

MEMO

To: Town Council
CC: Town Employees
From: John C. Carrington, Interim Town Manager
Date: October 26, 2020
Subject: **Town Manager's Report**



Below, please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, staff, and the community:

Departmental Reports

- ***Town Manager***
 - People are still stealing signs in town. The cost of this theft is over \$2,000 of taxpayer money. If you have a sign, please return it. If you see a sign for sale or in someone's yard or living space, report it to the Resident Trooper's office. These missing signs could cause a serious accident or injury.

- ***Downtown Partnership:***
 - Promoting "Halloween Happenings" with press releases, email blasts, social media, and other outreach. Residents and friends can get into the spirit with some spooky fun this week! Activities for all ages, all week long (mansfieldct.gov/halloween)
 - Continuing "Mask Up, Mansfield!" public awareness campaign to encourage all residents and visitors to wear a mask, maintain a distance of six feet from others, and wash hands frequently.
 - Supporting all Mansfield businesses by communicating guidance from the state for phased reopening, funding and business development opportunities, and federal news and updates through email blasts and our website (mansfieldmdp.org/reopen)

- ***Public Works***
 - Since the last Town Managers Report, the Public Works Department has removed or pruned 31 additional trees.
 - Gravel Road Maintenance should be completed in the next 2 weeks.
 - Drainage Work is beginning on Chaffeeville Road.
 - Hillyndale Road is closed at its intersection with North Eaglveille Road for the Town's Contractor to complete replacement of the Bridge over Cedar Swamp Brook. The Contractor is currently scheduled for completion the first week in December

- **Town Clerk**

- **November 3, 2020 Election Update**

- **Ballot Issuance** - We have issued 3120 absentee ballots to date and 2490 have been returned. Our in-person absentee ballot issuance program has gained in popularity with 95 absentee ballots issued in person to date. To receive an absentee ballot in person, please bring your completed application to the exterior door of Town Hall closest to the Tax Collector's Office from now until November 2, 2020 between 8:15AM – 12:15PM excluding State holidays and extreme inclement weather.
 - **Thank You** - Town Clerks across the State are accomplishing an enormous feat with this Election. In Mansfield, for example, we have seen over 30% of our registered voters vote absentee so far compared to less than 4% in the 2016 Presidential Election. This Election has been a heavy lift for staff and a unique challenge due to the unpredictable nature of the circumstances all while agilely handling increases in and changes to other routine work of the Office. We are very proud of the staff for their dedication and hard work and grateful to the Registrars for their invaluable assistance with the absentee ballot process. We have a great team!
 - **Stay Informed** We regularly update our absentee ballot information page at www.MansfieldCT.gov/TownClerk

Upcoming Events

- This is the last week that the **Storrs Farmers Market** will be held on the front lawn of the Mansfield Town Hall (10/31/20, 3:00 to 5:00 PM). From November through April, **Storrs Winter Farmers Market** will be held on selected Saturdays at the Mansfield Public Library (3:00PM – 5:00PM). More information at storrsfarmersmarket.org
- **Drive-Thru Trick-A-Trunk** - Saturday, October, 31st, Mansfield Middle School. This event is only for Mansfield residents and reservation is required for all time slots (11:30am-2:00pm). Participants will remain in their vehicles. Each vehicle will stop prior to exiting and be handed a goody bag filled with treats for the family to enjoy! *Sponsors are still needed.* Contact [Parks and Recreation](#) for more information.