

DATE: June 18, 2025

Town of Bloomfield Contact:

Brian Wolff

860-769-3570

bwolff@bloomfieldct.gov

**Town of Bloomfield Awarded \$30,000 From Department of Energy & Environment Protection For
Right-Of-Way (ROW) Tree Inventory**

BLOOMFIELD, CT – The Town of Bloomfield is proud to announce that it has been to receive a grant from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) as part of the agency's Right-of-Way (ROW) Tree Inventory Program.

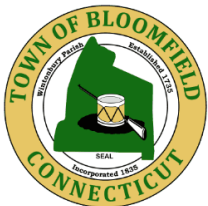
The grant was awarded to the Town's Department of Public Works, which is responsible for maintaining approximately 110 miles of local roadway. In 2023, the Department completed a tree inventory covering 28 miles of town-owned roadways, identifying and documenting street trees to support proper care and long-term planning. With this new funding, the Department will be able to expand that inventory by at least 48 additional miles, significantly enhancing Bloomfield's ability to manage and protect its urban forest.

"We are proud to be one of the communities selected for this important funding from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection," said Town Manager Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr. "This grant allows us to continue building a comprehensive tree inventory that supports public safety, promotes healthy urban forestry, and strengthens our long-term infrastructure planning. In Bloomfield, we value the strong connection between our residents and the environment—we've seen that through active community participation in tree plantings, clean-up days, and our continued commitment to green spaces. This project is another step forward in celebrating and preserving the natural beauty that makes Bloomfield such a special place to live."

More than \$184,000 in total funding was awarded by DEEP to support urban and community forestry projects across the state. Joining Bloomfield in receiving these competitive grants are the municipalities of Ellington, Mansfield, New London, North Stonington, Old Saybrook, Ridgefield, Stamford, and Stratford.

About the Town of Bloomfield

Bloomfield is a picturesque Connecticut village, graced with rural beauty, abundant land, quality schools, dynamic commercial building projects, and a highly educated work force. Located just 10 miles west of the state capital of Hartford, the Town encompasses 26.4 square miles and has a population of 21,000 residents. Visit: www.bloomfieldct.gov



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this important?

According to DEEP: "Comprehensive tree inventory data help municipalities make better decisions about management and planting of urban street trees...By increasing the resolution and scale of their tree inventory, Bloomfield Public Works will be able to prioritize the location and species for new tree plantings to improve forest health and increase tree cover in low canopy neighborhoods."

(<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/forestry/urban-forestry/grants/urban-forestry-grant-accomplishments>)

What areas of town will the extended inventory include?

Bloomfield's existing 28 miles of inventory are in the southeast corner of town bordering Hartford and Windsor. The project location will extend north and east from this 28-mile section, overlapping with some areas that participated in Trees for Bloomfield's "Trees for Free" project the past three years. Since the tree canopy is thinner in this part of town, the new inventory will enable the DPW to prioritize areas within the ROW to plant new trees as well as to maintain existing trees over the next five to ten years.

How will the public be informed about the project?

The DPW will provide periodic updates about the project on its town website page and through "This Week in Bloomfield" e-newsletter updates. Trees for Bloomfield (TFB) volunteers will assist DPW by providing updates to this newspaper and by working with the BATV Public Channel. Additionally, the Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services Department, Department of Public Works (DPW), and Trees for Bloomfield (TFB) Volunteers will host a public meeting to inform residents in the neighborhoods about the project and to solicit input on priorities regarding street trees.