

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

# IN BLOOM

WINTER 2024





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## GETTING SOCIAL



AccessBloomfield CT



@bloomfield\_ct



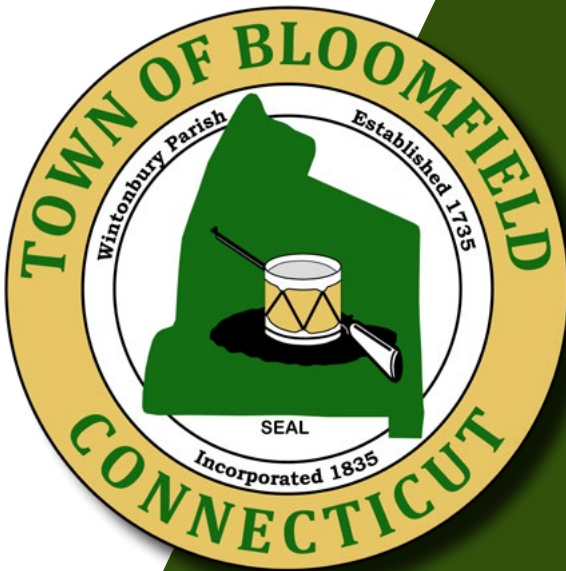
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townofbloomfield

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.



### 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





## A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIELLE C. WONG

Happy winter to all!! December is here, and despite the cold, the dark, and the snow, it is truly the warmest, brightest, and best time of the year when we celebrate what really matters.

With the previous election cycle in the books, I am proud to be your Mayor for a second term! We are so fortunate to have an excellent Town Council of generous, committed professionals. I am very confident that among us we can make good choices and decisions for the Town of Bloomfield. One of the first major responsibilities we will have to tackle is the upcoming Town Budget. It is important to us that we put together a fiscally-responsible budget that will continue to keep town operations at a high level, but also doesn't impact our residents tax dollars.

This is a pivotal time for our town, and we are working diligently to bring in a new Town Manager, who can continue to implement the policies and procedures set forth by the council. With a new town manager set to come in for the new year, on behalf of the council, I want to thank Philip Schenck for his most recent tenure as interim town manager. His love and admiration for this town and those that live here were evident each day he stepped foot in the office.

I was proud to join our fellow council members in November for the Bloomfield to Tariffville Multi-Use Trail Ribbon Cutting, part of the more expansive East Coast Greenway, which is a 3,000-mile multi-use trail that spans from Maine to Florida, and was constructed for activities like biking, walking and running. Connecticut is home to 200 miles of the trail, 104 of which are protected and separate from the road. This newly completed portion connects the Town of Bloomfield to Tariffville and will serve as a vital non-motorized transportation link in the region and it was great to work with our neighboring towns on this project.

As we put our goals in motion, areas of priority are encouraging local businesses to flourish and expand. Supporting our children in developing their talents in Academia, Arts and Sports and making sure we continue to provide vital services for our Senior Citizens through various community initiatives and working with local organizations to facilitate services to our elderly.

The weather in New England is always unpredictable, which is even more true in the winter. Thus, I ask everyone to stay prepared for the snow, ice and colder temperatures that will surely come this season. Most importantly – drive safely! Our Public Works Department is always out there during this time of year doing their very best to maintain safe driving conditions for all!

As we begin to turn the page on 2023, it has been a fantastic year here in the town, with so many positive things happening. Together, we have made significant strides in making Bloomfield a better place to live. I look forward to working with the Town Council, our town staff, and you, the residents, to make great things happen in Bloomfield in the new year.

We hope you stay warm, stay safe, and help us make 2024 a year to remember.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danielle C. Wong'.

– Mayor Danielle C. Wong

## MEET YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS



### BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

*Standing (l-r): Councilman Michael J. Oliver, Councilman Todd E. Cooper, Councilman Kenneth L. McClary, Deputy Mayor Anthony C. Harrington, Councilman Shamar A. Mahon, Councilman Joseph P. Merritt*  
*Sitting (l-r): Councilwoman Cindi A. Lloyd, Mayor Danielle C. Wong, Councilwoman Elizabeth A. Waterhouse*

### TOWN PLAN & ZONING COMMISSION

Byron Lester, Chair  
 Dwight Bolton, Sr.  
 Kevin Hussein  
 Leon Peters  
 Stephen Millette  
 Jennifer Marshall-Nealy  
 Ola Aina, Alternate  
 Kathleen Blint, Alternate  
 Renae James, Alternate

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lynette Easmon, Chair  
 Howard Frydman, Vice Chair  
 Femi Bogle-Assegai  
 Kimberly Dunbar  
 Lisa Simon  
 Tiffany Mack-Mohammed  
 Thomas Moore

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Jacqueline Issacson, Chair  
 Mark Mitchell  
 Seth Pitts  
 Shirley Williams  
 Alan Budkofsky  
 Pansy Archer, Alternate  
 Harvey Frydman, Alternate  
 Thomas Moore, Alternate

### LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ava Biffer, Chair  
 Patrick DeLorenzo  
 Beverlee Merritt  
 Erin Corbett  
 Claudia Gwardyak

### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

The Town of Bloomfield's Presidential Preference Primary shall be held on April 2, 2024.

The polls will be open between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM. You must be an enrolled member in the Democratic and Republican Party to vote in your party's primary. Party members will cast their votes at the following places in the districts specified.

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

Absentee ballots will be available, as provided by law, in the office of the Town Clerk. Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's Office as well as online at the Town Clerk's page on the Town of Bloomfield's website at [www.bloomfieldct.gov](http://www.bloomfieldct.gov) 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.

Absentee ballots become available 21 days before the primary so don't wait until the last minute to request one. You can start requesting applications for absentee ballots at this time for the April Primaries.



## PROSSER LIBRARY PROJECT TO BREAK GROUND



### **A NEW LIBRARY EXPERIENCE IS ON ITS WAY...BOOK IT!**

The much anticipated renovation project for the Prosser Library has been given the green light to move forward, and construction will begin shortly after the New Year.

The Prosser Library, which is located at 1 Tunxis Avenue in the Town Center, will be fitted with modern amenities, as well as meeting rooms, group work room, study spaces, and dedicated areas for teens.

The project, which is expected to take over a year to complete, will be a staple of the Town's revitalization efforts of its town center area. For years, the Town Council and the residents of Bloomfield have expressed their desire for updates to the town libraries and the renovation of Prosser Library is the first step in achieving this goal.

For now, the Bloomfield Public Library is operating out of two temporary locations, one at the MetLife Atrium at 1300 Hall Boulevard and the second is a tech space at 330 Park Ave.

## VISIT US AT OUR TEMPORARY LOCATIONS

*We're Here for You!*

FULL-SERVICE LIBRARY: COLLECTIONS, TECHNOLOGY, CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

**BPL@the Atrium**

**1300 HALL BLVD**  
Former MetLife Building, Cigna Campus

**HOURS: MON-THU 10 AM - 6:30 PM**  
**FRI 10 AM - 5 PM**

COMPUTERS, PRINT, COPY, SCAN, FAX, TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

**TECH EXPRESS**

**330 Park Ave. ROOM 117**

**HOURS: MON & TUE 10 AM - 6 PM**  
**WED & THU 10 AM - 8 PM**  
**FRI 10 AM - 2 PM**

**BPL Online is ALWAYS OPEN**

## BLOOMFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



2023 Bloomfield Chamber Scholarship recipients Lysa-Raye McCaw (l) and Savannah White (r). Not pictured is Jacob Joseph, the recipient of Patricia E. Estill Scholarship recipient

### 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.

**For eligibility requirements, visit  
BloomfieldChamber.org. Award  
notifications for both scholarships will  
be made in June 2024.**

#### **Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Inc. Scholarship**

Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce 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.

**Contours Hair and Spa**, in partnership with the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce recognizes high school seniors interested in pursuing a career in cosmetology. We provide scholarships to help young people further their education, skills, and better compete in tomorrow's workforce.

#### **2024 Application Deadline:**

Applications and supporting documentation must be received by Monday, May 3, 2024 to  
Scholarships@bloomfieldchamber.org.



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/>



# Prevent Respiratory Viruses

## *STAY HEALTHY ALL SEASON*



### Wash Your Hands Often

*Use soap and water and scrub for at least 20 seconds. Always wash your hands after eating, coughing, sneezing, touching your face, and using the bathroom.*

### Clean & Disinfect Surfaces Regularly

*Toys, countertops, doorknobs, microwave buttons, faucets, and handrails can all spread germs. Clean these more frequently.*



### Get Your Flu Vaccine & COVID-19 Booster

*Vaccination helps prevent severe illness and reduce hospitalizations and death.*

### Stay Home When You Are Sick

*As much as possible, stay home when you are sick. Avoid spreading illness to others and rest so you can heal.*



### Mask Around Others When Symptomatic

*If you have to leave the house, wearing a mask can help you keep your germs to yourself and protect those around you from getting sick.*



## WINTER SAFETY TIPS

As the holidays arrive and winter begins to set in, the Bloomfield Center Fire Department and Blue Hills Fire Department want to remind residents that it's essential to ensure that homes are heated and decorated safely. **According to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA), half of home heating fires occur during December, January, and February.** Reduce the risk of winter fires by following these safety tips:

### CANDLES

December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. The top two days for home candle fires are Christmas Eve and Christmas. On average, 7,900 home candle fires are reported each year.

- Keep candles 12 inches away from anything flammable.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.

### PORTABLE SPACE HEATERS

Many people use portable space heaters to stay warm. Though convenient, space heaters can also bring fire hazards to clothing, furniture, curtains, and other household items. Be sure to:

- Turn off portable heaters before leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Plug space heaters directly into the wall. Do not use an extension cord.
- Plug only one space heater into an outlet at a time and
- Use space heaters with an automatic shut-off feature.

### FIREPLACES AND WOOD STOVES

Wood-burning stoves and fireplaces offer warmth and comfort but can also pose a safety risk. Be sure to:

- Install wood stoves according to the manufacturer's instructions or have a professional install the unit.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from your fireplace or wood stove.
- Make sure your fireplace has a screen to stop sparks from flying into the room and
- Dispose of ashes in a metal container.

### ADDITIONAL FIRE SAFETY TIPS:

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month to ensure they are operating.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month and
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Smoke alarms should be located in every bedroom and common area on each floor of a home. Mount them at least 10 feet from the stove and less than 12 inches from the ceiling, away from windows, doors, and ducts.
- Be sure to purchase smoke alarms with the label of a reputable testing agency, like Underwriters Laboratories.
- Carbon monoxide is a deadly, odorless gas that can come from anything in the home that burns fuel. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each bedroom and on every level of the home.
- Make sure vents for your gas appliances, such as fireplaces, dryers, stoves, and furnaces, are free and clear of snow or debris.

### SNOW BLOWER

- Always start your snow blower outside, never in the garage, in case of fire, explosion or carbon monoxide poisoning
- Before it snows, clear objects from your driveway that might become projectiles.
- If using an electric-powered snow blower, choose a path away from the cord.
- If the blower gets jammed, turn it off and clear the jam with a shovel or rake handle. Never your hand
- Keep your hands away from all moving parts.
- Do not drink alcohol and use the snow blower.
- Be proactive and wear personal protective equipment (goggles, safety glasses, and gloves)
- Refuel your snow blower when it is off and has cooled down, never when running.

### SNOW SHOVELING

- Stretch out beforehand to warm up your muscles and take it slow.
- Shovel only fresh, powdery snow; it's lighter.
- Push the snow rather than lift it.



**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY  
CALL 9-1-1**



## WINTER SAFETY TIPS

### SNOW SHOVELING (CONT.)

- If you do lift it, use a small shovel or only partially fill the shovel.
- Lift with your legs, not your back. Keep your back straight, bending at the hips.
- Wear layers and remove them as you get warmer.
- Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated while shoveling.
- Pace yourself and be sure to take frequent breaks.

### FURNACE

- Don't wait until the cold weather to maintain your furnace.
- Replace the air filter in your furnace each month.
- Clean your air vents and ducts. Remove the vent covers and use the extension hose to vacuum out dust.
- Inspect the blower belt for cracks and have it replaced if necessary.
- Program your thermostat to lower the temperature when you're away or asleep. According to the Consumer Energy Center, using this type of thermostat could save 20 to 75 percent on your furnace's operating costs.
- Inspect the exhaust flue outdoors to ensure it is free of obstructions such as branches or animal nests.
- Keep the area around your furnace unit free of debris and clutter. Remove any items you have stored near the furnace, particularly anything likely to catch fire.
- Remove household items on top or in front of your air ducts and return vents.

### HEATERS

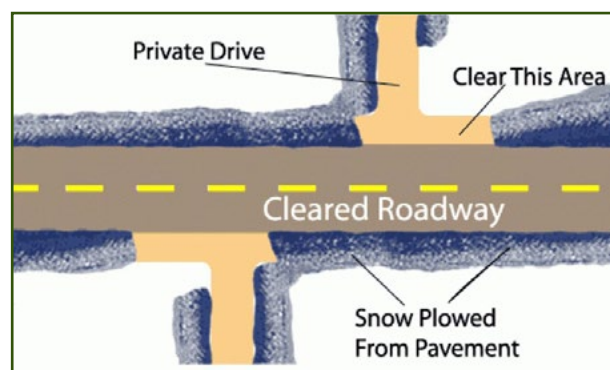
- Ensure everything is kept 3 feet from the heater.
- Check your electric and gas heaters before you use them. If you suspect a fault, have the item checked by a qualified technician or replaced. Check all cords for fraying and damage. Plug heaters directly into wall sockets only.
- Do not overload the outlet.
- Ensure everything is kept 3 feet from the heater.
- Install any new heaters and use them per the manufacturer's instructions.
- Check your portable outdoor heaters before use and have them serviced or replaced if required. Ensure that the area where you plan to use them is level, well-ventilated, and away from awnings and other combustible materials.
- **NEVER** use any outdoor heating or cooking equipment inside your home, including charcoal and LPG, as a fuel source. This type of equipment is not suitable for indoor use and can lead to a build-up of lethal gases, which could be deadly. Check the manufacturer's recommendations before use.

### HOW TO KEEP YOUR DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE FROM FILLING WITH SNOW

Throughout the winter months, State and Town snowplow crews will be out clearing the highways, roads 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 wintertime inconvenience can be minimized is to wait until the snow is pushed back all the way to the curb.



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.

The idea is to place as much snow as possible when clearing your driveway, in the direction of travel downstream on your side of the roadway. Next is to clear an area upstream from your driveway opening to form a "pocket" for the snow from the roadway to go into instead of at the end of your driveway.

The result is more of the snow accumulation from clearing the roadway will go into this open pocket area and less will wind up at the end of your driveway.

## BLOOMFIELD POLICE AWARD & PROMOTION CEREMONY



On Friday, November 17, 2023 the Bloomfield Police Department honored a number of officers for their heroic acts in the line of duty, while promoting one of their very own to Lieutenant, and giving a new officer his oath of office.

Congratulations extended to: Lt. Shaun Gallant, Officer Brendan Danaher, Officer Adrian Loignon, Officer Rohan Green, Officer Brianna Vega, Officer Nicole Mueller, Officer George Farrah, and Officer Roy Clemons III.

Officer Adrian Loignon



Officer Brendan Danaher



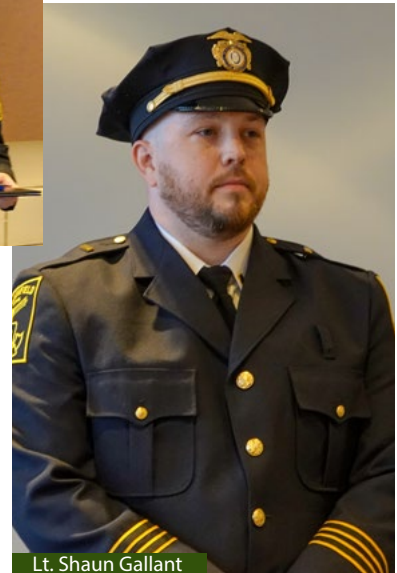
Officer George Farrah



(l-r): Officers Rohan Green, Brianna Vega, and Nicole Mueller



Officer Roy Clemons III



Lt. Shaun Gallant



## CALEA ACCREDITED



*(l-r): CALEA Commissioner Marlon Lynch, BPD Lieutenant James Salvatore, BPD Sr. Admin Asst. to the Chief of Police Wendy Gorman, BPD Chief Paul Hammick, CALEA President W. Craig Hartley, Jr.*

This past summer, the Bloomfield Police Department had an on-site assessment for national re-accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The Department was required to meet 484 nationally recognized professional standards of excellence to reach our goal. This ongoing process ensures that accredited agencies do not lapse in their commitment to excellence, but instead demonstrate consistency in procedures and operations over time. The two CALEA assessors assigned to review our department were impressed with our level of preparation, dedication, and professionalism. At the CALEA National Conference in Washington in November 11, 2023, the Bloomfield Police Department was officially awarded "Advanced Reaccreditation." The Police Department has the honor of being recognized as achieving a level of excellence that only 5% of departments in our nation have achieved.



This honor is the successful culmination of efforts to seek National Accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA). Created in 1979 through the combined efforts of four major law enforcement organizations: the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the Police Executive Research Forum, CALEA is widely recognized as the nation's official accreditation commission. The Commission's purpose is to develop law enforcement standards and to establish and administer the accreditation program. The accreditation program establishes the process for a law enforcement agency to voluntarily demonstrate how they meet professionally-recognized criteria for excellence in management and service delivery.

## ENERGY/UTILITY ASSISTANCE

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

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



### CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP)

The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) helps Connecticut residents afford to heat their homes. Applications for CEAP typically take 30-45 minutes. Basic benefits towards your heating bill range between \$180 and \$530 depending on your situation. These benefits are usually paid directly to your utility company or fuel supplier. Households that heat with deliverable fuels like oil or propane may be eligible for additional free tank fills.

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

CT ENERGY ASSISTANCE INCOME GUIDELINES	
Family Size	Gross Annual Income
1	\$41,553
2	\$54,338
3	\$67,124
4	\$79,910

### OPERATION FUEL

Operation Fuel provides emergency energy and utility assistance to households in Connecticut that are facing financial crisis.

At this time, Operation Fuel is **ONLY** accepting applications for assistance with CT Water or Aquarion bills. Our energy programs season will begin on **Monday, January 8th, 2024**.

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

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

OPERATION FUEL INCOME GUIDELINES	
Family Size	Gross Annual Income
1	\$51,941
2	\$67,923
3	\$83,905
4	\$99,888

### EVERSOURCE LOW-INCOME DISCOUNT RATE

Starting December, 2023 households may be eligible for the 10% or 50% discount on their monthly electric bill if there is a financial hardship status applied to their 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>

## GET CONNECTED...GET HELP

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.





# NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

### January is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

This is a time to raise awareness about human trafficking and to educate the public about how to identify and prevent this crime.

### What is Human Trafficking, also known as Sex Trafficking?

Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit. Men, women and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which occurs in every region of the world, including Bloomfield, CT

**IF YOU ARE NOT SAFE, call or Text 911**

**CALL THE NATIONAL TRAFFICKING HOTLINE** 1-888-373-7888 (or text 233733)

**IF YOU ARE AWARE OF A CHILD WHO IS BEING VICTIMIZED, CALL THE CARELINE** 1-800-842-2288

**PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING LINKS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

United Way – 211

<https://uwc.211ct.org/human-trafficking/>

HART (Human Anti-trafficking Response Team)

<https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/HART/Home>

Human Trafficking and Homeless Youth

<https://cceh.org/human-trafficking-prevention/>

LOVE 146

<https://love146.org/>

## UPDATES FROM THE SENIOR CENTER

### DUNCASTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE GRANT AWARDED TO BLOOMFIELD SENIOR SERVICES

Bloomfield Senior Services has been awarded a \$3000 grant from the Duncaster Outreach Committee to support "Mindful Mix and Mingles". The grant will support two groups. "Mindfully Yours", a 6 week group will be offered to 20 aging ladies that wish to engage, express, create and enjoy positive peer support through the arts. The "Gentlemen's Breakfast Club" will provide an opportunity to bring 25 senior men together in a mutually supportive group experience that will include breakfast, a health oriented theme, distribution of health and wellness packets, followed by trips to the CT Air Museum and the Basketball Hall of Fame. Both group initiatives carry a mindful theme that encourages focusing on the present, not dwelling in the past and not worrying about the future. "Mindful Mix and Mingles" will be scheduled January through March of 2024.

### AARP CONNECTICUT SIXTH LIVABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT AWARDED TO BLOOMFIELD SENIOR SERVICES

Bloomfield Senior Services is one of 9 Connecticut recipients to be awarded a grant from the AARP Connecticut Sixth Livable Communities Grant Program. The \$5000 grant will support the "Bloomfield Arts and Aging Project". Bloomfield Senior Services will offer a series of arts based adventures where participants can explore, engage, express, enjoy, learn and have fun while sharing meaningful group experiences with aging adults in the Bloomfield community. The adventures will be scheduled February through August of 2024 and include 2 Happy Hour Plus activities at the Senior Center, 2 theater excursions to local venues for performances that enhance social/cultural awareness, and a 7 week meditation and drum circle program.

### MOBILE FOODSHARE

FoodShare will be at the Senior Center from 12:45-1:30 pm on Tues., Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 6, 20, March 5 and 19 in 2024. 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.

### WALK YOUR WAY TO HEALTH

Walk the Bloomfield Senior Center's modified, self-guided, indoor path on your own Monday-Friday, between 9:00 am & 4:00 pm. (11.2 times around the large loop, or 20 times around the small loop equals 1 mile.) Walking around the outside of 330 Park Avenue is another option (3 times around equals 1 mile). Be sure to bring your own reusable water bottles.

## SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & LEARNING PROGRAM

*Funding for this program is made possible through a grant from Capital Workforce Partners*

- Wondering what to do for the summer?
- Are you a Bloomfield resident & between the ages of 15 and 17?
- Are you interested in being paid to learn, work, build your resume and have fun meeting new people?

**Applications will be accepted February - May, 2024**

To apply, visit Capital Workforce Partners Website: <https://capitalworkforce.org/syelp/>

**For additional information, contact:**

Angelica Thompson, Youth Services Coordinator athompson@bloomfieldct.org or (860) 242-189

## 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

## ADULT UNDERGARMENT DONATIONS

Do you have any unopened packages and are unsure what to do with them? Please consider donating them to the Senior Center to help support our monthly distribution program. Pull ups and pads are most needed. All adult sizes and genders.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

### JANUARY

**Monday, January 1**  
Town Facilities Closed for New Year's Day

**Monday, January 8**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

**Saturday, January 13**  
Sturbridge Flea Market - 9:30 am  
Age: 55+, contact Senior Center for more information

**Monday, January 15**  
Town Facilities Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Thursday, January 18**  
Human Trafficking Community Forum - 6:00 pm  
330 Park Ave.

**Saturday, January 20**  
Parents' Night Out\* - 5:30 pm

### FEBRUARY

**Saturday, February 3**  
Take Your Child to the Library Day - 11:00 am

**Monday, February 12**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

**Monday, February 19**  
Town Facilities Closed for Presidents' Day

**Friday, February 23**  
Family Game Night - 4:00 pm  
Family Bingo - 6:00 pm

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

*\* Parents' Night Out: Need a night out without the kids? Children in grades 3-7 are welcome to enjoy fun, games and activities at The Rec. Activities will include gym time, board games, video games, arts & crafts and more! Pizza and refreshments will be served. Pre-registration is required.*

### MARCH

**Friday, March 8**  
Tie-Dye Night - 6:00 pm

**Monday, March 11**  
Town Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

**Saturday, March 16**  
Parents' Night Out\* - 5:30 pm

**Friday, March 29**  
Town Facilities Closed for Good Friday

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

### 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 7 until April 10. This year both in-person and drop-off options are available.

Contact the senior center beginning Monday, Jan. 22, 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.

## STAY INFORMED STAY SAFE

Sign up to receive emergency alerts and severe weather warnings that could directly impact you and your family

The Town of Bloomfield is switching from CodeRED to CivicReady as our new Emergency Alert Notification System.

This will allow 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.



Receive notifications by

- Call
- Email
- Text
- And more

**SIGN UP NOW**

For one-step notifications  
**SIGN UP TODAY.**  
Get local news and alerts instantly.  
**CIVICREADY**

**[SIGN UP AT WWW.BLOOMFIELDCT.GOV/STAYCONNECTED](http://WWW.BLOOMFIELDCT.GOV/STAYCONNECTED)**

## 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.





## TRASH & RECYCLING



2024

### 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.

**Recycling Street List:** <https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/950/2024-Recycling-Street-List-PDF>

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
				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		
MARCH						
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						
APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
JUNE						
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						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						

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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28	29	30	31			
AUGUST						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
SEPTEMBER						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
OCTOBER						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## BULK COLLECTION SCHEDULE

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.

- Week of January 22
- Week of February 19
- Week of March 18
- Week of April 22
- Week of May 20
- Week of June 17
- Week of July 22
- Week of August 19
- Week of September 16
- Week of October 21
- Week of November 18
- Week of December 16

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

## MDC HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Collections are held on Saturdays from 8am to 1pm

DATE	TOWN	LOCATION
4/27/24	Newington	281 Milk Lane
5/4/24	Windsor	1222 Poquonock Avenue
5/18/24	East Hartford	65 Pitkin Street
6/2/24 (Sun.)	West Hartford	17 Brixton Street
6/22/24	Wethersfield	51 Willow Street
9/7/24	Bloomfield	21 Southwood Drive
9/21/24	Rocky Hill	80 Goff Brook Lane
9/28/24	West Hartford	17 Brixton Street
10/19/24	Windsor Locks	6 Stanton Road
10/26/24	Hartford	125 Maxim Road

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

800 Bloomfield Ave.  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

\*\*\*\*ECRWSEDDM\*\*\*\*

**Residential Customer**

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

ECRWSS

**HAPPY**  
*Holidays*

