

IN BLOOM

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

FALL 2024



ALVIN AND BEATRICE WOOD
HUMAN SERVICES CENTER



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GETTING SOCIAL



AccessBloomfield CT



@bloomfield_ct



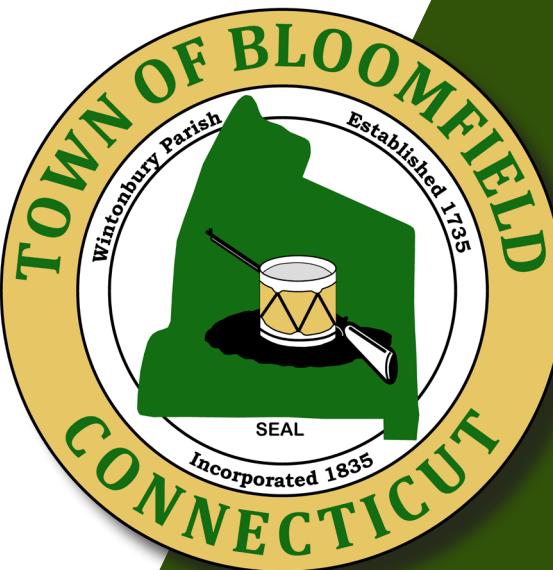
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townofbloomfield

In Bloom is a Quarterly Newsletter produced by the Town of Bloomfield, Office of Strategic Communications and Government Affairs. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Town at 860-769-3599.

The quarterly newsletter was written and designed by Brian Wolff, Community Engagement & Public Relations Coordinator, and edited by India Rodgers, Director of Strategic Communications & Government Affairs. Additional editorial assistance provided by Lynn Weisel, Recording Secretary, Sharron Howe, Deputy Town Manager, and Annatouchur Kingland, Senior Administrative Assistant to Town Manager



TOWN HALL

Town of Bloomfield
800 Bloomfield Ave.
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Phone: 860-769-3500

Office Hours
Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm

BLOOMFIELD POLICE

Police Department
785 Park Ave.
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Phone: 860-242-5501

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Assessor's Office | 860-769-3530 |
| Building & Land Use..... | 860-769-3515 |
| Building Division..... | 860-769-3516 |
| Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance .. | 860-243-3482 |
| Engineering Department..... | 860-769-3524 |
| Finance Department..... | 860-769-3533 |
| Human Resources..... | 860-769-3544 |
| Information Technology | 860-769-3539 |
| Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services..... | 860-243-2923 |
| Emergency Services..... | 911 |
| Public Safety | 860-242-5501 |
| Tobacco Valley Probate Court..... | 860-627-1450 |
| Library | 860-243-9721 |
| Public Works | 860-243-1487 |
| Registrar of Voters | 860-769-3540 |
| Senior Services..... | 860-243-8361 |
| Social & Youth Services..... | 860-242-1895 |
| Tax Collector | 860-769-3510 |
| Town Clerk..... | 860-769-3507 |
| Town Manager | 860-769-3504 |
| Center Fire District | 860-242-1779 |
| Blue Hills Fire District | 860-243-8949 |
| West Hartford-Bloomfield | |
| Health District | 860-561-7900 |



A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIELLE C. WONG

Dear Neighbors,

As we welcome the cooler temperatures and colorful foliage of autumn, I am excited to connect with you through our Fall Quarterly Newsletter. The fall season provides the perfect backdrop for reflection, celebration, and progress as we continue working together to make Bloomfield an even better place to live, work, and play. There are so many things going on and I am excited to address some with you:

Oktoberfest: Cheers to the Community

I'm especially delighted to introduce a new initiative we are launching this fall—*Oktoberfest: Cheers to the Community*. This event is not just a celebration of the season but also a chance for me, as your Mayor, to meet with residents directly in a series of community appearances. I will be traveling to different neighborhoods and public venues to engage with you, our citizens, and discuss the future of Bloomfield. These gatherings will be informal and celebratory, allowing us to enjoy the spirit of the season while also taking the opportunity to talk about your concerns, ideas, and vision for our town. It is my hope that these Oktoberfest-themed engagements foster deeper connections among residents and Town leadership, ensuring that we stay attuned to the priorities of our community.

Progress on Key Projects

Several of Bloomfield's key projects are making significant progress, and I'd like to take a moment to highlight some of the most notable advancements:

- Filley Park: Our revitalization efforts at Filley Park are continuing to move forward. The park is being transformed into a beautiful green space that will provide residents and visitors alike with an opportunity to connect with nature, enjoy outdoor activities, and take in the scenic beauty of our town. The improvements we are making will ensure Filley Park becomes a cherished space for relaxation and recreation for generations to come.

- Rockwell Park: Over at Rockwell Park, enhancements are also underway. We are working to create a more inclusive, welcoming space for individuals and families to enjoy. The upgrades to this park will include improved play areas, gathering spots for community events, and enhanced landscaping to maintain the natural beauty of the space while also making it more functional for all ages.

- Bloomfield Public Library: One of our most exciting developments is the ongoing construction at the Bloomfield Public Library. After years of planning, I'm thrilled to see the project becoming a reality, with construction well underway. Each day, the vision for a modernized library takes shape, and soon we will have a state-of-the-art facility that will serve as a cornerstone for learning, creativity, and community engagement. Once complete, this expanded space will offer residents of all ages greater access to resources, programs, and collaborative spaces. The library is not just a place for books; it is an essential community hub, and its transformation will have a lasting positive impact on our town.

Partnership with the Bloomfield Board of Education

Education remains a top priority for us, and I'm pleased to announce that we are working closely with the Bloomfield Board of Education to bring a Trades Program into our schools. This program will help prepare our students for a range of career opportunities in industries that are critical

to our local and national economy. As the demand for skilled trades continues to grow, this program will ensure that Bloomfield students have access to valuable, hands-on learning opportunities.

Addressing Aging Infrastructure

In addition to our work on community spaces and educational programs, we are also focusing on aging infrastructure, particularly at Bloomfield High School. Our high school is an important institution in town, but like many other buildings, it is showing signs of wear. We are currently assessing how best to modernize the facility to provide a safe and high-quality learning environment for our students. This is not just about updating physical structures; it's about creating spaces that support modern teaching and learning, ensuring that our students have the tools they need to succeed in an ever-evolving world.

Maintaining Strong Financial Health

I'm pleased to report that the Town of Bloomfield remains in excellent financial health. Thanks to careful fiscal planning and responsible governance, we have been able to maintain our AA+ Bond Rating, which speaks to the sound financial management practices of our town. This rating enables us to secure favorable interest rates on bonds, allowing us to invest in necessary infrastructure and community improvements without overburdening our taxpayers.

This past year, we kept the tax increase modest at just 1.92%, while still ensuring that we can continue to fund essential services and capital projects. We understand the importance of balancing the need for investment in our community with the need to keep taxes low, especially during these challenging economic times.

Looking ahead, we are also preparing for the upcoming state-mandated revaluation of property values, which we are required by the State of Connecticut to go through every five years. We recognize that this can create concern for residents, but rest assured, we are committed to doing everything in our power to ensure that the burden does not fall disproportionately on Bloomfield residents. Our goal is to make the revaluation process as transparent and fair as possible while advocating on behalf of our community.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, I am confident that Bloomfield is on the right path. We are making meaningful strides in improving our public spaces, investing in our schools, and ensuring the town remains financially strong. I encourage all residents to stay engaged and involved as we continue building a Bloomfield that we are proud to call home.

I look forward to connecting with many of you during our Oktoberfest: Cheers to the Community events, and I welcome your thoughts, ideas, and feedback as we continue working together. Let's ensure Bloomfield remains a vibrant, thriving town for everyone.

Warm Regards,

Mayor Danielle C. Wong



GREETINGS FROM TOWN MANAGER ALVIN D. SCHWAPP, JR.

Dear Residents of Bloomfield,

As the vibrant colors of fall begin to surround us, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we've accomplished together this year and share some exciting updates for the months ahead. Fall is a season of change, renewal, and community, and it's a time when we come together to celebrate all that makes Bloomfield special.

Celebrating Progress & Preparing for the Future

This year, we've made incredible strides in improving our infrastructure, enhancing town services, and fostering community engagement. From road improvements to our new town library renovations, we've worked hard to ensure Bloomfield remains a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

Looking ahead, we're gearing up for several important projects that will continue to strengthen our town's foundation. Our legislative priorities, such as public safety, economic development, and sustainability, remain top of mind, and we are committed to moving these initiatives forward in the coming months.

Community Engagement & Participation

One of the things I value most about our town is the strong sense of community that we share. This fall, we'll have several opportunities to come together and get involved. Whether it's participating in our upcoming fall programs and events, joining a town board or commission, or volunteering for a local initiative, I encourage everyone to stay engaged and connected. Your voice and participation are what make Bloomfield such a vibrant and thriving community.

Staying True to Our Values

As we continue to grow, it's important that we stay rooted in the values that have guided us so well- respect, sense of purpose, and accountability. These principles are at the core of every decision we make as a town, and they ensure that we are always working in the best interest of our community. Our commitment to these values remains unwavering as we move forward.



(L-R): Town Manager Alvin D. Schwapp, Deputy Town Manager Sharron Howe, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager Annatouchur Kingland, Chief Financial Officer Darrell V. Hill

A Season of Gratitude

Finally, fall is a time to express gratitude. I want to personally thank each and every one of you for your continued trust and support. Whether you've been a lifelong resident or have just recently joined our community, your contributions make Bloomfield a wonderful place to call home. Let's continue to work together to make our town even better.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming fall events and hearing your thoughts on how we can continue to serve you and improve our great town. Together, let's embrace this season of change and renewal with optimism and a shared commitment to building a brighter future for Bloomfield.

Wishing you all a wonderful fall season,

A handwritten signature in blue ink.

Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr.
Town Manager
Town of Bloomfield



ARMED FORCES RESOURCE FAIR SALUTE & SUPPORT

ACTIVE DUTY/RESERVE • VETERANS • GOLD STAR FAMILIES
EVENT FOR BLOOMFIELD RESIDENTS ONLY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 - 4:30 - 7:00 PM
ALVIN & BEATRICE WOODS HUMAN SERVICES CENTER
330 PARK AVE., BLOOMFIELD, CT

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS REQUIRED
WWW.BLOOMFIELDCT.GOV/SALUTEANDSUPPORT

- CT VETERAN AFFAIRS
- CONNECTICUT VETERAN LEGAL CENTER
- VETERAN READINESS & EMPLOYEMENT
- VETERAN BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS

- CRT VETERAN SERVICES
- DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
- VETERANS EMPLOYMENT
- SUPPORT SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES
- TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD DEPARTMENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION &
TO REGISTER



**REGISTRATION ALSO AVAILABLE IN PERSON AT
PARKS, RECREATION, & LEISURE SERVICES
(330 PARK AVE.) OR BY PHONE AT
860-243-2923**



IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER....

Your 2024 assessment will be mailed to you in November, and the mill rate is not set until May of 2025. There is no way to determine the amount of your individual taxes until the mill rate is adopted by the Town Council at the Annual Town Meeting.

THE PURPOSE OF A REVALUATION

The main purpose of a revaluation is to develop accurate and uniform assessments of real estate, based on fair market value. This, in turn, will generate an equitable tax base throughout the town and ensure that the tax burden will be fairly distributed among Bloomfield taxpayers. A revaluation is a revenue neutral process. Meaning that the amount of taxes the town needs to collect is based on the budget, regardless of whether or not a revaluation takes place. What is likely to change is the amount of taxes individual taxpayers pay, based on the property value shifts that occur every five years.

HOW A PROPERTY REVALUATION IS CONDUCTED

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, the Town of Bloomfield is conducting a real property revaluation as required for the Grand List of October 1, 2024. This revaluation will correspond to the tax bills that will be due beginning in July 2025. Property information will be obtained from inspections, data mailers, building permits, sales verifications and data analysis.

THE REVALUATION PROCESS

Revaluation is a long process required by state law, one that will take almost two years to complete from the start of the process to the payment of the first tax bills after the revaluation.

This process began in mid-2023 when the Town of Bloomfield undertook a Request for Proposal to solicit proposals from state certified revaluation firms. The company selected was Vision Government Solutions Inc. (Vision) of Hudson, Massachusetts. Vision also performed Bloomfield's revaluation in 2019. They have been in business for over 35 years and have performed over one hundred Connecticut revaluations. Some of Vision's senior-most staff have been involved in Bloomfield's 2024 revaluation.

**PLEASE READ THE REVALUATION LETTER YOU RECEIVE FROM VISION
GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS COMPLETELY BEFORE CONTACTING
VISION OR THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR QUESTIONS OR FILING AN
INFORMAL COMPLAINT**

INFORMAL AND FORMAL APPEAL HEARINGS

In November 2024, property owners will receive a notice of their new assessment. All assessments will be available online to allow taxpayers to view surrounding properties. Taxpayers may request an informal hearing with Vision staff members if they wish to discuss their new assessments. The informal hearing is the first step in the appeal process if the property owner feels their assessment is inaccurate. The informal hearings will take place in November/December 2024. Anyone who participated in the informal hearings will receive another assessment notice in early 2025.

Owners who wish to appeal their assessment will have the opportunity to do so at a Board of Assessment Appeals hearing. This formal appeal process is undertaken annually guided by state statute.

After all five phases are completed, all data, files, records, etc. used in the revaluation will be given to the Assessor's Office. This will allow the town to maintain the data collected and values determined during the revaluation on a continual basis.



Revaluation Phases



Phase 1 - Data Collection



Phase 2: Market Analysis



Phase 3: Valuation



Phase 4: Field Review



Phase 5: Informal & Formal Appeals



FROM THE TAX ASSESSOR



TAX ASSESSOR

UPCOMING DEADLINES

ON OR BEFORE

NOVEMBER
1

ON OR BEFORE

NOVEMBER
1

ON OR BEFORE

DECEMBER
30

Business and Personal Property Declaration Forms

Business and personal property declaration forms are required by Connecticut towns to be filed annually with the Town Assessor where the property is located. *You can request an extension from the Assessor's Office*

Quadrennial Applications for Tax Exempt Organizations

This is a Tax Exempt return of Charitable and of certain Other Organizations to Assessors, as required by Sections 12-81 and 12-87 of the Connecticut General Statutes. *You can request an extension from the Assessor's Office for a fee*

PA-490 – Farm, Forest & Maritime Heritage Land Applications

PA 490 allows farm, forest and open space lands to be assessed at current use value rather than fair market value. (Most years this is due on or before October 30, but in revaluation years the deadline is pushed to December 30.)

CALCULATING YOUR TAXES

Based on Market Value of
\$300,000

Home Market Value: **\$300,000**
70% of Value by State Statute: **x0.70**
Taxable Assessment: **\$210,000**
Current Mill Rate (37.49): **x0.03749**
Current Property Tax Bill: **\$7,872.90**

*Mill Rate set at Annual Town Meeting by the Town Council

WHAT DO THE TERMS MILL RATE AND GRAND LIST MEAN?

A **mill rate** (or millage rate) is a number that represents how much tax is levied on a property for every \$1,000 of its assessed value. For example, if the mill rate is 30, \$30 of property tax will be charged for every \$1,000 of a property's assessed value.

The **grand list** is the net taxable assessed value of all the property in the town. This includes property such as private residences, private vehicles, business personal property and commercial property. In Connecticut, the net taxable assessed value of an asset is determined as 70% of the property's fair market value.

AUTUMN ADVENTURES

THE REC CLUB - AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

GRADES 5-8

A program for youth grades 5-8 operating Monday - Friday from 3-6 pm at The Rec (Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center). Many recreational activities will be available for participants including sports, arts & crafts and video games. Children will also have access to a dedicated homework room with limited homework assistance provided by staff. Session 1: Sept. 16-Nov. 15; Session 2: Nov. 18-Jan. 31; Session 3: Feb. 03-April 04; Session 4: April 07-June 06. \$225/Session

YOUTH CENTER MEMBERSHIP

The Youth Center is a facility strictly for Bloomfield youth in grades K-12 featuring a gymnasium, pool table, and ping pong table. The center is a drop-in facility with a strong focus on evening basketball. Membership is required to participate in the Youth Center at a rate of \$10 for the season!

ADULT BASKETBALL MEMBERSHIP

Adults 18+ drop in for pick-up basketball October 1 through May 24. Sundays: 1pm-4pm; Wednesdays: 11am-2pm; Thursdays: 6:30pm-9pm; Saturdays: 3pm-6pm. One-time seasonal fee, \$35/Resident.

DROP-IN ADULT PICKLEBALL

Pickleball indoor membership takes place from October 7 and concluding on May 23. Membership is required to participate. This is a drop-in program open to players of all levels. Pickleball Schedule Sunday - 10:00am-1:00pm; Monday - 6:30pm-9:00pm; Tuesday - 9:30am-12:30pm; Friday - 11am-2pm. \$50/Resident.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Can't wait to decorate your home and mastermind scary costumes for Halloween? Remember that Halloween safety comes first.

Keep decorations away from open flames and other heat sources and use battery-operated lights instead of candles in jack-o-lanterns.

We strongly advise you not to use real candles for decorating your home.

Treat or treat safely by carrying a flashlight and be on alert for vehicles.

FITNESS CLASSES FOR ADULTS

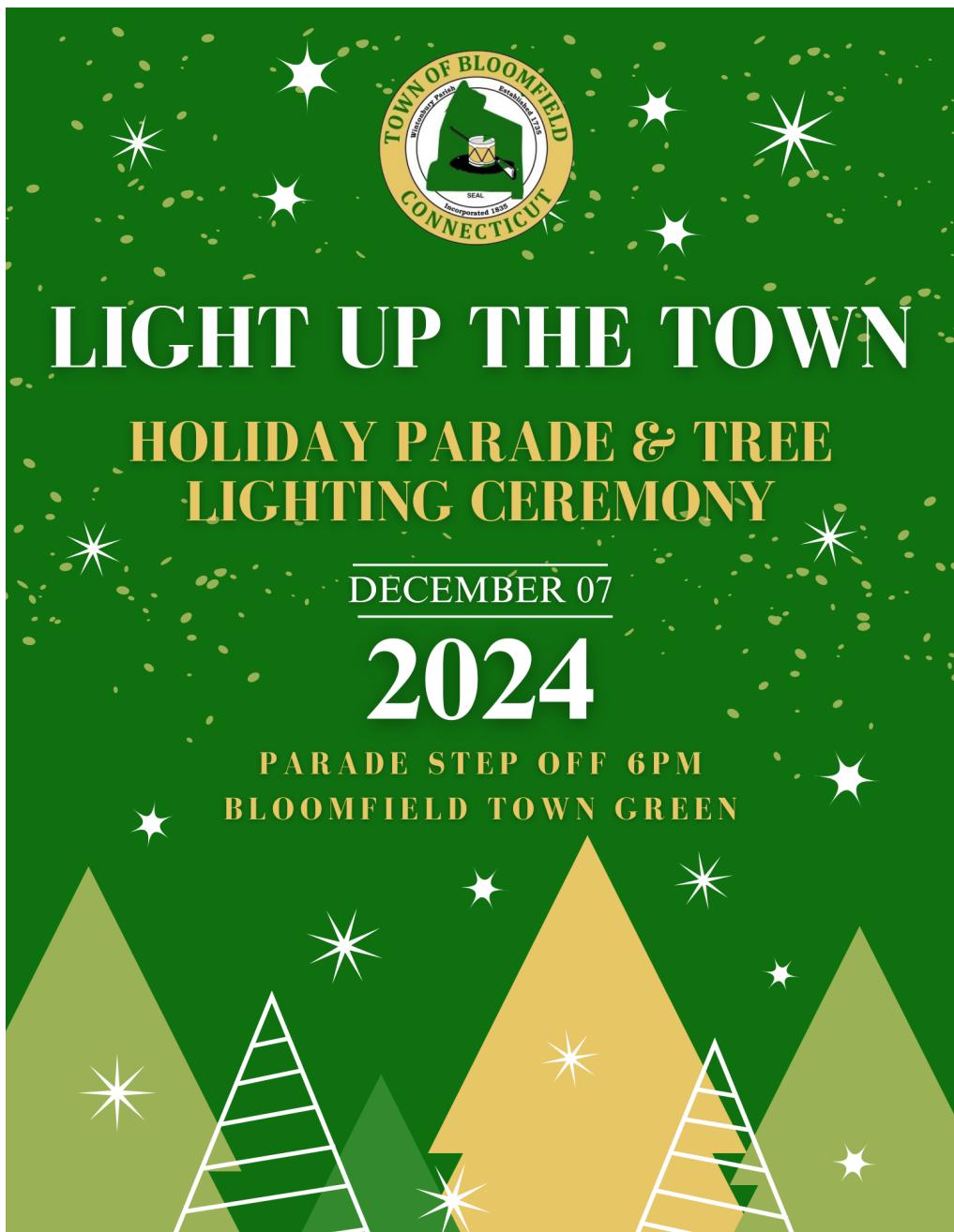
KICKBOXING CLASSES

Kickboxing class uses music, positive reinforcement and variable intensity training techniques in a fun atmosphere that keeps participants engaged and motivated. Thursday's Nov. 7th- Dec. 12th. \$100/residents.

BOOTCAMP CLASSES WITH MORE FIRE FITNESS

Bootcamp class (cross training style) that incorporates functional intensity interval training. The goal is maximizing your potential to burn calories, build muscle & strength, while improving balance and cardiovascular health. Tuesday's Nov. 5th- Dec. 10th. \$100/resident.

AUTUMN ADVENTURES



OCTOBER FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

LYMAN ORCHARD'S CORN MAZE/APPLE PICKING

Celebrating the 75th anniversary of Peanuts with a Peanuts themed corn maze. Join us for a trip to Lyman Orchard's amazing Corn Maze and Pick-Your-Own Orchards. Shopping in the Lyman Acres store will be available as well. Sat. Oct. 19th 12pm-5pm, Families must pre-register by Tuesday October 15 Ages 4-12 (\$10 per child) 13 and up (\$15 per person). The bus leaves promptly at 12 Noon and leaves Lyman Orchards by 5pm



SAFETY TIPS FROM BLOOMFIELD CENTER & BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICTS

As the leaves turn from green to orange, the weather cools, and you start preparing for the cold season ahead. You're excited about the approaching holiday season and can't wait to start decorating your home. But have you thought about the fire safety risks that arise during the fall and winter months?

CHANGE SMOKE/CARBON DETECTOR BATTERIES AND TEST THE ALARMS

You should have a minimum of one smoke/carbon monoxide detector on each level of your home.

When Daylight Savings Time begins and ends, it's a good idea to change your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries. This ensures the alarms don't fail when you turn the heat on in your home.

Check that all fire extinguishers are in working order when you adjust the clocks each season.

FULLY CHECK AND SERVICE YOUR HEATING DEVICES BEFORE CRANKING UP THE HEAT:

Have your furnace inspected, cleaned, and serviced by a certified HVAC contractor.

If you use space heaters, ensure there is at least three feet of space around them. Don't place fabrics on space heaters to dry and turn heaters off when going to bed.

Have all alternative heating sources such as a wood stove examined by an expert to ensure they function properly.

Clean and check fireplaces and chimneys regularly – burn only seasoned wood and avoid soft wood like pine which creates a build-up of creosote in the chimney, which is the leading cause of chimney fires. Be sure to open the damper before starting a fire. A closed damper can cause excess smoke and gas to be released into your home almost immediately after starting a fire.

CANDLE SAFETY

If you exit the room, extinguish the flame. Never leave a burning candle unattended.

Place candles at least 12 inches away from other highly combustible items, such as decorations, drapes, and furniture.

Candleholders should be sturdy and difficult to tip over, and the surfaces on which they are placed should be clear of clutter.

OUTDOOR FIRE RISKS

As leaves and other flammable debris build up around your home, make it a habit to remove them periodically.

Prune trees and rake up leaves and twigs.

Keep your roof, gutters, and downspouts clear of debris, and remove fuel from lawnmowers before storing them for winter.

Don't store fuel in your home or garage.

GENERATORS

Portable generators are useful during power outages.

Generators and fuel should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows, doors, and attached garages. Keep the generator dry and protected from rain or flooding. Touching a wet generator or devices connected to one can cause electrical shock.

Always connect the generator to appliances with heavy-duty extension cords.

Let the generator cool before refueling. Fuel spilled on hot engine parts can ignite.



Bloomfield Center Fire Department
18 Wintonbury Avenue
Phone: (860) 242-1779



Blue Hills Fire Department
1021 Blue Hills Avenue
Phone: (860) 243-8949

Let's work together as one Bloomfield practicing fire safety.

Your holidays will be much more enjoyable with your family, and friends, and save your property. Have a safe holiday season.



BLOOMFIELD CENTERED & STRONG TOWN CENTER PLAN

Town of Bloomfield Mayor Danielle C. Wong and James Michel, Town Center Economic Development Commission (TCEDC) Chairperson are pleased to announce that East Hartford-based, Goman York Property Advisers LLC (Goman+York) has been selected to lead the Town through the process of developing the Bloomfield Centered and Strong Town Center Plan. This development plan was made possible through a Community Investment Fund 2030 (CIF) Grant award by Governor Ned Lamont, the CIF Board, and the State Bond Commission. The plan will identify a broad range of projects and strategies with the goal of creating a cohesive plan that will serve as a roadmap to the future for Bloomfield's Town Center.

"We were honored that Bloomfield was awarded this CIF grant which allows us to plan for a vibrant community center for our future generations. The kick-off will be the first of many opportunities for our community members to engage in shaping Bloomfield's future," said Mayor Wong. "I also encourage our residents to take part in the community survey that runs through October 15 which you can access through the Town's website. This gives everyone in our community a voice to make our Town Center a place to be proud of."

"The plan will involve developing systematic tactics to identify short- and long-term projects that will benefit our community, residents, businesses, and visitors," James Michel stated. "The

projects identified through this plan will build upon each other and the excitement already taking place to make Bloomfield Town Center a stronger community hub for all."

Some of the elements of the Bloomfield Centered and Strong Town Center Plan will include:

- Creating a sense of community through the process of developing the plan.
- Engaging the Town, area stakeholders, and the community to create a revitalized and exciting place that enhances the quality of life while adding and creating value to our community
- Identifying opportunities for growth and development within the Town Center area and throughout the community of Bloomfield
- Developing actionable strategies that support purposeful steps to actively support the current businesses and attract future opportunities
- Creating a plan that has the ability to adapt to change and react to opportunities

"Together we will work closely with the Town Center Economic Development Commission, Town officials, community stakeholders, and the Bloomfield community to identify opportunities for community and economic growth," said Mike Goman, principal of Goman+York.

GOMAN+YORK ADVISORY SERVICES



For more information on the Town Center Economic Development Commission, the Centered & Strong Campaign, and to see the presentation from the event, please visit Bloomfieldct.gov/CenteredAndStrong

SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES

DO YOU NEED HELP PAYING FOR PRESCHOOL?

Financial Assistance is available for income eligible families who live or work in Bloomfield.

Funding provided by the Child Daycare Contract in partnership with the Town of Bloomfield & Office of Early Childhood Education.

For Additional Information Contact:

Laurel School Family Resource Center

1 Filley Street
(860) 769-5518

The First Academy
1151 Blue Hills Ave.
(860) 206-1907

Bloomfield Preschool & Childcare Center
10 Wintonbury Ave.
(860) 242-0183



BLOOMFIELD DIAPER BANK

Available to eligible Bloomfield households on a monthly basis

Contact Family Resource Center at 860-769-5518 or Social & Youth Services at 860-242-1895



FOOD BANK

Let's donate to those who need it

Please consider non-perishable food donations to assist our Bloomfield neighbors.
Monetary & gift card donations also accepted



Call Bloomfield Social & Youth Services for more information

860-242-1895

RISE – RAISING INDEPENDENT STRONG YOUTH IN EXCELLENCE

A program of the Bloomfield Foster Care Support Network

Ages 5 – 18 (Grades K-12)

RISE provides recreational and cultural activities and other support services for Bloomfield families and children placed in licensed foster homes or living with relative legal guardians.

If you are interested in learning more about RISE, please contact: **Tiffany Wright, Assistant Youth Services Coordinator at (860) 242-1895**

STAY INFORMED STAY SAFE

The Town of Bloomfield is using CivicReady as our new Emergency Alert Notification System. This allows the Town to better alert the residents during emergencies and other important information. We want to ensure that the Bloomfield community is safe and well informed. The CivicReady mass notification solution is a new communication service available to our community allowing them to receive emergency and other notifications.

Communication can be received through email, text and/or phone call according to your selections and based on address locations that you specify.



ENERGY & UTILITY ASSISTANCE

CNG WINTER PROTECTION PLAN



Protects eligible households from utility service shut off between Nov. 1st – May 1st .

Qualifying customers may enroll in the Matching Payment Program (MPP). CNG will match every dollar paid by you or on your behalf (up to a zero balance) if you successfully complete the plan.

Households must be approved for Energy Assistance to enroll.

CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Assists qualified households with the cost of heating their homes.

Call Community Renewal Team (CRT) at 860-560-2694 to schedule your appointment



| FAMILY SIZE | GROSS ANNUAL INCOME |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1 | \$45,505 |
| 2 | \$59,507 |
| 3 | \$73,000 |
| 4 | \$87,511 |

EVERSOURCE LOW INCOME DISCOUNT RATE (LIDR)

You may be eligible for the 10% or 50% discount on your monthly electric bill if you have a financial hardship status on your electric account.

The LIDR replaces the Below Budget Payment for electric customers enrolled in the Matching Payment Program.

For more info visit:

<https://www.eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/payment-assistance/discount-rate>



HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT STARTS SOON

ACCESS HEALTH CT OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD: Begins November 1st
Visit www.accesshealthct.org for additional information

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT: October 15th – December 7th
Visit www.medicare.gov for additional information

MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM: Financial assistance for Medicare Part B premiums, deductibles and co-insurance for eligible Medicare enrollees.
Visit <https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicare-Savings-Program> for information

**Bloomfield residents can contact Social & Youth Services
to review insurance options @ 860-242-1895**

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

MEETINGS

- Wednesday, October 9**
Town Council Special Meeting - 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 15**
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 12**
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm
- Monday, December 9**
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

EVENTS

- October 21-31**
November 1-3
Presidential Election Early Voting
Town Hall - Council Chambers
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
8:00 am - 8:00 pm (10/29 & 10/31)
- Saturday, November 2**
Shred Day & Small Electronics Recycling
Bloomfield High School
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 5**
Election Day
6:00 am - 8:00 pm

CLOSINGS

- Monday, November 11**
Town Facilities Closed for Veteran's Day
- Thursday, November 28**
Friday, November 29
Town Facilities Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Wednesday, December 25**
Town Facilities Closed for Christmas Day

FROM THE SENIOR CENTER

AARP SMART DRIVER THURSDAYS IN-PERSON

CT Drivers age 60+ earn 5% discount on auto insurance premium. Advance registration required. FEE: \$20.00 AARP members, \$25.00 non-members (make check payable to AARP and bring it with you to class). Bring your own snacks/beverages. Call (860)-243-8361 to register.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Thursday, October 17 | 9:30 am - 1:30 pm |
| Thursday, November 14 | 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm |
| Thursday, December 12 | 9:30 am - 1:30 pm |

MOBILE FOODSHARE

FoodShare will be at the Senior Center from 12:45-1:30 pm on the following Tuesdays:

October 1, 15, 29

November 12, 26

December 10

This program is for adults who are in need. We use the food market style of walking around the truck to collect the commodities. Numbers are disbursed beginning at 9:30 am at the flagpole entrance. Bring your own heavy-duty bags or a wheeled cart, as many of the items may be heavy. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the distribution. Please stop in the Senior Center if you are interested in being a volunteer.

ADULT UNDERGARMENT DONATIONS NEEDED

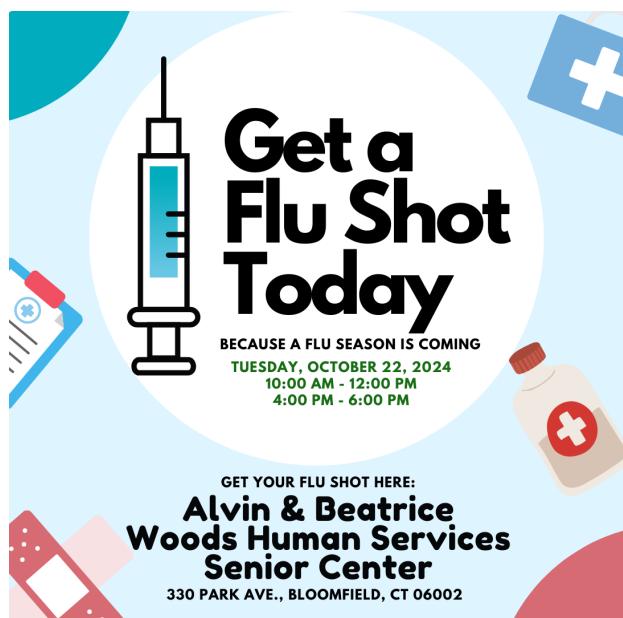
Do you have any unopened packages and are unsure what to do with them? Please consider donating them to the Senior Center. Pull ups and pads are most needed. No tabs please. All adult sizes and genders.

THE LION KING, THE WORLD'S #1 MUSICAL, THE BUSHNELL. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Giraffes strut. Birds swoop. Gazelles leap. Watch as the entire Serengeti comes to life as never before. And as the music soars, Pride Rock slowly emerges from the mist. Leave Senior Center at 12:30 pm. No refunds. Return t/b/a. PRICE: \$122.00.

MJ, THE BUSHNELL. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

He is one of the greatest entertainers of all time. Now, Michael Jackson's unique and unparalleled artistry come to Hartford in MJ, the multiple Tony Award®-winning musical centered around the making of the 1992 Dangerous World Tour. MJ goes beyond the singular moves and signature sound of the star, offering a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit that catapulted Michael Jackson into legendary status. No Refunds. Mini-Bus. Leave the Senior Center at 6:00 pm. Approximate return time to the Senior Center, TBA. PRICE: \$132.00



EARLY VOTING

**October 21 through
November 3**

TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM

8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

OCTOBER 29 & 31

**Make Your Voice Count Early!
TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT
ELECTION UPDATES FROM
THE CT SECRETARY OF
STATE TEXT VOTE TO
860.321.4221**

ELECTION DAY VOTING

**Tuesday
November 5, 2024**
6:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

| VOTING DISTRICT LOCATIONS | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| District 1 | Leisure Services Gym | 330 Park Ave. |
| District 2 | Bloomfield High School | 5 Huckleberry Ln. |
| District 3 | Carman Arace Middle School | 390 Park Ave. (East Gym) |
| District 4 | Metacomet School | 185 School St. |
| District 5 | Laurel School | 1 Filley St. |

TAX BILLS DUE JANUARY 1

The Town of Bloomfield will mail supplemental motor vehicle, and 2nd Installment real estate tax bills at the end of December 2024. These bills are due January 1, 2025, and will be considered delinquent after February 3, 2025. If you have any questions or have not received a tax bill, please contact our office at **860-769-3510** or tax@bloomfieldct.gov.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Pay in Person

Cash, checks, or money orders are accepted in the office.

Mail Checks or Money Orders to:

Town of Bloomfield Tax Collector
800 Bloomfield Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Avoid Lines, Pay Taxes Online!

Visit www.mytaxbill.net/Bloomfield

Convenience fees apply

E-Check (Electronic Check): \$1.95 flat fee

Credit/Debit Cards: 2.99% of payment amount with a minimum fee of \$3.95.

Drop Box

You may utilize the drop box when paying with a check or money order, the drop box is located in the roundabout on the Park Avenue side of Town Hall.

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS

To reduce expenses, this is the final year we will mail the second installment real estate tax bills. Effective July 2025, you will receive **BOTH** real estate installments.

Please retain your copy for the second installment due in January 2026.

BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL
800 BLOOMFIELD AVE.
BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002

800 Bloomfield Ave. ****ECRWSSEDDM****
Bloomfield, CT 06002

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