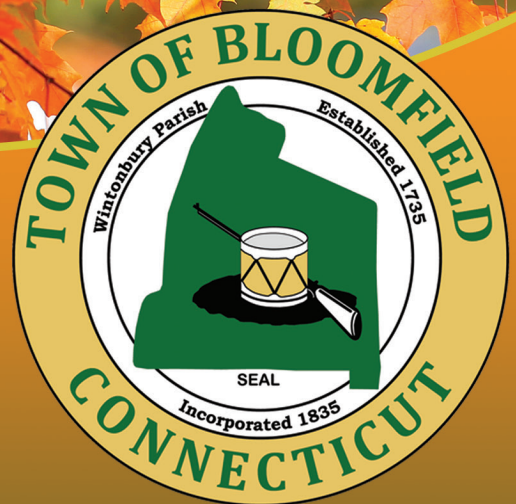


# IN BLOOM

TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



FALL 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
Anthony C. Harrington.....	Deputy Mayor
Kenneth McClary .....	Town Councilor
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown .....	Town Councilor
Joe Merritt .....	Town Councilor
Shamar Mahon .....	Town Councilor
Rickford Kirton .....	Town Councilor
Cindi A. Lloyd.....	Town Councilor

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message From Town Leadership.....	1
Bloomfield Municipal Elections.....	2
Annual Season of Giving .....	3
Light Up The Town .....	4
Celebrating Local Buisness .....	5
Social & Youth Services.....	6-8
Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services.....	9-10
Cold Weather Safety Tips .....	11-12
What's Happening in Bloomfield.....	13

## 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.

## GETTING SOCIAL



AccessBloomfield CT



@bloomfield\_ct



AccessBloomfield 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

# DANIELLE C. WONG

## TOWN MAYOR



The beginning of Fall season is also the end of municipal terms in office. So, as we say goodbye to familiar faces and welcome in new ones, I want to thank all those who have chosen to serve and sacrifice for the Town we all love. You have our gratitude. Personally, it's truly been an honor of a lifetime. At the commencement of my first term as Mayor, I shared my vision for Bloomfield, and laid out the plan. I shared with you the "recipe". By determining priorities, executing on those priorities through policy and supporting those policies with fiscally sustainable sources, we get focused on smart development, enriched community engagement and continue being a place where families come to stay.

This term we've emphasized fiscal responsibility, smart economic development, growing our housing options, workforce development and getting 'back to the basics'. I am proud to report the launch of our new Town website. By having an approachable technology platform, we enhance every neighbor's civic experience engaging with Town Hall to get the services they need. We've developed a plan for the revitalization of Rockwell Park and completed part of the East Coast Greenway Trail expansion, which safely connects biking from Bloomfield to Simsbury. We've updated our Housing Code which hasn't been touched since the 1960s and now the town can impose more penalties on absentee landlords that do not adequately maintain their housing. We've made significant strides in our long-neglected infrastructure by making historic investments in road paving.

We have launched critical workforce and educational development programs like the Youth Summer Bridge program, because we

must reimagine education-to-employment transitions. Bloomfield's first ever Project Labor Agreement was established and partners with the Building Trades to provide for 100 quality construction jobs for Bloomfield residents when we break ground with our new library this Fall. The project will also utilize our set-aside policy for minority contractors and is paired with free apprenticeships for our high school seniors entering the workforce and Bloomfield neighbors looking for a career. This has never been done before in Bloomfield and we are making it happen!

The state of our public schools has been a topic of great interest this year. As a product of Bloomfield schools and a mother, I have always been pro-education. We look forward to collaborating with the incoming Board of Education and their incoming new leadership to improve collaboration. With our current Town manager search underway, and the launch of the Superintendent search this fall, Bloomfield has a real shot at building a fruitful relationship on behalf of tax payers.

Major progress has been achieved this term on the hottest topic in town, Economic Development. We hired fresh new talent in our Economic Planning and Zoning departments, prioritized blight enforcement, marched forward with our 10 year plan, launched an Economic Development Authority and mapped out long-term strategy. With the incoming Town Council team this new term, our priorities remain the same and we remain determined to build Bloomfield together.

– Mayor Danielle C. Wong



# PHILIP K. SCHENCK, JR.

## INTERIM TOWN MANAGER

### The Fall Season Is Officially Here!

I hope you and your family had a wonderful summer and were able to enjoy all the events and amenities offered around Town. Bloomfield is proud to host events that empower the community and bring families and friends together. Town staff and I continue to work diligently to keep our community moving forward, and I highly encourage you to visit the Town's website for upcoming events that might interest you.

I want to thank everyone who helped put on our great events this summer, such as the West Indian Festival, Celebrate Bloomfield, and our Thursday night concert series. We had to fight some rain, but each event was a big success that was enjoyed throughout the town.

As shown throughout this newsletter, Bloomfield has many more events coming up over the next three months to close out 2023, like Shred Day, Light up the Town, Adopt-A-Family, and much more.

Our residents are the lifeblood of this town and as we reach the end of many of your terms on your respective boards and commissions, I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I also want to thank all those that provided feedback in regards to the search for the next Town Manager. The duty of the town manager is to serve their residents, so it is important to us that we seek out a manager who possesses the qualities suggested by the people of Bloomfield.

For the last month, schools have been back in session and with that comes increased traffic during the morning hours. Please assist the Town in staying safe for commuters and students alike by following school speed zone signs, stopping for buses when they flash their stop signs, and yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks.

As you can see there are so many great things going on in our community, and much of it is covered in this edition of In Bloom.

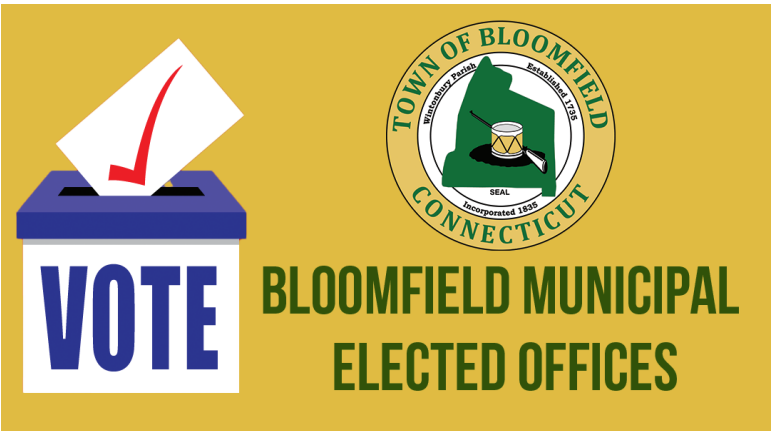
I encourage everyone to support our local businesses and care for your neighbors. I hope that everyone remains safe and well as we move into the winter and let me be one of the first to wish you a Happy Holiday season!



# BLOOMFIELD MUNICIPAL ELECTION

There shall be a Municipal Election held in Bloomfield on **November 7, 2023** for the following elected positions:

- Town Council
- Board of Education/4 year term
- Board of Education/2 year term
- Town Plan & Zoning Commission
- Town Plan & Zoning Commission Alternate
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate
- Library Trustees



**ELECTORS WILL CAST THEIR VOTES AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES IN THE DISTRICTS BELOW:**

DISTRICT	LOCATION	ADDRESS
District I	Leisure Services Gym	330 Park Avenue
District II	Bloomfield High School	5 Huckleberry Lane
District III	Carmen Arace Middle School	390 Park Avenue
District IV	Metacomet Elementary School	185 School Street
District V	Laurel Elementary School	1 Filley Street

**YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO VOTE, BUT DO NOT NEED TO BE AFFILIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY TO VOTE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION**

### **ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Absentee ballots will be available, as provided by law, in the office of the Town Clerk. Applications for ballots are available at the Town Clerk’s Office as well as online, at the Town Clerk’s page on the Town of Bloomfield website. Absentee ballots becomes available 31 days prior to the election

Click “Voting and Elections” on the menu on the left side of our page and then select “Absentee Voting”. Click on Secretary of the State’s website.

### **AM I REGISTERED TO VOTE?**

Voter Registration Forms may be obtained in person from the Registrar of Voters Office during its normal business hours, the Town Clerk’s Office, the Town Hall main lobby, or from the CT Secretary of State website.

**Voter Lookup Tool:**

<https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>

**Register To Vote Online:**

<https://voterregistration.ct.gov/>



# ANNUAL SEASON OF GIVING

Bloomfield Social & Youth Services

## Annual Season of Giving

*Accepting Applications Starting 10/1/23*

Bloomfield Social & Youth Services will distribute Thanksgiving baskets and Holiday items for Christmas to families with children ages 13 and younger. To qualify you must be a Bloomfield resident and your total family income must not exceed the income guidelines listed below.

You will need to show proof of all household income, proof of Bloomfield residency, birth certificate for all children in the household and proof of guardianship if applicable. Please call 860.242.1895 to sign up for our Season of Giving Program.

### Bloomfield Residents

Bloomfield Social & Youth Services  
330 Park Ave., Bloomfield CT 06002

For more information call  
**860.242.1895**

Family Size - Gross Income	
2.....	\$64,995
3.....	\$80,288
4.....	\$95,582
5.....	\$110,875
6.....	\$126,168





# LIGHT UP THE TOWN

*Blue Hills Fire, Center Fire, Greater Bloomfield, Fraternal Order of Police & The Town of Bloomfield*

*Present*

# Light up the Town

*Tree Lighting Parade and Ceremony*

*Saturday, December 2, 2023*

*Holiday Parade 6pm*

Join us for the Town of Bloomfield's annual Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony welcoming in the holiday season. The holiday parade features local fire departments and community organizations alike. The arrival of Santa Claus on his signature classic fire truck leads the way to Town Hall for our light up the center tree lighting ceremony.

For more information or to register your organization to participate in the parade contact Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services 860.243.2923 or [Recreation@bloomfieldct.org](mailto:Recreation@bloomfieldct.org).



# CELEBRATING LOCAL BUSINESS



## CELEBRATING LOCAL BUSINESS

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc. is dedicated to limitless potential — to ensuring men and women who are blind enjoy increased independence to improve their lives and the world around them. Our clients raise families, serve America in the military, and sacrifice on the battlefield. They advocate for those who are visually impaired, win gold medals as world-class athletes, educate, and more.

It takes two years, 15,000 hours, and \$65,000 to create each life-changing guide dog. All Fidelco guide dogs are provided to clients at no cost thanks to generous support from individuals, foundations, corporations, and other organizations.



Today, Fidelco Guide Dogs is a recognized leader in the guide dog industry and still the only guide dog organization to exclusively breed the German Shepherd Dog. They are accredited by the International Guide Dog Federation and more than 1,600 guide dogs have been placed throughout North America.



**GUIDE DOGS**

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with offices in Bloomfield and Wilton, CT.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc.**  
**103 Vision Way**  
**Bloomfield, CT 06002**  
**860-243-5200**  
**[info@fidelco.org](mailto:info@fidelco.org)**

## 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/>





# SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES

## **Bloomfield Police Department Youth (BPDY)**

Collaborative program with the Bloomfield Youth Services Department and the Bloomfield Police Department. Police and Youth will participate in-person activities from October 10, 2023 – December 12, 2023. The program will focus on Forensic Science using an interactive approach to learning that gives youth an opportunity to apply the complexities of crime science investigation. Youth will also focus on leadership, character building, and community service. Youth will gain team building skills, mutual understanding and respect between youth and police. Youth Grades 7th -11th Meets Weekly on Tuesday's from October 10, 2023 – December 12, 2023 from 5:00pm -6:30pm.



## **STEM Group with Robotics**

Bloomfield Youth Grades 6-10th that are interested in robotics, this is an opportunity to build your own Smart Robot Car. Gain hands-on experience about programming, electronics assembling and robotics knowledge. Meets Weekly on Wednesday's from October 11, 2023 – December 13, 2023 from 5:00pm -6:30pm.

## **TRIBE Mentorship Group**

The Tribe Group is a Mentorship program for Young Men Grades 7-10th Grade that focuses on the key elements to becoming a healthy, mature and knowledgeable young man. We will focus on various topics such as physical health, self-discipline, leadership, cooking, and mental health awareness. The group meets 2x a month on Monday's at 330 Park Ave. 2nd floor. Youth will participate in-person activities from Monday October 2, 2023 – May 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. There will be additional program activities planned that may run on the weekend and other days of the week based on the activity.

## **SunBeams Girls Group**

The SunBeams Girls Group is an empowerment group for Young Ladies Grades 6 -10th focused on individuality, mental health, leadership, collaboration, and social justice. Utilizing skill building activities that promotes self-confidence, self-knowledge, resiliency, citizenship and leadership development. Youth will participate in-person activities from Program Meets Weekly, Thursdays 5:30-7:30pm from October 5, 2023 – December 14, 2023. Occasionally there will be in-person hands on activities scheduled on a Friday evening or Saturday.

## **Project 330 Leadership Group**

Project 330 focuses on three core pillars: Leadership development, financial literacy, and community engagement. Earn Community service credits while making a change in your community. Program Meets every Wednesday in person (except the 1stnd Wednesday of the month) from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. The group will start on October 11, 2023 – December 13, 2023.

### **SAVE THE DATE: TRUNK OR TREAT 2023!**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 2023**

**6:30 pm – 9:00 pm**

Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center  
330 Park Avenue \* Bloomfield, CT  
(Rain Date: Friday, October 27th, 2023)

The annual event is a partnership with Parks,  
Recreation, & Leisure Services, Senior Services.



### **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**



# SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES

## HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT STARTS SOON

**ACCESS HEALTH CT OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD:** Begins November 1st

Visit [www.accesshealthct.org](http://www.accesshealthct.org) for additional information

**MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT:** October 15th – December 7th

Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://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**

## 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	\$41,553
2	\$54,338
3	\$67,124
4	\$79,910

## OPERATION FUEL

Help with utility, heating & water costs to qualified Connecticut households

**APPLY ONLINE:** [www.operationfuel.org/gethelp](http://www.operationfuel.org/gethelp)

**APPLY IN PERSON:** Call Social & Youth Services at 860-242-1895



FAMILY SIZE	GROSS ANNUAL INCOME
1	\$49,702
2	\$64,995
3	\$80,288
4	\$95,582

## 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>





# SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES

## 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.



### 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



# PARKS, RECREATION, & LEISURE SERVICES

The Leisure Services Department is coming off a wonderful summer here the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center. With the summer of 2023 being behind we are looking forward to our upcoming fall season. Some of the upcoming programs we're excited about are as follows: Pickleball, Jukido, Basketball Development Skills, Adult Basketball and Mommy & Me Playgroup to name a few. All program are held at Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center. Please give us a call if you have any questions or would like to see other programs that we currently are not offering. Give one, two, or more of the offerings a try, the benefits are endless!



## **The Rec Club-Afterschool Program (Grades 5-8)**

Afterschool at the Youth Ceneter for youth in grades 5-8 operarting Mon-Fri 3-6pm. Program has four-six week sessions beginning Sept. 18th. \$225 per sessions.

## **Family Open Gym**

Drop-in Gym Time for the younger crowd. Come shoot around in the gym, challenge your kids to a game of pool or try your hand at air hockey or pickleball or other gym activities. Parents must accompany children in grades 4 and under and a youth membership is required for the child. Grades K – 6 on Wed: 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM and Sat: 1pm – 4pm. October - May \$10 Youth Center Membership.

## **Paint Party**

We are having a paint party in conjuction with Senior Services we provide refreshments and art supplies; artist Harold Blanchard will explain what to do, and you will take home your own personal work of art. No experience is necessary. Space is limited so please register early for the program Friday, November 17th 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM \$ 15 / Resident.

## **Pumpkin Carving**

Join us for our pumpkin carving night. Pumpkins, carving utensils, paints and a light refreshment will be provided. Must pre-register by Thursday, October 12th. (No registration at the Door) Bloomfield Families Friday, October 13th 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM \$15 / Pumpkin.

## **Lyman Orchard's Corn Maze Family Trip**

Join us for a trip to Lyman Orchards! Ticket includes entrance to corn maze. Shopping at the Lyman Arces and pick your own orchards will be available as well. Bus leaves at Human Services building at 12pm and at 5pm promptly from Lyman Orchards. Sat. Oct. 7th. \$15 per person.





# PARKS, RECREATION, & LEISURE SERVICES

## Tie-Dye Night

Come have some family fun and create your own unique tie-dye. Bring your own t-shirts, socks or anything else (within reason) that you want to tie-dye. (No registration at the Door) Bloomfield Families Friday, November 3rd 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, \$10 / person

## Family Bingo

Its time for Family Bingo. We will be playing in the Great Room with the big bingo board. You must pre-register for the event. (No registration at the Door) Bloomfield Families Friday, Sept. 22nd, Friday, Oct. 20th and Friday Dec. 15th 6:00 PM 8:30 PM \$5 per person.

## Tree Lighting & Holiday Parade

Come join us at the Bloomfield Town Green for a holiday parade, music and light refreshments and hot cocoa. The night will conclude with the lighting of the Town Hall, Town Green and the Prosser Library. For more information or if you would like to participate in this parade or as a vendor, please contact Matthew Mace at the Bloomfield Leisure Services Department no later than Friday, November 17th. For more information please call (860) 243-2923. Bloomfield Families Saturday, December 2nd 6:00 PM Bloomfield Town Green

**For a complete list of youth and adult programs, please visit us online at [bloomfieldct.myrec.com](http://bloomfieldct.myrec.com)**

### **BLOOMFIELD PARKS, RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**Main Phone:** 860-243-2923

**Youth Center:** 860-769-3566

**Fax:** 860-242-4267

**Website:** [www.bloomfieldct.org](http://www.bloomfieldct.org)

**Register online:** [www.bloomfieldct.myrec.com](http://www.bloomfieldct.myrec.com)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 9am-5pm

**Location:** Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center  
330 Park Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002





# COLD WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

With colder weather approaching, it is time to consider fire safety when heating our homes.

First, the most critical aspect of home fire safety is ensuring every home has a working smoke detector; detectors are tested monthly, and batteries are changed annually.

Carbon Monoxide alarms are easy to install and can save lives. They do not take the place of a smoke alarm; however, having one is the next step to a safe environment in the home. Any open flame heater creates carbon monoxide gas. If your heating devices in the house are not functioning correctly, this gas can be deadly. They are becoming more affordable and effective, and if you have a flame-operated heating device in your home, they are indispensable.



## Space Heaters

- Dust and lint may have accumulated in the space heater. Be sure to clean them thoroughly with a vacuum cleaner.
- Gas space heater flame must be adjusted to blue to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide build-up.
- Caution children not to stand too close to a space heater to warm up, as their clothing could catch fire.
- Give space heaters their space! Ensure all combustible material is away from the heater, at least 3 feet in all directions.

## Fireplaces and Stoves

- Inspect the fireplace/stove and chimney at least once a year. Look for cracks in the firebox, flue, and chimney. Also, check for build-up of soot and creosote inside the flue duct.
- Open the damper enough to allow the smoke and gases to escape up the chimney.
- Never start a fire with gasoline, kerosene, or any other flammable liquid.
- Always keep a good-quality metal fireplace screen in front of the fireplace whenever it is in use to prevent burning logs from rolling out or embers from flying out.
- Keep a three-foot area in front of and to the sides of the fireplace clear of any combustibles, including logs, kindling wood, paper, rugs, clothing, or furniture.
- Never leave a fire unattended. Ensure the fire is entirely out before leaving your home or going to bed.
- Never burn charcoal in a fireplace. Charcoal gives off deadly carbon monoxide gas that can fill a room and overcome the occupants.
- Never cook in a fireplace. Grease from the food can build up inside the flue and catch fire.
- Never burn more than two or three natural logs at one time.
- Artificial logs made of compressed sawdust and wax should be handled differently than natural logs because they generate more heat. Burn only one artificial log at a time, and do not burn an artificial log with natural logs.
- Always make sure fireplace ashes are placed in a metal container. Never place hot embers in a combustible container such as a trashcan. Allow ashes to cool thoroughly before disposing of them.





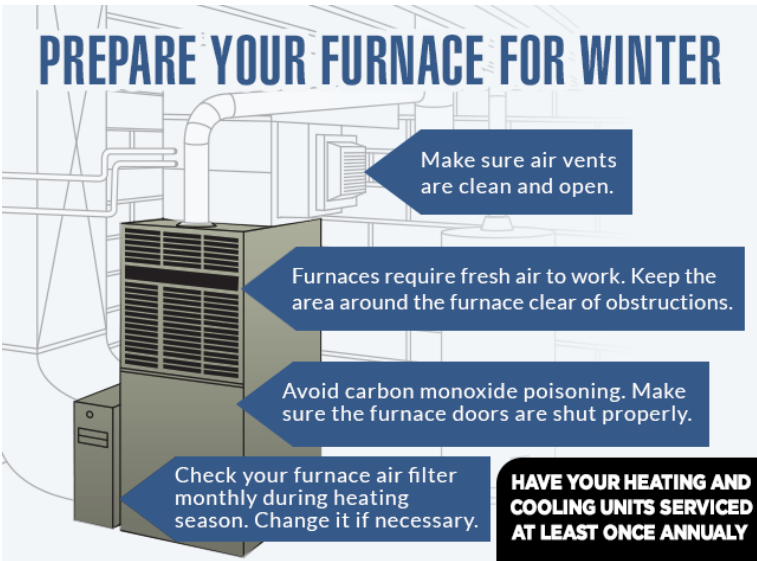
# COLD WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

## Check your Heating System

Before it gets frigid—early October is ideal—turn on your heating unit to ensure it works correctly. The unit has been dormant for about six months, so you'll want to ensure everything is in proper working order before you may need it. While furnaces are a leading cause of house fires in the US, there are a few things you can do to reduce the risk of furnace fires:

- Regularly replace furnace filters.
- Keep all areas around the furnace clean and unobstructed.
- Keep the burner area clean and clear of debris.
- Keep all combustible items at least six inches from the vent pipe.
- Never close off more than 20% of heat registers.

Should you notice any issues with your heating system during the test run, contact a professional immediately. For preventative care, have your central heating system cleaned and serviced by a certified HVAC contractor once annually. A proper working heating system significantly reduces fire risks. It can also lower utility costs as it works to heat your space more efficiently.



## Additional Fire Safety Tips & Considerations

- Perform a DIY home inspection, then break out the leaf blower and rake! Something as simple as a pile of leaves can be a recipe for a fire. Take a couple of hours and clean your gutters, check your downspouts, and remove all leaves and debris from the perimeter of your space.
- Bloomfield Center Fire Department and Blue Hills Fire Department DO NOT ALLOW the burning of leaves, brush, building material, grass clippings, or trash.
- Never park your vehicle over a pile of leaves. The heat emitted from your car can ignite the leaves, destroying your vehicle and everything around it.
- After every load of laundry, always clean the dryer vent. Perform an annual cleaning of the dryer vent hose.
- Get familiar with your homeowner's insurance policy – know what your coverage includes.

# HELP YOUR TOWN, BECOME A VOLUNTEER



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



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



Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance  
12 Southwood Dr.  
Phone: (860) 243-2711





# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BLOOMFIELD

## OCTOBER

**Saturday, October 7**  
Shred Day - 9:00 am

**Saturday, October 7**  
Corn Maze Family Trip - 12:00 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Tuesday, October 10**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm

**Thursday, October 12**  
Pumpkin Carving - 6:00 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Friday, October 20**  
Trunk or Treat - 6:30 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Friday, October 20**  
Family Bingo - 6:00 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Monday, October 23**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

Please register for events  
at [www.bloomfieldct.myrec.com](http://www.bloomfieldct.myrec.com)

## NOVEMBER

**Friday, November 3**  
Tie-Dye Night - 6:00 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Tuesday, November 7**  
Election Day - All Day

**Friday, November 10**  
Town Facilities Closed for Veteran's Day

**Monday, November 13**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm

**Friday, November 17**  
Paint Night - 6:00 pm  
330 Park Ave

**Thursday, November 23**  
Town Facilities Closed for Thanksgiving Day

**Friday, November 24**  
Town Facilities Closed for Day After Thanksgiving

**Monday, November 27**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

## DECEMBER

**Saturday, December 2**  
Light up the Town - 6:00 pm

**Monday, December 11**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm

**Friday, December 8**  
Family Bingo - 6:00 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Monday, December 25**  
Town Facilities Closed for Christmas Day

**Tuesday, December 26**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

Visit [bloomfieldct.gov](http://bloomfieldct.gov) for additional events, updates, as well as meeting dates for council subcommittees, as well as boards and commissions meetings

## LEAF PICKUP & BULK TRASH SCHEDULE

With the Fall season underway, the Department of Public Works will begin leaf collection on November 6, 2023 and will run through December 1, 2023.

For those looking at the bulk trash collection, that is completed on the third **FULL** week of each month on your normal trash collection day. Here are upcoming bulk trash collection weeks:

- Week of October 16
- Week of November 20
- Week of December 18



**ALL AMERICAN WASTE**

### MORE INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://WWW.BLOOMFIELDC.TOV/790/TRASH-RECYCLING](https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/790/TRASH-RECYCLING)

## FROM THE TAX OFFICE



The second installment Real Estate Tax Bills and Supplemental Motor Vehicle Tax Bills will be mailed at the end of December with a due date of January 1, 2024 delinquent after February 1, 2024.

**You may submit payment using the following 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

### Pay Taxes Online

Visit [www.mytaxbill.net/Bloomfield](http://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

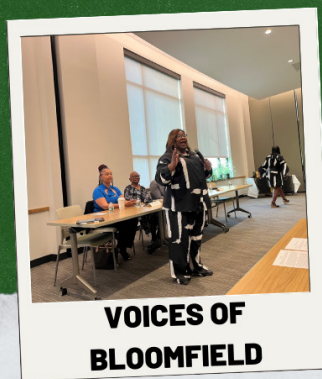
### Drop Box

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.

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

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**ECRWSS**



CELEBRATING  
**BOARDS & COMMISSION**  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
WE THANK YOU ALL!

