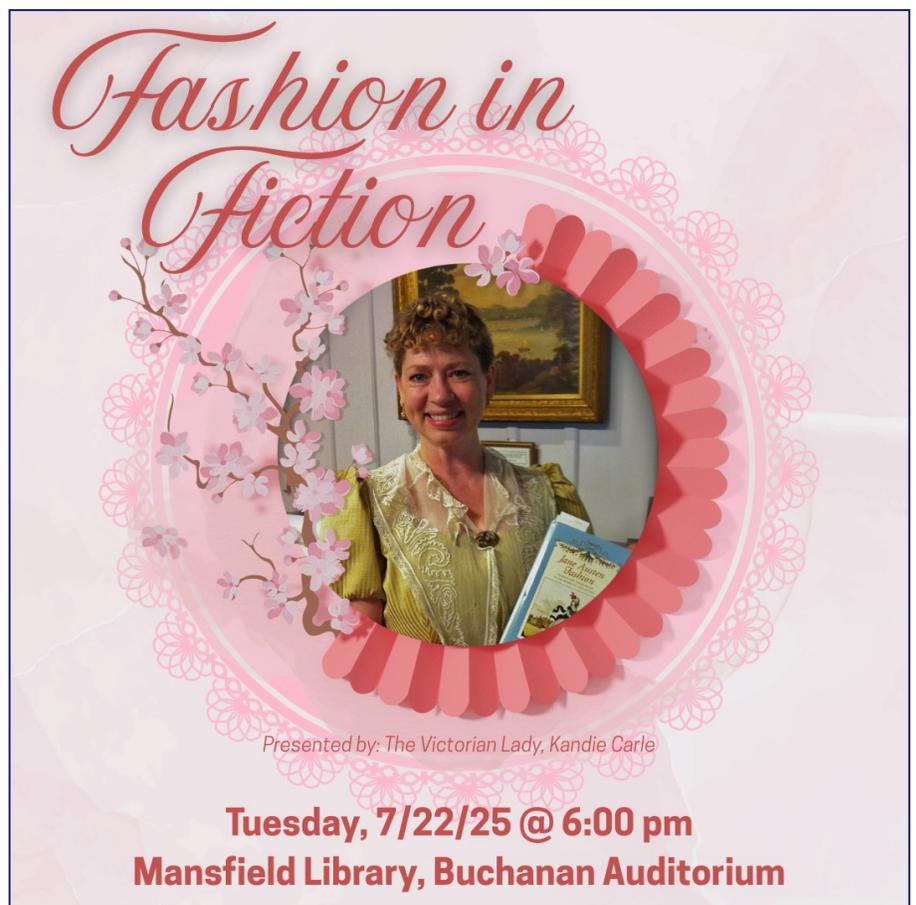
More Adult Programs

- Meditation for Healing and Peace, July 1, Virtual
- Seashore Memories Magnet Craft, July 8
- Game & Puzzle Swap, July 19 (Donation dates: July 14- July 18)
- Fashion in Fiction: Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of Jane Austen's Birth!, July 22
- CTV 192 Public Access TV, July 24
- Americana Melodies: Patriotic Tunes and Broadway Hits, July 29



Recurring Adult Programs:

- Current Events and Politics Weekly Discussion Group, Wednesdays at 1:00 PM
- Friday Films, Every Friday at 1:00 P.M
- Mansfield Library Monthly Book Discussion Group, Tuesdays: June 10 & July 8
- Adults 18+ Only Monthly Game Night, Tuesdays, June 17 & July 15
- Matt's Monthly Zoom Movie Discussions, Wednesdays, June 18 and July 16, Virtual
- Mansfield Library Monthly Knitting Group, Thursdays, June 19 & July 17



Virtual Author Talk

- Extinctopedia—A Discovery of What We Have Lost, What is at Risk, and What To Do About it with Smithsonian Scientists, June 4, Virtual
- Explore Unexpected Twists and Turns with Bestselling Author Lisa Jewell, June 10, Virtual
- Living the Otter Life with Katherine Applegate (3rd-6th Grade), June 24, Virtual
- Drawing Your World with Raúl The Third (PK-2nd Grade), July 8, Virtual
- Discerning the Truth with Marie Lu (9th-12th Grade), July 17, Virtual
- Illuminating Hope and Grace in the Face of Hardship with Rex Ogle (5th-8th Grade), July 24, Virtual
- On the Strangeness and Wonder of Our Brains with Pria Anand, July 31, Virtual

Visit the Library's online calendar for more information and program updates!

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

Watch for postings 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](#).

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 re-view 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 it to open, and it will list 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	Steven Ferrigno, 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	Michael Posocco, Facilities Director	860-429-3320 facilities@mansfieldct.org
Finance	Amanda Backhaus, 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	John Roache Fire Chief	860-429-3323 firedept@mansfieldct.org EMERGENCY: 911
Housing Authority	Rebecca Fields, Housing Authority Executive Director	860-487-0693 rfields@mansfieldhousingct.org
Shared Services	Maria Capriola, Chief of Shared Services	860-429-3380 HR@MansfieldCT.org
Human Services	Jessica St. Louis, 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

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Department	Department Leader	Contact
Planning & Development	Jennifer Kaufman, AICP Director	860-429-3330 PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org
Public Library	Devon Andrews, Library Director	860-423-2501 MansfieldLibrary@MansfieldCT.org
Public Works	John Carrington, Director	Public Works 860-429-3331 PublicWorks@mansfieldct.org
Registrars of Voters	Ron Manizza, Registrar	Democratic 860-429-3368
	Al Fratoni Registrar	Republican 860-429-3369 VoterRegistrars@mansfieldct.org
Senior Center	Jessica Tracy, Senior Center Supervisor	860-429-0262 TracyJA@mansfieldct.org
State Police (Resident State Trooper)	Sergeant Stephen King, Resident State Trooper Sergeant	860-429-6024 Police@mansfieldct.org EMERGENCY: 911
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 Town-Clerk@MansfieldCT.org
Town Manager	Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager	860-429-3336 TownMngr@mansfieldct.org
Youth Services	Sarah DeLuca, LPC Youth Services Supervisor	860-429-3319