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Mansfield Mustangs, a service-oriented summer program of Mansfield Youth Services, volunteers at an animal rescue facility, UConn’s student farm, and the Covenant Soup Kitchen. These middle school –aged students make a difference in Mansfield.

Message from the Town Manager

Thriving with Activity and Connection

Greetings Fellow Residents:

As we enjoy the final stretch of summer and look ahead to a new academic year and fall season, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for continuing to engage with the work your local government is doing on your behalf—and to share a few updates and reflections as we transition from one chapter of the year to the next.

First and foremost, I want to express my appreciation to all who participated in the Town’s annual budget process. Following a robust budget development process that commenced in December and concluded in late-April, 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

(Continued)



Mansfield is Your Place for Summer Fun!

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



Message from the Town Manager (cont.)

during floor debate and the motion carried. The FY 2025/26, as amended, was passed by a vote of 131-15. The FY 2025/26 budget was subsequently reaffirmed by a similarly large margin (76% in support) at the citizen-petitioned budget referendum that took place on June 17. This year’s approved budget is a testament to our collective values – it maintains the high-quality municipal services our residents depend on, enables enhancement of services in several key areas, advances capital improvements that support public infrastructure, public safety, and other critical projects, and does so with careful attention to fiscal responsibility. I am grateful for the trust our community continues to place in Town officials and professional staff.

Summer is in High Gear Here. At the same time, summer in Mansfield has been anything but quiet. From lively performances at the Downtown Summer Concert Series at Betsy Paterson Square (including a community Bluegrass Jam) to weekly programs for people of all ages being offered by Mansfield Public Library and the Department of Human Services to the continued expansion of recreational offerings – including strong use of the new pickleball courts located next to the Mansfield Community Center – our community continues to thrive with activity, connection, and opportunity.



Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth is also known as Coach to his Mansfield-Ashford Little League Team.



Momentum on Building and Road Projects.

We have also made great progress on several important projects in recent months. Two significant construction projects have been underway at Mansfield Middle School (MMS) since this spring. One of these projects involves reconfiguration of the main entrance, replacement of the existing elevator with an ADA-compliant elevator, and security improvements. The other entails construction of a new HVAC system. Both of these multi-million dollar projects are being largely funded by state grants.

Additionally, the historic Town Hall renovation project – which includes a number of important upgrades to improve accessibility for individuals with mobility challenges – has come a long way over the past six months thanks to critical state funding and local commitment to preserving our past while planning for the future.



After finalizing the engineering/design specifications and conducting an associated competitive bidding process on the S. Eagleville Rd/CT-275 pedestrian safety improvements and boulevard design project (principally funded via a CT Communities Challenge grant), this critical project will be breaking ground before the end of the summer. Our Public Works crews and contractors have also been busy this construction season with resurfacing Bassetts Bridge Road and Spring Hill Road, with extensive drainage improvements being performed on the latter.

Planning and Development Guides Our Future.

Our Planning and Development team has also been actively engaging stakeholders in efforts to promote smart growth and expand housing choice across town, including facilitating the creation of new affordable housing. And we remain deeply committed to advancing environmental sustainability and climate resilience through

community-driven action and long-range planning, including our pursuit of achieving coveted Gold Level certification with Sustainable CT.

(Continued)



Message from the Town Manager (cont.)

The update to the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation and Development is now at an advanced state as well, and we have benefited substantially from community input – including the more than 1,400 responses to the related online survey we received this spring. This plan will serve as our roadmap for growth, land use planning, and community 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. We anticipate presenting a completed initial draft of the plan to the community this fall, and a final opportunity for stakeholder feedback to follow immediately thereafter. I encourage all residents to stay engaged and share their perspectives as this important work continues.



Join the Local Government Academy. In September, we will be kicking off the start of the fifth installment of the Mansfield Local Government Academy (LGA)! Are you interested in learning more about your community's government and operations? If so, please consider signing up for the LGA program this fall (detailed schedule forthcoming). We have been delivering the Mansfield LGA as a 12-class program for the past several years, and we are looking at ways to make participation easier for those that may find it challenging to complete the program in its traditional format. LGA is designed to educate and familiarize citizens with all aspects of their Town government. Informed citizens lead to more engaged citizens. See additional information included on page 8 in this newsletter.



Community Center Fee Adjustments. The recommendations from the Parks and Recreation master planning process urged a fiscal tune-up at Mansfield Community Center. Staff recommended fee increases on MCC memberships, the first increase in four years, for approval by the Town Council, effective August 1. Although increases are always challenging, they are necessary to ensure the Parks and Recreation Department is offsetting the costs of its programs and facilities appropriately. Additionally, Town Council voted to adopt staff recommendation to discontinue insurance-supported memberships at year-end. An information session regarding the upcoming changes to insurance-supported memberships included a brief presentation on the history and challenges of the program, new membership alternatives, discount offers, the Mansfield Fee Waiver program, with an opportunity for questions and answers with the Town Manager and the Director of Parks and Recreation. Feedback from members, users, and residents is being carefully considered during this time, and staff continue to evaluate alternative approaches for ensuring that the facility remains affordable to all residents, regardless of one's financial situation.

Please Connect with Your Community. As UConn and Eastern students prepare to return to the universities and the pace of daily life begins to shift once more, I encourage all Mansfield residents to stay connected with our community—whether by attending a Town Council meeting, following us on social media, signing up for alerts through Mansfield's Notify Me platform, volunteering at the Celebrate Mansfield Festival, or simply stopping by a community program or event to say hello. Your voice matters, and your participation is essential in helping Mansfield remain the vibrant, welcoming, and forward-thinking community we are all proud to call home.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan J. Aylesworth".

Ryan J. Aylesworth

Senior Summer Camp Success!

The weather was perfect, and the company...even better! The Senior Summer Camp Class of 2025 enjoyed an afternoon of nostalgia in July at Bicentennial Pond Recreation Area.



The group enjoyed time together hiking and completing a nature scavenger hunt, painting rocks for the Mansfield Senior Centers rock-snake Roxanne, discovering the joy of giant bubbles, and swimming. The evening wrapped with a campfire (complete with s'mores of course)!

Thank you to the Senior Center and Parks & Recreation staff for collaborating on the fun.



Town of Mansfield Receives Grant Funding to Create a Plan for Our Forests

Did you know that the Town of Mansfield has more than 1500 acres of Town-managed forests? Mansfield was awarded a grant from the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Urban and Community Forestry program to create an inventory of the health and ecology of the Town's forests.

Staff from the Planning and Development office will work with local foresters to identify the stand structure of its forests, assess the health of trees and presence of invasive species, and create an action plan to foster a healthy ecosystem for years to come.



The Town has [posted the project](#) to garner proposals from forestry professionals, and a community survey to invite residents' perceptions and uses of our forests will be launched later in the year. There are 18 significant forest patches in Mansfield including Schoolhouse Brook Park (428 acres), Dunhamtown Forest (226 acres), Sawmill Brook Preserve (188 acres), Simpson Wood Preserve (144 acres), and Shelter Falls Park (75 acres).



NEWS & UPDATES

Thank You to the Water Chestnut Pull Party Volunteers

On July 26, volunteers from the Towns of Mansfield and Coventry converged on Eagleville Lake with kayaks and boats to pull invasive Water Chestnut from the lake waters. Pulling this invasive species by the root is the only effective way to eradicate it from choking our waterway.

Please learn more about this project by contacting StankovM@mansfieldct.org



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



NEWS&UPDATES

Mansfield Residents Warned to Be Vigilant About Fraudulent Invoices



The Town's Planning and Development office has been made aware of recent instances of fraudulent invoices emailed to residents requesting payment with regard to land use applications. The communication utilizes facts that are readily available to the public and appears to come from town staff.

If you receive an invoice from the Town that looks suspicious, look for unfamiliar greetings, grammatical errors, inconsistent email addresses/links, unusual payment arrangements with urgent terms, and unexpected attachments. We urge you to contact the office at 860-429-3330 to confirm the validity of the correspondence.

There have been reports of similar correspondence being distributed in municipalities across Connecticut. Please be vigilant and check with Town staff before paying any charges you are not expecting.



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

Need Help with Technology and Related Questions? Mansfield's Digital Navigators Are Here to Help!

MPL's [Digital Navigation Program](#) is a **free service** that allows library patrons to receive individualized assistance with digital skills, device procurement and affordable internet.

Ready to tackle that technology project you've been putting off? Or need help to finally set up that new device? Has technology become a barrier for you to access information and services you need?

Lauren and Emily are here at the Mansfield Public Library to help (Tuesday-Saturday, including Tuesday/Thursday evenings)! For availability, please schedule an appointment using our [Booking Form](#), contact us by calling 959-444-1305 or reach out to us by email at DigitalNavigators@mansfieldct



Digital Navigation

Connecting you to the digital world.

DigitalNavigators@mansfieldct.org

959-444-1305

Set up an appointment to speak with one of the Mansfield Library's trusted digital navigators!

- Device set up
- Internet service
- Tech Support
- Much more!

Mansfield Senior Center to Celebrate 50 Years

The Mansfield Senior Center celebrates its 50th anniversary this September, coinciding with National Senior Center Month. September will be jam-packed with activities, information, and celebrations highlighting all the center has offered, and continues to offer, the 55+ community.

This year, the theme of National Senior Center Month is *Powering Possibilities: Flip the Script*, inviting us to challenge outdated perceptions of aging and of senior centers. It celebrates the dynamic role that senior centers play in fostering creativity, social and community connection (combating loneliness and isolation), health and wellness, purpose, and resilience in later life.

This September come experience the wide range of activity and support groups that gather each month, meet new people at a communal lunch (September will feature current members' favorite meals), drop-by for a quick lunch on a café day (all ages welcome), purchase something special at the jewelry sale, learn about options to support independence and well-being at the local resources fair, check out the library, try a fitness class, or visit open studio/maker space time.

The month will end with a special 50th year celebration at the annual variety show themed "A Golden Night of Stars", featuring acts by members and staff. Watch for more details in the September 2025 *Senior Sparks*.

Mansfield Senior Center.

Stay Cool with Hot Activities!

The August 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.



Enroll Today in the 2025 Mansfield Local Government Academy

Are you interested in learning more about how the Town of Mansfield operates? What goes into the community's decision-making process? What does each department do? The 2025 Mansfield Local Government Academy will launch on Thursday evenings, starting in early September. We are enrolling residents who are interested in participating with this year's Academy.

Town Manager Aylesworth organized the Academy to inform and engage citizens in what is involved to operate a high-functioning community government. Department heads lead each session to provide the challenges and opportunities they face each day. Tour some of the Town's department facilities. Throughout the sessions you will learn about the Fire and Emergency Departments, the Public Libraries, Animal Control, the Town's IT Operations, Mansfield's Schools, Parks & Recreation, Elections, the role of citizen committees, and more!

The program has always been held as an in-person participation model. The Town is exploring alternative methods to expand accessibility and residents reached. For now, participants are asked to commit to attend at least ten of the 12 two-hour sessions at various locations across the Town on Thursday evenings throughout the fall. (No session on Thanksgiving.) Feedback from the 68 participants who have completed the Local Government Academy since 2021 has been positive. If you are interested in speaking with a previous participant, let us know and the Town Manager's Office will be happy to refer you!

The schedule will be posted on the [Town Manager's webpage](#) very soon. To express your interest, please email TownMgr@mansfieldct.org or call 860.429.3373.



Supporting Our Neighbors Counts on You

At Mansfield Human Services, we're honored to serve a community that cares deeply for one another. Throughout the year, our department offer a variety of programs to support our neighbors facing challenges, but we can't do it alone. These programs exist because of the kindness and generosity of people like you — residents, families, and local businesses who believe in lifting each other up.

What many may not realize is that nearly every service we provide is made possible through community support. As we look ahead, the future of public grant funding remains uncertain, making your involvement more important than ever.



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

We're reaching out with open hearts to ask for your help. Whether through a donation, volunteering your time, or simply spreading the word, your support can have a direct and lasting impact on someone right here in Mansfield. Below are some of our programs most in need right now. We invite you to learn more and we hope you'll join us in continuing this tradition of compassion, care, and community. No matter which way you are able to give, you are helping to ensure that no family goes through these challenges alone.

Community Assistance Program

The Community Assistance Program provides critical support to low-income Mansfield residents facing urgent, often overwhelming challenges. Whether it's keeping the heat on during the coldest winter nights, preventing a utility shutoff for an elderly resident, or helping a family stay in their home during a

financial crisis, this program serves as a safety net when there's nowhere else to turn.

Available year-round and based on income eligibility, the program offers emergency assistance to those in significant need—people who have exhausted every other option. As the cost of living continues to rise, this fund has become a lifeline for countless families in our community

Seasonal Giving Program

Our *Seasonal Giving Program* is designed to support low-income families in Mansfield by providing meaningful assistance during holidays and special occasions throughout the year. While the program once focused only on fall and winter holidays, it has now expanded to include meals, gifts, and re-sources to embrace *all* holidays and cultural or religious celebrations. Every family deserves to feel seen, supported, and included, no matter the season.

Thanks to generous donations, families can "shop" through our collection of donated items, or receive help through gift cards and sponsorship opportunities tailored to their specific needs and traditions.

Food Pantry and Food Programs

The Mansfield Human Services food pantry has seen a significant increase in visits, with demand nearly tripling over the past several months. In response to this, we've expanded our efforts to support local families. This summer marks the launch of our Summer Food Distribution program, providing breakfast and lunch to more than 100 children from households in need. We have also introduced meal kits that are distributed up to twice per month offering not just food, but recipes and ideas for preparing affordable and nourishing meals.

These new programs are made possible through federal ARPA funding, which will be depleted by the end of 2026. As the needs continue to rise, we are asking for the community's help. Food and monetary donations are both deeply appreciated and make a direct impact on the lives of residents in your community.

Betsy Hamill Campership Fund

Summertime should be a time to play, explore and make memories. For many families, the extra costs associated with camp and/or childcare can be overwhelming. The Betsy Hamill Campership fund helps ease the financial burden by providing scholarships to qualifying families. These scholarships allow children the opportunity to have new experiences and make memories with others their same age. These scholarships can be used at Camp Mansfield or other eligible camps in the area that offer these opportunities.



NEWS & UPDATES

Be a part of the 22nd Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival!

The [Mansfield Downtown Partnership](#) invites Mansfield businesses, community organizations, clubs, families, and residents and UConn departments, programs, and student groups to be a part of the largest community event in town!



There are many ways you can participate:

- Apply for a [Craft Booth](#) – *apply by Aug 1*
- Host an [Activity Booth](#) – *sign up by Aug 15*
- Host a [Food Booth](#) – *sign up by Aug 15*
- [Sponsor](#) the celebration – *sign up by Aug 15*
- [Volunteer](#) at the event – *sign up anytime!*
- [Build puppets](#) in our free Community Puppet-Building Workshop

Find more information about each opportunity on our website, downtownstorrsfestival.org.

The 22nd Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival will take place from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM on and around Betsy Paterson Square (2 Dog Lane) in [Downtown Storrs](#) on Saturday, September 27, 2025. In the event of inclement weather, the Festival will be held inside at E. O. Smith High School (1235 Storrs Road).

Follow [@DowntownStorrs](#) on Facebook and Instagram or visit downtownstorrsfestival.org for details.



NEWS & UPDATES

E.O. Smith High School to Purchase Washable Food Service Ware, Paving the Way to Begin School Composting

In July, Edwin O. Smith High School reached its fundraising goal of \$3,925 in an initiative to purchase reusable serving ware. Thanks to the generous donations of community members, the money raised will be matched dollar for dollar by Sustainable CT to purchase washable food trays and silverware plus barrels and carts to begin lunchtime composting at the regional high school.

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,” says Mansfield Recycling Coordinator Virginia Walton. Ms. Walton and Food Services Director Mariah Popeleski-Tilley have been working with the school leaders and students to initiate these changes over the past year. “It is exciting to see E.O. Smith embrace this change.”

Last school year E.O. Smith took strides in eliminating food waste and toward composting. A food share table more prominent in the cafeteria where students can 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 Covenant Soup Kitchen along with unserved meals from the kitchen.

E.O. Smith also started composting kitchen food prep scraps, such as potato peels and outer lettuce leaves cut off by staff during kitchen prep. Now with the addition of barrels, all food scraps from students’ lunches can also be captured. Food scraps are taken to the Mansfield Transfer Station where they are composted in the leaf pile, a practice that Mansfield Elementary and Middle Schools have participated in for 25+ years. This is organized through the Public Works Department. The finished compost is available for free at the Transfer Station for Mansfield residents to use in their home gardens.



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



Mansfield Senior Center Introduces New Chair Yoga Instructor



The Mansfield Senior Center is excited to introduce its newest instructor, Latifa Sfakios. Latifa is a passionate Vinyasa yoga teacher who has been practicing yoga for over a decade. She discovered the practice at a young age and quickly fell in love with the peace, joy, and the grounding it brought—especially during times when her mind felt anything but settled. Originally from Egypt, Latifa leaned into yoga as both a personal refuge and a bridge to build community after moving abroad in 2020.

With a foundation in breath and mindful movement, Latifa's classes are playful, intentionally challenging, and grounded in spiritual awareness. She invites students to explore their bodies, set clear intentions, and connect more deeply with themselves—on and off the mat.

Latifa is a certified RYT-200 teacher and is continuously expanding her knowledge to deepen her personal practice and teaching. Through the philosophical lens of yoga, she has found healing, reconnection, and purpose—and now feels called to give back by holding space for others to do the same.

Join us this August for a gentle yet empowering chair yoga class designed especially for seniors—all abilities welcome! This 60-minute session offers mindful movement, breath awareness, and a supportive environment to help improve flexibility, balance, and strength—all from the comfort and stability of a chair.



With an emphasis on intentional movement and breath work, we'll explore postures that gently challenge the body while calming the mind. Expect a relaxing atmosphere with calming music, plenty of props, and modifications to meet you exactly where you are.

Whether you're brand new to yoga or looking for a more accessible practice, this class offers a space to slow down, breathe deeply, and reconnect—with yourself and your community. Senior Center programs are available to individuals at 55+ from all towns. Senior Center membership is free, but the yoga class has a per-month cost. Learn more in the [August 2025 Senior Sparks](#).

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.

A Typical Summer Day in the Department of Public Works Operations Division

The Department of Public Works Operations Division personnel stand ready to hear from citizens about roadways, drainage, or other issues requiring attention. But while Public Works personnel are considered first responders, their work is fully scheduled, especially in the summer. Each member of the Division knows their scheduled work at least a day in advance. Scheduled work will only be immediately redirected to respond to an emergency that requires instant action.

The Operations Division consists of the Operations Manager, the Public Works Specialist, 27 full-time operational workers, three seasonal grounds laborers, and one part-time gate attendant at the Transfer Station.



The Operations Division consists of four subdivisions: Roads, Grounds, Equipment Maintenance, and Solid Waste. With the exception of the Transfer Station staff, all of this division's employees work Monday to Thursday from 6 am to 4pm. This scheduling maximizes the work effort during our busy construction season.



Roads Division is headed by a Road Foreman who oversees three drainage crew leaders, a tree crew leader, nine truck drivers and four laborers. Each drainage crew consists of at least three people including the crew leader. Their primary mission during the summer is to replace or install drainage on the roads scheduled for resurfacing. This summer, these drainage efforts concentrated on Spring Hill Road and Mulberry Road, for example.

The tree removal crew is the tree crew leader and a truck driver with the mission to remove or trim dead or hazardous trees in the Town's right of way or on Town-owned property. The Roads Division also has the summer tasks of roadside mowing and street sweeping which requires personnel for operation. Almost every day, when personnel are available, the Road Foreman assigns a person or more to do miscellaneous tasks such as replacing missing road signs, picking up cut tree wood, patching potholes on asphalt or gravel roads and responding to citizen requests.



Grounds Division is headed by the Grounds Crew Leader who supervises two groundskeepers, three laborers and the three seasonal grounds laborers. In the summer, this division is cutting grass on 70 acres of Town property, maintaining trails on Town property, grooming athletic fields, and landscaping around Town buildings.

Equipment Maintenance Division is headed by two lead mechanics who, besides turning wrenches themselves, supervise two other working mechanics. This division's tasks are pretty much the same year-round except they get to work in a non-air conditioned garage during the summer! They maintain and repair the Town's entire fleet of vehicles except for fire apparatus. They prioritize their work to support the current operation and, when they can, they start preparing DPW and Facilities vehicles for the upcoming winter snow removal season.



Solid Waste Division is headed by the Transfer Station Supervisor who supervises the part time gate attendant. They operate the Transfer Station which is currently on a summer schedule with longer hours on a compressed weekly schedule.



August Welcomes Back UConn Students.

As the hometown to Connecticut’s flagship university, Mansfield welcomes the return of thousands of students arriving to start a new year. In late August, UConn will be in full swing, restaurants and stores will busier, and the campus will be energized for another year. Here is a snapshot of key move-in and activity dates this fall.

Move-in to Campus (staggered 9 AM to 3 PM daily) and Weekend of Welcome (WOW) activities	Thursday, August 21 to Sunday, August 24
Torch Lighting Convocation Ceremony for residential first year students	Friday, August 22 7:45 PM at Student Union Mall
Fall Semester Classes Begin	Monday, August 25
Family Weekend	Friday, September 26 to Sunday, September 28
Homecoming Weekend 2025	Sunday, September 28 to Saturday, October 4 (Football Game at Pratt & Whitney Stadium is Saturday, October 4)
Thanksgiving Recess	Sunday, November 23 through Saturday, November 29, 2025
Don’t Mess with Mansfield Litter Cleanup Day with Town of Mansfield	Saturday, November 8
Last Day of Fall Semester Classes	Friday, December 5
Final Examinations	Monday, December 8 to Sunday, December 14

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

- INTRODUCE YOURSELF
- SHARE CONTACT INFORMATION
- RECOGNIZE LIFESTYLE DIFFERENCES

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE *MANSFIELD NUISANCE ORDINANCE*
ANY BEHAVIOR WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY INTERFERES WITH THE QUALITY OF LIFE OR SAFETY OF OTHERS
VIOLATIONS WILL RESULT IN A \$250 FINE AND A REFERRAL TO UCONN'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS

MANSFIELD DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING & HOUSING INSPECTION (860) 429-3324

KEEP YOUR PROPERTY CLEAN! LITTER ORDINANCE
TRASH AND DEBRIS WILL RESULT IN A \$90 FINE
TRASH/RECYCLING IS MANAGED THROUGH YOUR LANDLORD

OFF STREET PARKING ORDINANCE
RENTAL PARKING PLANS
WWW.MANSFIELDCT.GOV/252/OFF-STREET-PARKING-PLANS

CODE RED MANSFIELD'S EMERGENCY BROADCAST NOTIFICATIONS

THE CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING LAW ENFORCEMENT COVERAGE, INCLUDING PATROL SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD
MANSFIELD RESIDENT TROOPER'S OFFICE
(860) 429-6024

UNIVERSITY SAFETY UCONN.EDU
(860) 486-4800

THE UCONN STUDENT CODE
THE STUDENT CODE APPLIES TO ALL UCONN STUDENTS REGARDLESS OF WHERE THE BEHAVIOR OCCURS
COMMUNITY.UCONN.EDU

The Town-University Relations Committee discusses the concerns residents have about large, disruptive gatherings that occur in some neighborhoods around Town when school is in session. Sergeant Stephen King of the Mansfield Resident State Troopers office and John Armstrong, Associate Dean of Students are proactively engaging with identified addresses where these gatherings often occur. With personal visits and direct communication with student renters and landlords, they are working to establish expectations early, and address any nuisance behavior, blight, and neighbor-related complaints. Citations are written as needed, and behavioral referrals and arrests are addressed through the [Off Campus Party Referral Form](#) or [Community Standards Referral Form](#).

If you experience a situation that is unsafe or disruptive in your neighborhood, please contact the Resident State Troopers office by calling 860.896.3200 day or night. You are also encouraged to complete one of the above forms to report your experience directly to the university.

UConn and the Town of Mansfield are encouraging students who are moving in or back to their new hometown to meet their neighbors and respect the community both on and off campus. A welcome package includes a special brochure with “Good Neighbor Tips” (*left*) with key information students should know.

A welcome letter to off-campus students signed by Associate Dean Armstrong and Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth says, “As you settle in, please know that Mansfield is home to a diverse community of people who call this town their home. Much like the community in which you grew up, many of your neighbors have lived here for years and will continue to live here long after you have graduated....”

“Please be respectful of this community and all of those living around your rental.”

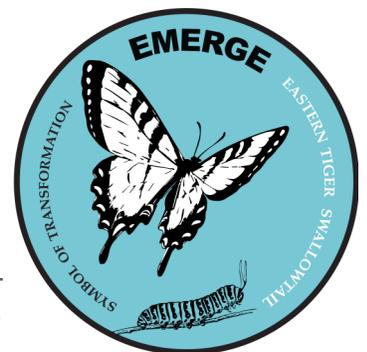
Explore Mansfield's Art Walk: Three Public Art Installations in Mansfield Center



As third graders, a small group of articulate Mansfield Elementary School (MES) students were asked to provide input to Mural Artist Eric Vincent of Black Ink Creative Partners to brainstorm ideas about the best parts of MES and the Mansfield community. The students identified the importance of unity, community, and family, then talked about the images that represent these core themes. On their last day as fourth graders, the same students participated in a reveal of the mural, called *Mansfield Magic*, mounted in the exterior courtyard of the new school's Great Hall and gymnasium.

Public art is important to the fabric of a community. This mural is one of three public art installations the Town commissioned and they will soon be ready for celebration. In August 2022, the Mansfield Town Council allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for an Arts Recovery Fund Program. Working with RiseUP for the Arts, Mansfield conducted a competitive process to select three public art projects in the greater Mansfield Center area, with a goal of creating an Art Walk from MES along Warrenville Road and connecting to the Mansfield Public Library.

Local artist June Bisantz, an art professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, has created *Grow!* which includes 15 signs along the sidewalk connecting the trail heads of Mansfield Hollow State Park and the Nipmuc Trail to the Mansfield Public Library. Each sign design represents flora and fauna local to Mansfield. In addition to a stylized image, each piece features a plant or animal along with a QR code linking to the [Town of Mansfield's website](#) for more detailed information on that species. *Grow!* Is inviting to stroll along, and is very informative.



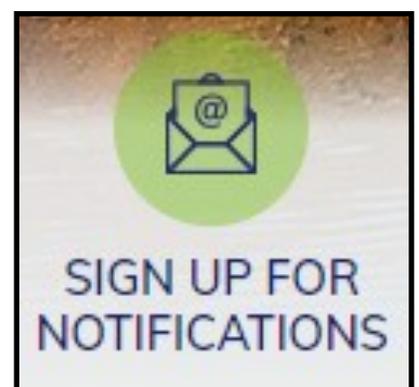
The third installation, created by Mansfield Artist Erin Koch Smith, is a sculpture and pollinator garden installed at the Mansfield Public Library. This four-season garden, which will also feature a stone pathway, will change dynamically with each season. Installation began last spring with the landscaping, and the sculpture is being installed this month.

Watch for details about an upcoming community celebration of these three public art installations.

Sign Up for Notifications Today

[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!



Recycling Reminder: You Can Help Make a Difference Every Day

RECYCLE
THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:

- Cans**
Aluminum and Steel Cans
empty and rinse
- Cartons**
Food and Beverage Cartons
empty and replace cap
- Glass**
Bottles and Jars
empty and rinse
- Paper**
Cereal Boxes, Newspaper, Magazines and Mail, Flattened Cardboard & Paper Tubes
- Plastic**
Kitchen, Laundry, Bath; Bottles and Containers
empty and replace caps

NO!

- Do not Bag Recyclables (no garbage)
- No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap
- No Tangles, Cores, Moss or Chains
- YUCK
No Food or Liquid (empty all containers)
- No Clothing or Linens (drop-off only)

860-429-3333
Town Of Mansfield

www.mansfieldct.gov/recycle

Sustainable CT, a voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities, has awarded Mansfield 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. Our robust recycling program is part of our practices here. For greater detail on the recycling program in Mansfield, please visit www.mansfieldct.gov/recycle.

Craft Swap!

Saturday, 9/13/25 12:00-2:00 pm
Mansfield Library, Buchanan Auditorium
Donations accepted 9/8/25 - 9/12/25 during normal library hours

Craft Swap

September 13, 2025: 12:00-2:00 pm
Mansfield Public Library, Buchanan Auditorium

Do you have craft supplies that you no longer use? Would you like to try a different kind of craft but don't want to spend a lot of money on materials just to try something new? Then donate some of your old craft supplies during normal library hours from September 8-12 and then do a little free shopping at our swap event on Saturday, September 13 from 12:00-2:00 p.m.

We will be accepting craft supply donations at the library circulation desk for all types of crafts: yarn, fabric, paper-crafting, tools, etc. Please make sure all donations are in good, usable condition. Previously opened containers of liquid (paint, glue, etc.) will not be accepted. Any items left at the end of the swap will be used by the library, donated, or discarded.



The Mansfield Public Library—Here’s Just a Sample of Summer Activities for all Ages!

At 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 August and September. Want to find all the details, plus more events? [Check out our website!](#)



Summer Family Events:

- Creature Camouflage Colors w/ Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, August 1
- Fungi Frenzy with Mark Gostkiewicz, August 5
- August Board Games Extravaganza, August 7
- Bird Brains, presented by Horizon Wings Raptor Rehab, August 12
- 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 through August 14! Any Middle School or High School student can join for fun with friends, cool activities, & free pizza.

Recurring Adult Programs:

For upcoming meeting dates, check our [Events Calendar](#).

Current Events and Politics Weekly Discussion Group, Wednesdays at 1:00 PM

Friday Films, Every Friday at 1:00 P.M

- August 8: The Amateur
- August 15: In the Heights
- August 22: On the Basis of Sex
- August 29: Better Nate than Never

Mansfield Library Monthly Book Discussion Group, Tuesdays

Adults 18+ Only Monthly Game Night, Tuesdays

Matt’s Monthly Zoom Movie Discussions, Wednesdays, Virtual

Mansfield Library Monthly Knitting Group, Thursdays



Mansfield Fire and Emergency Services Urges You to Sign Up for Code Red Notifications

The Code RED emergency notification system is the backbone of the Town of Mansfield's emergency planning and communications outreach. It is a system that allows the Town and our Emergency Management staff to send telephone calls, text messages, emails and social media posts to our residents in an effort to effectively inform you to protect life and property. This system is only used for critical / urgent notifications.

The Town uses the system to notify residents of important information during an active emergency as well as for disaster recovery information. The system also gives residents the option to opt-in to receive other urgent information pertaining to local government operations. We encourage everyone who lives or works in Mansfield to sign-up for this important notification system.

How to receive UConn Alerts?

Family members, community members, business owners, and those not affiliated with UConn's daily operations but still operate on or near a UConn campus can download the [myUCONN app](#) to receive alerts during emergencies. No registration is required – just download the app and ensure your push notifications are on.

In addition, if you believe an emergency, severe weather, or any other event may be impacting a UConn community, we encourage you to visit the home page of alert.uconn.edu where all notifications live.



Flash Flooding
Chemical Spills
Snow and Ice Events
Evacuation Instructions

How will you know?

To Sign up for CODE RED, or to update your contact information in our system, please [click here](#) to register.

Rabies in Connecticut: Vaccinations Protect Your Pets, and Therefore Your Family.

Just this year there have been several cases of animals testing positive for Rabies in Connecticut, including one case involving cats. Due to this recent influx of positive Rabies cases, Mansfield Animal Control would like to re-share some important information:

Rabies is a viral disease that affects the central nervous system. It is also a zoonotic disease, which means it can be passed from animals to humans, and once clinical symptoms appear, rabies is virtually 100% fatal.

The Rabies virus is preventable by vaccine, which is why it is so important to keep your pets up to date. All cats (including indoor cats) and dogs are required by law to be up to date on Rabies vaccines.

Indoor cats can meet wildlife in the home, such as bats, which can put them at risk for exposure. In the U.S., bats cause around 70% of Rabies cases. Keeping your pets up to date on the Rabies vaccine not only protects them, but also the humans in the household.

It is not abnormal for animals such as raccoons or skunks to be out foraging for food during the day. If you see any wild animal acting strangely, such as circling, stumbling or displaying no fear of humans, please contact Animal Control or the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP.)

If you or your pet has an encounter with wildlife outside or inside the home, reach out to your Animal Control Department at 860-487-0137.



New PTSD and Cancer Support Groups Begin in August

The Human Services Department invites all residents who may benefit to attend these support groups, including two new groups launching in August.

Cancer Support Group – Meets Monday, August 18th at 1 p.m. - This group provides a safe and empowering environment for individuals facing a cancer diagnosis, both current and past. Connect with peers, share your journey, and gain valuable insights into treatment, coping, and embracing life after cancer. Find strength and resilience through the understanding and support of others.

Caregiver Support Group — Meets Tuesday, August 12th at 4 p.m. This opportunity for caregivers is designed to address your unique needs and offer connection with others in similar roles. Please RSVP to Yamil, our Adult Services Case Worker, at 860-487-9873 if you would like to join in.

PTSD Support Group – Meets Monday, August 25th at 2 p.m. – This month is a soft launch of a new support group for those with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This first session will be an informal opportunity to explore the group's purpose, share what participants are seeking, and help shape how the group will move forward together. Come check it out if you're interested in learning more or getting involved. RSVP to Director of Human Services Jessica St. Louis at 860-429-3315.

Caregiver and Bereavement Support Groups have been ongoing and will continue to meet once per month. Details are available at mansfieldct.gov/seniors.

All groups will meet at the Mansfield Senior Center, 303 Maple Road, Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268. These groups are open to all ages, you do not need to be in the 55+ age group to attend.



The Importance of Education as an Essential Human Right

If people can't read and reason, then they can't think effectively about the issues facing them as citizens of our democracy. Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States, believed that education was essential in preparing citizens to fulfill their role in a democracy and that an educated citizenry would protect the Republic from authoritarian rulers.

The parallels to our current situation are obvious. Universities are being challenged and the Department of Education is losing its funding faster than we can imagine. If the citizenry can't read, write and think, how will we protect our democracy and the human rights that it guarantees to all citizens?

Jefferson also believed that the government – its policies and practices — should be absolutely guided by the will of the people. He advocated for a public education system accessible to all, regardless of wealth or social standing, arguing that an informed citizenry is essential to guarding against tyranny and ensuring the proper functioning of government.

Education is one of the essential human rights. Recent Federal decisions are now calling this right into question. Mansfield has an excellent K-12 system of public education and our students' work and record of achievement is something to be proud of. People want to move to Mansfield so that their children, including those with special needs, can participate in all of the opportunities that our schools provide. In writing this column I feel a kinship to Paul Revere. I call on all of our citizens to pay careful attention to public education. It is one way that we protect our freedom, our future and our human rights.

Contributed by Jane Fried, Vice-Chair, Mansfield Human Rights Commission



Community Conversations with the Human Rights Commission

Please join a member of the Human Rights Commission in the lobby to discuss current human rights matters that are important to you. Or just stop by to say hello. A member will be available on the second Monday of the month from 4:00 to 7:00 PM and the fourth Monday of the month from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

The Human Rights Commission wants to hear from you.

HRC members will be available regularly at the Mansfield Community Center (above) and other Town facilities and events, including the Celebrate Mansfield Festival. Or reach out to us with your questions or concerns at HRC@mansfieldct.org



Mansfield Youth: Lending a Hand and Building Confidence

The Youth Services Department is privileged to work with a unique group of Mansfield youth who volunteer in the summer months to learn, have fun, and provide community service.

The Great Outdoor Adventure Learning (GOAL) program

The Great Outdoor Adventure Learning (GOAL) program is back this summer with a twist! GOAL is an adventure-based learning and positive youth development program for Mansfield youth preparing to transition into high school.

Youth have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities including hiking, kayaking, swimming, ropes courses, and community and character building activities to develop self-confidence, social connectedness, creative problem-solving, and resilient responses to new adventures and situations. New this year Mansfield Youth Services has partnered with the towns of Willington and Ashford to include youth from all three towns in order to encourage new regional friendships and some familiar faces in the hallways as they enter their high school journey in the fall.



MANSFIELD YOUTH SERVICES



Mansfield Mustangs

The Mustangs program is back this summer, also with a twist! This popular service learning program focused on nature, animals and supporting sustainability has expanded this summer to two days — one dedicated to high school-aged youth and one dedicated to middle school-aged youth.

Participants are volunteering with local organizations doing maintenance and community service. Some of the organizations visited include Tara Farm Rescue, Our Companions, Spring Valley Student Farm, Hope Farm, Horizon Wings, Windham Garden Club, and Covenant Soup Kitchen.

Youth have gotten right in with the animals, cleaning stalls, weeding outdoor dog yards, shelling peapods at the garden center, and even giving horses their baths. The highlight for the youth this summer is working with the animals! Many youth have loved it so much, they have voiced interest in returning to volunteer on their own time!



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.

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

To find the log-in information for each of these meetings, go to the [Agendas/Minutes](#) page on the town's website.

Look up the name of the committee, and click on the arrow to the left of the title. The agenda for the upcoming meeting will appear. Click on it to open, and it will list who to contact to receive call-in information.

Minutes of past meetings are also posted there.

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 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		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

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	Devon Andrews, Library Director	860-423-2501 MansfieldLibrary@MansfieldCT.org
Public Works	John Carrington, Public Works Director	860-429-3331 PublicWorks@mansfieldct.org
Registrars of Voters	Ron Manizza, Democratic Registrar Al Fratoni Republican Registrar	860-429-3368 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