

IN BLOOM

TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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WINTER 2023

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

IMPORTANT TOWN NUMBERS

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

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Danielle C. Wong	Mayor
Gregory C. Davis	Deputy Mayor
Kenneth McClary	Town Councilor
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown	Town Councilor
Joe Merritt	Town Councilor
C. Francis Politis.....	Town Councilor
Anthony C. Harrington.....	Town Councilor
Shamar Mahon.....	Town Councilor
Rickford Kirton	Town Councilor

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GETTING SOCIAL



AccessBloomfield CT



AccessBloomfield CT



@bloomfield_ct



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.



MESSAGE FROM TOWN LEADERSHIP



STANLEY D. HAWTHORNE

BLOOMFIELD TOWN MANAGER

HAPPY NEW YEAR NEIGHBORS!

What a year 2023 is already shaping up to be in Bloomfield. The New Year kicks off with developing Bloomfield's vision: what kind of Town do we want to be 20 to 30 years from now?

The visioning process will engage neighbors in a discussion regarding what they value most about the community and their expectations for how Bloomfield will grow and change.

With the approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Adopted Budget, the Town Council commissioned development of a strategic vision for Bloomfield. The community visioning process will create a comprehensive, unified framework of values, goals,

strategies, and actions that will guide both the Town Plan and Zoning Commission and Town Council on Bloomfield's physical, social, and economic development over the next several decades and provide a foundation for the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) update.

The visioning process will ultimately identify goals for the community that will contribute to a long-term vision for Bloomfield including the development of a brand, identity, and slogan that promotes the Town and galvanizes the community and its stakeholders. Stay tune for details that are very soon to roll out.

ON YOUR MARK ... GET SET ... GO!!

DANIELLE C. WONG

BLOOMFIELD TOWN MAYOR

HAPPY NEW YEAR BLOOMFIELD!

As we embark on 2023, it is important to look back on all that we accomplished last year! It wasn't always easy, but I am proud of the work we did and we continue to build on the promises I made to you one year ago.

As a mother and a Bloomfield native, improving the quality of life for all our children and loved ones remains the top priority. We continue to develop high quality medical facilities and celebrate the cultural diversity around us. In the past year, we have seen the Bradley International Airport minutes away from us, make the first non-stop flight from Hartford to Jamaica.

One of our biggest priorities was to evaluate our civic infrastructure and determine what were our biggest strengths and challenges. We have made great strides in building Bloomfield under very challenging circumstances, like new budgetary resources for community visioning and strategic planning; organizational realignment; community investment plan of \$6 million that tripled the previous year's budget allocation; investing even more resources in paving our roads; equity assessment of our town that includes a comprehensive DEI study; workforce development; stronger outreach to residents; resources for

project management and grants funding; establishment of an economic development agency with the first priority to address the Wintonbury Mall property that has hindered re-visioning of the Town's Center. We have made tremendous progress on our library project, and we will have two new state-of-the-art libraries that will benefit all ages and bring quality construction jobs to Bloomfield residents.

Bloomfield is fortunate to be a town of interested and caring residents who take the time to participate in local government. I sincerely hope that in the next year we will continue, as a community of volunteers, to address our challenges and to make Bloomfield an even better place to work and play.

Working in collaboration with the community is a major priority for me and the Town Council as this year moves forward. We are excited to keep the momentum going when it comes to projects and positioning Bloomfield for exciting future opportunities.

Thank you for allowing me this great honor of serving you as Mayor of our great community. Thank you for your faith in me and for your continued support.





STAY HEALTHY DURING THE WINTER

Fall and winter are beautiful seasons in Connecticut. With the change in seasons, it also brings potentially extreme changes to our weather. Being weather-aware is critical to ensuring your safety especially if you have to be outside.

Tips on being weather-aware and general winter preparedness include:

- Monitoring daily weather forecasts
- Be prepared with ice melt, sand, shovels
- Have winter boots with good traction
- Have an all-weather radio available in case of power outages
- Have temperature appropriate clothing and accessories such as gloves, hats, scarves
- Stay home if bad or severe weather is called for
- Plan ahead if you know a storm is coming- get necessary items from the grocery store, fill up gas tanks in car and generator (if available), ensure flashlights and batteries ready
- Prepare for power outages due to heavy wet snow or ice accumulation

We want you to be safe this winter and enjoy what Connecticut weather has to offer. Don't forget your annual influenza vaccine and stay up to date with your COVID boosters. Call the health district for information 860-561-7900 or visit www.vaccinefinder.org for additional details.

Being caught unprepared in a winter storm can mean life or death. Hypothermia can set in quickly, especially if your car dies or an accident occurs. Signs of hypothermia include

Early Signs

- Shivering
- Fatigue
- Loss of Coordination

Late Signs

- No Shivering
- Blue Skin
- Dilated Pupils
- Slowed Pulse & Breathing
- Loss of Consciousness

First Aid

- Immediate Medical Assistance
- Move to a Warm Place
- Remove Wet Clothes
- If Conscious - Warm Beverages
- Warm the Core (middle first)
- Keep Warm & Dry by Covering Head
- If no pulse - PROVIDE CPR



The West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District provides core public health functions that lay the ground work for healthy communities. These functions include protecting the community from diseases and injuries and changing behavior that is harmful. This assures that the town has water that is safe to drink, sewage and sanitation systems that protect our communities from diseases, clean restaurants to protect us from food borne illnesses, a disaster response system, immunizations to prevent epidemics, and a way to track health problems and find solutions.



WARMING CENTER INFORMATION

If you are in an emergency, no-heat situation outside of regular business hours, please contact the Bloomfield Police Department at (860) 242-5501. Using ovens and unsafe space heaters for heat is never recommended. **PLEASE** consider staying with neighbors, family or friends, if possible, until you have heat.

For all other non-emergency heating needs, please contact Bloomfield Social & Youth Services during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at (860) 242-1895.

If you or someone you know is in urgent need of shelter, please dial 2-1-1 for a list of homeless shelters, seasonal no freeze shelters and emergency support and connection to shelters. 2-1-1 is available 24/7.



WINTER SAFETY TIPS

SHOVELING SNOW

Shoveling snow can be a strenuous activity, particularly because cold weather can be taxing on the body. There is a potential for exhaustion, dehydration, back injuries, or heart attacks.

During snow removal in addition to following the tips for avoiding cold stress, such as taking frequent breaks in warm areas, there are other precautions you can take to avoid injuries. Be sure to warm-up before the activity, scoop small amounts of snow at a time and where possible, push the snow instead of lifting it.

The use of proper lifting technique is necessary to avoid back and other injuries when shoveling snow: keep the back straight, lift with the legs and do not turn or twist the body.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A POWER OUTAGE

In case of power outages it is very important to ensure that if you are going to use a generator, it MUST be kept outside in a well-ventilated area away from the house or garage. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless and odorless gas. You may not be aware of a gas leak or CO poisoning until it's too late. CO poisoning causes 500 deaths per year in the US.

What are the symptoms of CO Poisoning?

- Mild Headache
- Breathlessness
- Flu like symptoms
- Dizziness
- Tiredness
- Nausea
- Impaired judgment/memory/coordination

What to do?

- Open doors, windows immediately
- Get outside
- Turn off stoves, ovens, heaters, generator
- Call 911 or poison center immediately at 1-800 222 1222

Change your CO Alarm batteries every year

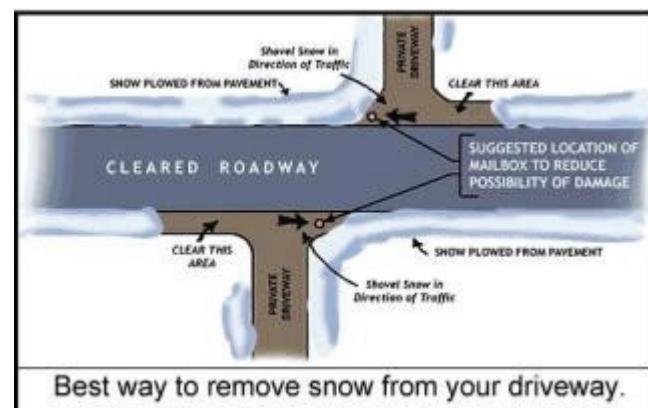
Install on every floor of your home – especially outside sleeping quarters where you can hear them



SNOW REMOVAL FROM DRIVEWAY

Throughout the winter months, State and Town snowplow crews will be out clearing the highways, road and streets during and after each snowfall. Homeowners and other property owners will be clearing their driveways at the same time.

Many times while this is going on, a snowplow truck will go by and fill in the end of a freshly cleared private driveway with snow from the roadway. This is **NOT INTENTIONAL** as snow banks are pushed back to the curb line in order to provide for adequate storage space for future storms. The way this winter time inconvenience can be minimized is to wait until the snow is pushed back all the way to the curb.



Best way to remove snow from your driveway.

The diagram above shows how you can clear snow around the end of your driveway opening a certain way to reduce the possibility that you will have to do very much re-clearing after a snowplow truck goes by on the road next to your driveway.



UTILITY/HEATING ASSISTANCE

ENERGY & FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO BLOOMFIELD NEIGHBORS

Bloomfield Social & Youth Services assists residents with accessing programs and services for heating assistance, utility shut-off prevention and home energy conservation programs.

Bloomfield Neighbors should contact Social & Youth Services for assistance with these Energy & Fuel programs at **860-242-1895**.



BLOOMFIELD
Social & Youth Services

COMMUNITY RENEWAL TEAM (CRT)

If you are worried about how you will pay these big monthly expenses, CRT may be able to assist you with your home-heating costs!

Now is the time to apply for the 2022-23 Connecticut Energy Assistance Program with help from CRT.

Income Guidelines & More Information - <https://www.crtct.org/programs/basic-needs/energy-assistance/>



Community Renewal Team
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

EVERSOURCE - UTILITY ASSISTANCE

Eversource's residential electricity supply rate is going up to 24.17 cents per kWh (January 1 to June 30, 2023). Energize CT provides a Public Rate Board where residents and businesses can compare generation supply rates from different suppliers.

Connecticut deregulated its electric industry in 1998, which allows customers to choose their electricity supplier the same way they choose their suppliers for anything else. Visit Energize CT to learn more about choosing a supplier.

No one wants to see rising energy prices – especially as costs for other everyday goods and services have increased, too.

Eversource offers programs to help you manage your energy costs, use less energy and connect you with assistance if you need it for this winter and beyond. These programs include New Start, Matching Payment Program, and Winter Protection. Bloomfield Social & Youth Services can also assist you with enrolling in these programs.

More Information - <https://www.eversource.com>



EVERSOURCE



UTILITY/HEATING ASSISTANCE

NEED HELP PAYING YOUR GAS BILL?

If you are having difficulty paying your bill, Connecticut Natural Gas may be able to provide you with affordable payment arrangements and direct you to agencies that may provide financial assistance.

Programs offered are: Matching payment programs and extended payment arrangements.

More Information - <https://www.cngcorp.com/account/waystopay/help-with-bill>



OPERATION FUEL

Operation Fuel ensures equitable access to energy for all by providing year-round energy assistance, promoting energy independence, and advocating for affordable energy.

Operation Fuel offers emergency energy assistance to households who meet our program guidelines, regardless of whether they have received or fall outside of government assistance programs. Such assistance shall be given in accordance with these guidelines but with flexibility to meet human needs.

Beginning Monday, December 19, 2022, Operation Fuel administered an energy assistance program for clients who need aid with meeting their home utility or heating needs (electricity, gas, or deliverable fuel). This program assists households living up to 100% of state median income. The maximum grant amount will be up to \$1,000. Bloomfield residents can contact Bloomfield Social & Youth Services for assistance with the application.

Income Guidelines & More Information: <https://operationfuel.org/gethelp/>



MDC ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The Metropolitan District created its Customer Assistance Program in cooperation with Operation Fuel to assist lower-income MDC customers who may be struggling to pay their water bill.

To determine eligibility, contact Operation Fuel at (860) 243-2345 or operationfuel.org.

Customers can contribute to help other MDC customers in need by donating to the Customer Assistance Program online when paying their monthly bill.

A \$1, \$5, or \$10 donation can be added to your payment as a one time or recurring contribution. 100% of the funds collected goes directly to providing water assistance.





NEIGHBORS BUDGET GUIDE

GENERAL FUND

The General Fund provides for general purpose government services. In other words, the General Fund finances the regular day-to-day operations of the Town. This is also referred to as the operating budget.

What types of activities does the General Fund provide for?

The General Fund provides services such as education, public safety, street maintenance, library services, senior services, and general administration.

Where does the money for the General Fund come from?

The money that funds the General Fund comes from a variety of sources. The primary source of revenue is local property taxes (71%). Other sources include intergovernmental revenue, such as state aid (7%); local revenue, such as inspection fees, fines, and permits (2%); and transfers, such as use of reserves (20%).

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TAX BILL

What is a mill rate?

The mill rate is used to calculate the amount of taxes a property owner pays to the Town of Bloomfield. The Town established a mill rate of 34.53 mills for Fiscal Year 2023 (excluding the fire districts). One mill produces one dollar for each \$1,000 of property value. In other words, during the previous fiscal year, a property owner would pay \$34.53 in property taxes for every \$1,000 of "assessed" value.

How are my taxes calculated?

In Connecticut, your property taxes are calculated based on 70% of your home's current market value, or it's "assessed" value.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

The Town of Bloomfield offers a number of property tax abatement programs. Taxpayers that may be eligible for property tax relief include veterans, seniors, and disabled persons. Information about tax abatement programs, including eligibility requirements, can be obtained by contacting the Assessor's Office at 860-769-3530.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN

Capital projects are those that help the Town maintain, improve, or expand assets and infrastructure, and are generally \$10,000 or greater in value. These could be items such as building renovations, park renovations, and replacement of vehicles such as patrol cruisers and plow trucks.

BUDGET GUIDE

FUND BALANCE

A fund balance is the excess of revenues over expenditures for a fund. A fund balance protects the Town against catastrophic revenue losses and major emergency expenditures. Examples include severe economic downturns such as hurricanes and other natural disasters.

BUDGET APPROVAL

The Town Council holds at least one public hearing to gather input from our neighbors on the budget. According to the Town Charter, that meeting is scheduled for the first Monday in May and this year will occur on **May 1, 2023**. At that meeting, the Town Council will vote on the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, while also setting tax rates. If needed a first referendum is set for **June 8, 2023**.

STAY CONNECTED

The Town of Bloomfield will be providing updates and event information electronically, through its new electronic newsletter feature. Use the QR code provided to sign up, or there is a link at Bloomfieldct.gov.



In addition to the town-wide newsletter, you can also sign up for ones specific to the Bloomfield Libraries, Recreation & Leisure Services, and Social & Youth Services.



COMMUNITY FUND/SCHOLARSHIPS

BLOOMFIELD GREATER TOGETHER COMMUNITY FUND

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has established a \$100,000 Greater Together Community Fund for the Town of Bloomfield.

The purpose of the Greater Together Community Funds program is to:

- Support the community in taking ownership around the needs in their towns
- Encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement and
- Anchor the Hartford Foundation in each town.

The Bloomfield Greater Together Community Fund is pleased to announce a competitive grant opportunity offering a grant in the amount of up to \$10,000 for one or more nonprofits proposing projects to benefit the residents of Bloomfield.

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023.



Hartford Foundation
FOR PUBLIC GIVING

Together for good.[®]

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <https://www.hfg.org/donors/ways-to-give/community-funds/bloomfield>

BLOOMFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION, INC. SCHOLARSHIP

For more than 20 years, the Chamber has supported the education of students majoring in the arts, sciences, engineering, and many other disciplines. Students come from every background and bring with them a diverse approach to impacting change in the world around them. Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Inc. Scholarship recognizes high school seniors for their academic performance, leadership skills and community engagement. We provide scholarships to help young people further their education and better compete in tomorrow's workforce.

2023 Application Deadline:
Applications and supporting documentation must be received by Friday, May 5, 2023 to Scholarships@bloomfieldchamber.org.

Eligibility

- Students must be a current resident of Bloomfield, CT, but do not need to attend school in Bloomfield, CT to be eligible.
- Demonstrate ambition, self-drive, leadership, academic achievement and a commitment to community service.
- Currently enrolled as a high school senior
- Plan to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two- or four-year college or university or vocational-technical college in the United States for the entire 2022–2023 academic year.
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent)
- To ensure full consideration, completed application packets must be received by the designated date each year.

Three (3) scholarships will be awarded:

- Bloomfield Chamber Scholarships (2 awards)
- The Patricia H. Estill Scholarship Award (1 award)

BLOOMFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Founded in 1965, the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce is a private, not-for-profit, member-driven organization. Their mission is to promote member's success and provide a sense of community among Bloomfield businesses. Through sponsorship of events and programs, and engagement with Town of Bloomfield government officials on economic development, they provide members with opportunities to expand their customer base and improve their competitiveness.

For More Information Visit: <https://bloomfieldchamber.org/>



POCD: PLAN OF CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT

PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

The Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) is Connecticut's version of a comprehensive plan, addressing all facets of life in Town, including land use, housing, open space, economic development, infrastructure, social services, transportation, culture, and much more. The process affords communities an opportunity to assess where they stand, how things have changed, and where they want to go over the next ten-plus years. Community members come together to workshop a vision for the next decade and develop implementable strategies to help achieve that vision. The Plan serves as a policy guide that establishes the foundation of a municipality's zoning ordinance and can direct a municipality's policies, budgets, capital investments, and grant pursuits for the following decade.

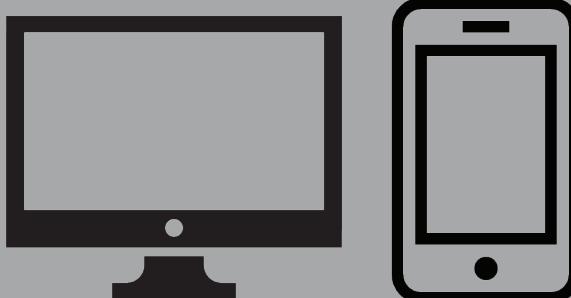
The Town of Bloomfield is embarking on this process and your voice and participation will be vital in creating a dynamic, community-focused Plan. Often used as a reference document for demographic information, resources, and an inventory of Town assets, the POCD can be a tool that engages community members and residents long

after the planning process is complete. Through inclusive, informative, and accessible engagement opportunities, the POCD fosters community buy-in and ownership of recommendations. The Bloomfield POCD will engage broad diversity of stakeholders in an iterative, multi-pronged approach, ensuring that everyone, including those from underrepresented communities, is heard in the process. Stay tuned for more information about how you can participate and provide your local expertise!

By State law, every municipality in Connecticut is required to update their Plan of Conservation and Development at least every ten years. The current Bloomfield POCD from 2012 can be found on the Bloomfieldct.gov website.

The website PlanBloomfield.com has been created where all relevant information will be posted.

THE TOWN LOOKS FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!



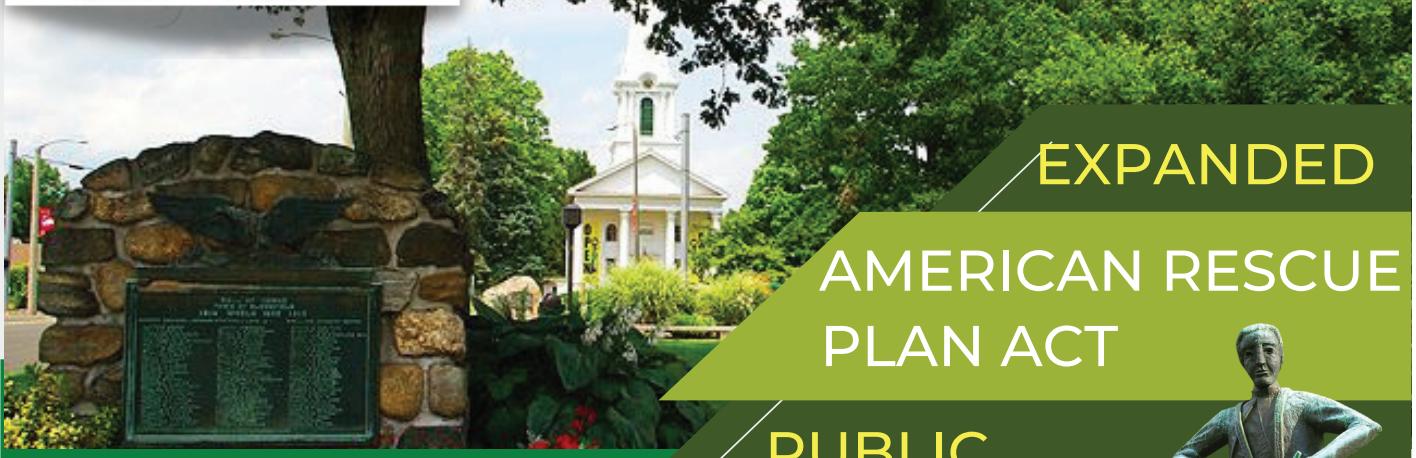
**VISIT:
PlanBloomfield.com**

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE



LEARN MORE &
TAKE THE SURVEY



EXPANDED 2ND SURVEY



The Town conducted its first ARPA public engagement survey during 2022. This second survey, sponsored by the Town's American Rescue Plan Community Outreach Committee goes a step further and intends to develop a more comprehensive understanding of Pandemic related impacts.

EXPANDED AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SURVEY



PLEASE PARTICIPATE

The Town is considering the best and most strategic use of \$1.6 million in Federal funds to help our community recover from the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan Act includes money for, among other things, public health, addressing the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, support for essential workers, and certain types of infrastructure.



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

In order to identify priority areas of investment, the Town is seeking community input.

RESPOND BY: FEBRUARY 24, 2023

COME BLOOM WITH US

<https://arpabloomfieldct.org/survey>



BOARDS & COMMISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

The Bloomfield Fair Rent Commission exists to maintain reasonable rental rates and facilitate fair rental increases on residential properties in town. The Commission will investigate and act on complaints and inquiries, and will make appropriate referrals.

The Fair Rent Commission was established by Bloomfield town ordinance, and is made up of five town residents appointed to the Commission who serve voluntarily and without compensation for a renewable term. The Director of Health also serves on the Commission as a non-voting member.

Under Connecticut law (CGS § 7-148b) any municipality has the authority to establish a fair rent commission for the city/town, by an act of the city/town legislative body. A Fair Rent Commission has the authority to receive and investigate rent complaints, issue subpoenas, hold hearings, and order landlords to reduce rents for specific reasons. When a commission finds that rental housing does not meet the local or state health or safety requirements for housing, the commission may suspend rent payments until the housing is brought into compliance. Also, a commission may order a

landlord to stop any retaliation against a tenant who makes a complaint to the commission. A fair rent commission has this authority only within the boundaries of the city/town that established it.

Any tenant living in Bloomfield is eligible to file a complaint with the Commission and they will investigate and act on complaints & inquiries, and will make appropriate referrals.

If you have a concern you would like to address with the Fair Rent Commission you can fill out the online webform or find an online printout as well.

<https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/fair-rent-commission>

FAIR RENT COMMISSION

DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Bloomfield's Economic Development Commission has been re-established as the Town's development agency as provided under Connecticut Statutes, Chapter 132, Municipal Development Projects Act. This act allows the municipality to redevelop areas for economic development.

The Economic Development Commission shall consist of seven (7) members. Members shall be nominated by a majority affirmative vote of the Town Council and appointed by the Town Manager.

The mission and purpose of a Development Agency is to assist with Project Plans and make recommendations to the Town Council.

**BLOOMFIELD
MEANS
BUSINESS**



BOARDS & COMMISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law by President Joseph Biden on March 11, 2021, in efforts to provide support to individuals, families and businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Town of Bloomfield directly received \$6.2 million in ARPA funding through the federal government's State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. These funds are intended to allow flexibility for jurisdictions to meet local needs and fund local solutions to support families, small businesses, impacted industries, essential workers and the communities disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Funds must be encumbered by Dec. 31, 2024 and spent by Dec. 31, 2026.

Mayor Danielle Wong appointed members to this Ad-Hoc Committee to perform the following duties:

- Provide recommendations to the Town Council on the expenditure of approximately \$1.6 million

- ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) funding;
- Solicit input from Town departments, boards, committees, and commissions;
- Develop an evaluation tool to rank proposals for funding, taking into account the benefit of the requested improvement to Town operations and/or the community as a whole, and;
- Develop a report to present to the Bloomfield Town Council that will include a list of all proposals submitted for consideration, in addition to those recommended for funding.



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

TREES FOR BLOOMFIELD

On Tuesday, December 13, 2022 the winners of the 2022 Trees for Bloomfield Photo Contest were honored. This was a joint effort by the Bloomfield Beautification Committee and the Conservation, Energy, & Environment Committee.

The event, which was held in the Great Room at the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center, saw nearly 75 people in attendance.

All entries were submitted by neighbors of the Town of Bloomfield.

Following the event, contest winners posed for a group photo with Town leaders, including Town Manager Stanley D. Hawthorne, Mayor Danielle C. Wong, Deputy Mayor Gregory C. Davis, Councilman Shamar Mahon, Councilman Kenneth McClary, Councilman Anthony C. Harrington, and State Representative Bobby Gibson.





WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BLOOMFIELD

FEBRUARY

Thursday, February 2

Farewell Open House:
McMahon Wintonbury Library - 4:00 pm

Saturday, February 5

Paint Night*

Wednesday, February 8

Block Watch Meeting - 6:00pm

Monday, February 13

Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm

Wednesday, February 15

Farewell Open House:
Prosser Library - 4:00 pm

Monday, February 20

Town Facilities Closed for Presidents' Day

Friday, February 24

Tie Dye Party*

Monday, February 27

Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

AARP TAX AIDE

AARP tax aide volunteers will once again offer free state and federal income tax preparation at the Senior Center every Wednesday from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, from February 8 until April 12. This year both in-person and drop-off options are available.

Contact the senior center beginning Monday, Jan. 23, to schedule an appointment and arrange to pick up your tax packet containing instructions and forms to be completed prior to your appointment.

APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED.

No walk-ins.

MARCH

Wednesday, March 8

Block Watch Meeting - 6:00pm

Friday, March 10

Family Bingo*

Monday, March 13

Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm

Monday, March 27

Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

Friday, March 31

EGG-Stravaganza*

Visit bloomfieldct.gov for additional events, updates, as well as meeting dates for subcouncils and boards and commissions meetings

*Must register in advance at Bloomfield.MyRec.com

ICE SKATING AT FILLEY PARK

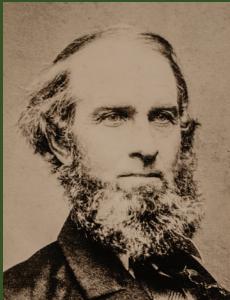
Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services is pleased to announce the return of Ice Skating at Filley Park Pond. Throughout the years, ice skating at the pond has been a local tradition among residents and neighbors alike.

We look forward to winter weather and dropping temperatures, and with help from Bloomfield Public Works and Center Fire Department, the pond should be safe for skating in late January – weather conducive. While the pond is open for skating from dawn to dusk, skating is unsupervised and will be at your own risk. Signage will be posted when conditions are unsafe. To check ice conditions please visit Bloomfieldct.myrec.com or call Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services at 860.243.2923.

To ensure the safety of all skaters please abide by the following rules:

- Safety and courtesy should be followed at all times.
- Sleds, skis and other non skating equipment are not permitted on the ice. However, milk crates are acceptable for teaching purposes.
- Hockey playing is not permitted.
- Excessive horseplay and other unsafe behavior is not permitted.
- Alcoholic beverages and recreational/illegals drugs are not permitted.
- In the event of an emergency please call 911 for assistance.

BLOOMFIELD HISTORICAL FACTS



Francis Gillette

Many escaped enslaved people made their way through Connecticut on their quest for freedom. The Underground Railroad provided a string of safe houses where these weary and frightened travelers could seek safe shelter on their long journey. Bloomfield was one of nine incredible places in the Nutmeg State that served as stops along the Underground Railroad. Francis Gillette sheltered fugitive enslaved people on

his property most likely in the outbuildings that are no longer standing. Gillette was an influential politician who served as the chairman of the Connecticut Board of Education and also as a U.S. Senator. In the early 1990s, this house was moved north from its original location.



Francis Gillette House



TRASH & RECYCLING

2023 RESIDENTIAL BULKY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Week of
January 15
February 19
March 19
April 16
May 21
June 18
July 16
August 20
September 17
October 15
November 19
December 17

Bulk items must be placed at curbside **NO LATER THAN 7AM** on your regular trash collection day or the **NIGHT BEFORE** your regular collection day.

In the event of a holiday delay, follow the Holiday Schedule

**NO BUILDING MATERIALS
NO ELECTRONICS
(TVS, STEREOS, ETC.)**

Take these items to:

**Windsor Landfill
500 Huckleberry Rd.
Windsor, CT 06095**

Call ahead for any fees!

The following is a partial list of accepted items:

AC-window unit | bundled twigs | carpet/rolled & tied (no more than 4 feet in length) | dishwasher, refrigerator, stove | 4 tires-car/small truck | furniture (indoor/outdoor) | sinks | lawn mowers-push/riding (drained of all fluids) | hot water heater | mattresses | exercise equipment | microwave | toilet | grill (no propane tanks please).

Note: Sleeper sofa must have frame & mattress removed, lay out separately.

If you are unsure, please call All American Waste at 860-289-7850

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				
MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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APRIL						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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28	29	30	31			
JUNE						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	



2023

Residential Recycling Collection Schedule

Recycling is collected every **other week** on your **REGULAR** trash collection day.

Call All American Waste at 860-289-7850 with your collection questions.

**"A" Streets = White
"B" Streets = Gray**

Regular trash is collected weekly.

Bulk items will be collected on the THIRD FULL WEEK (a "full week" begins on Sunday and ends Saturday)

Place your bulk items at curbside on the morning of your regular trash collection day or the evening before. Please allow at least 3 ft between containers and items.

**FIND YOUR STREET INFORMATION AT
bloomfieldct.gov/recycling**

JULY						
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30	31					
AUGUST						
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27	28	29	30	31		
SEPTEMBER						
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OCTOBER						
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29	30	31				
NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL
800 BLOOMFIELD AVE.
BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002**

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
PERMIT NO. 1907

ECRWSS

**RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002**



HAPPY NEW YEAR