



the

Farmington Town Letter

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1 Monteith Drive • Farmington, CT 06032
www.farmington-ct.org

A Note From Our Town Council Chair

Fall is a period of transition; a new school year begins, the weather gets cooler, the leaves turn and the clocks are set back. We begin to prepare for the holidays, the winter months, and a new year. Farmington's Town employees work diligently season after season to provide exceptional services and programs to our residents. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work, especially on the projects that commenced this past spring and summer.

The Public Works Department has been busy creating, implementing and overseeing projects to improve Farmington's infrastructure. Many local roads were paved or reconstructed during the recent paving season; additional roads will be paved this coming Spring.

It has been a busy few months. Many of you have seen that our Rails to Trails system is under construction to expand our rails to trails from Red Oak Hill to the Town of Plainville. The Town also completed the construction of a sidewalk replacement project along the east side of Route 177 from Depot Place to West District Road. Both of these projects were made possible through grants from the State of Connecticut. Construction on our Water Pollution Control Facility upgrade is underway and estimated to be completed in three years.

The 2016 Annual Clean-Up Day was another great success. The Clean-Up Day, held on April 30, 2016, removed a total of 5,000 pounds of trash from our parks, rivers and roads. Our Green Efforts Committee hosts this event and they have done outstanding work promoting environmentally friendly practices in Town. Clean-Up Day wouldn't be possible without our wonderful volunteers who picked up trash and litter throughout the Town, and I thank you for all your hard work.

The Farmington High School Renovation Committee has selected an architect to provide schematic designs for renovations at Farmington High School. As a part of this process, the Committee hosted a well-attended public planning workshop to hear feedback from Farmington residents and create a vision for the future of Farmington High School's facility. This event was the beginning of a full public participation process. Information regarding this project can be found on www.farmington-ct.org under the Government tab.

The Grand Opening of the Farmington and Avon Live Fire Training Facility on Round Hill Road is scheduled for Saturday, November 5, 2016. The training facility is a collaboration between the towns' fire departments. It is designed so fires can be set inside, which firefighters would then put out during practice drills. Interested members of the community can tour the facility once it opens.

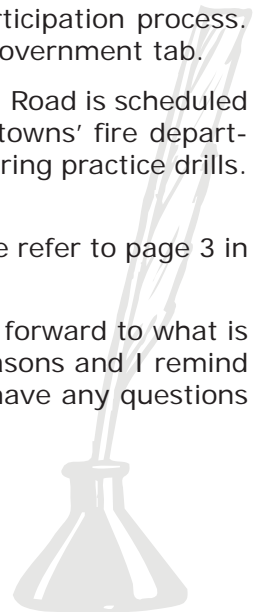
Lastly our bi-annual Bulk Waste Collection will take place October 17-21, 2016. Please refer to page 3 in this newsletter for more information on what can and cannot be included in the pickup.

I am so proud of all that Farmington has accomplished during this past year and look forward to what is in store for the Town this upcoming fall and winter. I hope you enjoy the change of seasons and I remind you to vote on November 8th. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Nancy W. Nickerson

Town Council Chair



LIVE FIRE TRAINING FACILITY GRAND OPENING

The Grand Opening of the Farmington and Avon Live Fire Training Facility is planned for Saturday, November 5, 2016 at 1pm at the Live Fire



Training Facility on Round Hill Road. This will be an opportunity for interested members of the community to tour the facility.

All are welcome!

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE INFORMATION

The Farmington High School Building Committee was formed in January 2016 to address significant facility issues including accessibility, security, building sprawl and inefficient energy performance. These deficiencies are outlined in the "Statement of Need" that was approved by both the Farmington Board of Education and Town Council. The committee has been charged with completing an extensive review of Farmington High School's existing conditions and developing a recommended project scope and cost estimate to address and prioritize the high school facility needs.

The committee meets bi-weekly at 4:30 PM in the FHS Library. Meetings are open to the public and all community members are invited to participate. Information including meeting schedules, minutes and agendas, and reference documents can be found at www.farmington-ct.org under the Government Tab.



RECREATION OFFICE MOVING TO DEPOT PLACE

The Town of Farmington Recreation Division will be moving to 17 Depot Place in Unionville by the end of 2016. They will be joining the EXCL and Continuing Education Divisions. Locating these services together in the same building will have a positive collaborative effect on our programming. There is a natural relationship in these program areas and this relocation will foster further consolidation and will enhance the overall recreation program that the Town of Farmington offers its residents.



Yodkins-Morin Memorial Park



The Yodkins-Morin Memorial Park is located on Farmington Avenue near Walnut Street and is dedicated to Farmington Police Officer Charles Yodkins, Sr., and resident Joseph J. Morin, Jr. On August 19, 1955, Yodkins and Morin drowned while attempting to rescue a family who had been stranded by raging flood waters when the boat they were in capsized.

The Carnegie Hero Fund honored Yodkins and Morin and posthumously awarded each a medal. In 2005, on the 50th anniversary of the flood, Officer Yodkins was awarded the Farmington Police Department Medal of Honor.

Over the last two years the Farmington Police Department and Town of Farmington have updated the memorial site to include new lighting, concrete repairs, and tree pruning. A blue lamp which remains illuminated 24 hours a day was added to the flag pole to signify Officer Yodkins' law enforcement affiliation. The Police Department has arranged for the plaque and stone to be power washed in the upcoming weeks and for the surrounding planters to be updated.

Each year on Memorial Day, the Farmington Police Department Honor Guard, other members of the Police Department, friends, family, and clergy, conduct a brief ceremony in remembrance of both men who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction for the Comprehensive Upgrade of the Town's wastewater treatment plant began in the spring of 2016. The construction will span 3 years and should be complete by the fall of 2019.



These much needed upgrades were widely approved by Farmington voters in a November 2014 referendum. The upgraded facility will have an improved effluent quality and capacity while treating our wastewater more reliably and efficiently. The upgraded facility will also utilize an Ultra Violet Disinfection System, eliminating the use of chemicals currently used to disinfect treated effluent. Current activity on the site includes mass excavation, installation of underground piping, new tanks and building structures. Once these structures are in place they will be fitted with new equipment and gradually integrated into the existing treatment process. As of the end of August, the project was approximately 16 percent completed.

BULKY WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

The next Town-wide bulky waste collection will begin on Monday, October 17, 2016, and will be picked up on your normal trash pickup day during the week of **October 17-21, 2016**.



During the week of **October 17, 2016**, all Farmington residents who have trash collection by the Town's contractor (Waste Material Trucking Company) are invited to leave their bulk items curbside the night before their regular collection day. Separate bulk trucks will pick up tires; appliances and metal items; and clean/dry mattresses and boxsprings. These items should be separated from regular bulk items and four feet (4') from the Town of Farmington approved Trash and Recycling Carts. Small bulk items should be bundled, boxed or bagged. Tires should be removed from their rims. The weight for all acceptable items is limited to manual lifting by two persons. Six feet (6') is the maximum length.

Mark your calendar for the next Town-wide Bulky Waste Collection, which will be in the Spring - April 3-7, 2017.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS - LIMITED to 2 PER HOUSEHOLD

- ☺ **Large Furniture:** 2 MAX - i.e. Couches, overstuffed chairs, box springs and mattresses (*a mattress and a box spring are considered 1 piece of large furniture*).
- ☺ **Appliances:** 2 MAX - Doors must be removed.
- ☺ **Tires and Rims:** 2 MAX - Car and bicycle tires only. Tires must be removed from rims.
- ☺ **Plumbing Fixtures:** 2 MAX - i.e. Sinks, tubs and toilets.

OTHER ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- ☺ **Carpet/padding:** Must be rolled, and taped or tied, 6' maximum length.

- ☺ **Smaller pieces of furniture.**
- ☺ **Misc. Household Items:** MAX OF 10 BAGS

RESTRICTIONS:

- ✓ Weight for all acceptable items is limited to manual lifting by two (2) persons.
- ✓ Length for all acceptable items is limited to six (6) feet.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- ☺ **NO RECYCLABLE MATERIALS:** i.e. cardboard, rigid plastics items such as toys, buckets, coolers, etc.
- ☺ **NO Building Materials:** i.e. shingles, sheetrock, brick, stone, concrete, ceramic tile, or wood flooring.
- ☺ **NO Lumber** (Clean lumber with no nails/hardware/NOT pressure treated or painted can be brought to the Tunxis Mead Compost Area during normal hours of operation; For Unclean Lumber, call CWPM @860-829-0714).
- ☺ **NO Plywood**
- ☺ **NO Pallets** (residents may bring to the Tunxis Mead Compost Area during the hours of operation).
- ☺ **NO Stumps or Lawn Debris**
- ☺ **NO Motor Vehicle Parts or Batteries** (Motor vehicle batteries and used motor oil in small quantities are the only two items that are accepted at the Highway Division of Public Works. Any other Hazardous materials left will be considered illegal dumping and subject to fines.
- ☺ **NO Propane Tanks**
- ☺ **NO Televisions, Computers (desktop or laptop), Monitors, Printers, or Keyboards**
- ☺ **NO Hazardous Waste Products**
- ☺ **No Paint (latex or oil-based)**

Additional information can be found on the Town website: www.farmington-ct.org. Any questions or concerns, please contact the Farmington Highway & Grounds Division of Public Works - 860.675.2550.

NEW COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR!

The Town of Farmington is happy to announce a new Community Event calendar. Located on the Town's webpage, www.farmington-ct.org, the Event Calendar is a tool for the public to promote community events and activities. Community events include any charitable, educational, cultural, or recreational event taking place in the Town of Farmington.

Local organizations can submit events for posting on the Community Event Calendar. Details on the do's and don'ts of the calendar can be found on the web page. If your event meets the policy standards, then a Town staff member will post the event for you. For more information please review the policy, which can be found at www.farmington-ct.org/about-us/calendar-public-events. We look forward to creating a full calendar of the many positive events held in our Town!



NOTES FROM THE REGISTRARS OFFICE

CT State elections will take place on November 8, 2016 at our usual polling places:

- District 1 precincts 1,2,3,4/Irving Robbins School
- District 1 precinct 5/West Woods School
- District 2 precinct 6/Community / Senior Center
- District 2 precinct 7/Farmington High School

If you wish to check the status of your voter registration you may use the "look up tool" at the web site of the CT Secretary of the State: www.sots.ct.gov. If you need to register or change your current registration, you may do so with this "on line registration" program.

Mail-in registrations must be postmarked by Nov. 1, 2016 in order to be added to our voter list. The Registrar of Voters office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9AM to 2PM. An extension of hours will take place on Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 10AM to 2PM for new applications or to change registrations. In-person registrations at the Registrars Office will close at 12 Noon on Monday,

November 7, 2016. Election Day Registration (EDR) will be available only at Town Hall.

Absentee ballot applications are available through the Town Clerk's office weekdays from 8:30AM-4:30PM. Absentee Ballots will be mailed after October 7, 2016.

To register to vote in Farmington, one must meet these requirements:

1. Be a United States Citizen
2. Be a resident of Farmington
3. Be 17 years of age, becoming 18 by November 8, 2016
4. Be completely released of confinement and parole if a past felon



Call with questions:

(860) 675-2378 or (860) 675-2379

UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM COMMUNITY & RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Tees & Treats – Charity Golf Tournament & Fall Family Festival

Farmington Community & Recreational Services is hosting its first annual Tees & Treats event. This Halloween-themed golf tournament and family festival will be held October 22nd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Westwoods Golf Course, featuring booths by local vendors, entertainment, trick-or-treating and fun for the whole family. Pre-registration is required for the tournament. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Farmington Community Chest Fuel Bank. Call 860-675-2390 or visit www.farmington-ct.org for more information.

Emergency Services

Farmington Community Services works with members of CERT to reach and assist residents in need during times of severe weather, state of emergency, or prolonged loss of electricity. The Department maintains an "At-Risk List" of elderly, disabled or otherwise impaired residents who are a priority for services and well-being checks during these times. An annual update of this list will be ongoing through the end of 2016. If you or someone you know should be included on this list, please call 860-675-2390.

Join us on Thanksgiving Day!

Join us on November 24th for our annual Thanksgiving Day Gathering at the Farmington Community & Senior Center. The event will feature a full Thanksgiving meal from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Reservations are required. Participants, volunteers, and donors needed. Call 860-675-2390 for more information.

Annual Holiday Giving Programs

Farmington Community Services is gearing up for our Holiday Giving Programs. We are seeking volunteers to join us in supporting our low-income residents and families. We offer three programs – Thanksgiving Meal Baskets, Holiday Meal Baskets, and Adopt-a-Family. Please contact Community Services at 860-675-2390 if you are interested in donating or if you feel you could benefit from these programs.

Caregiver Support Group

Are you caring for and/or assisting an elderly parent, spouse, family member, or friend? Farmington Community Services provides a resource specialist for seniors, families and caregivers. Martha Taylor in our Community Services Department offers information for caregivers and their families. Please contact Martha at 860-675-2390 with any questions or concerns.

*a note from...PAULA RAY, TOWN CLERK***PERSONAL PROPERTY DECLARATIONS**

Absentee ballots for the November 8, 2016 Presidential Election are available, for those not traveling outside of the United States, starting October 7, 2016 by mail or at the Town Clerk's office. To accommodate voters the Town Clerk's office will be open extended hours on Tuesday October 25, 2016 until 7:00 p.m., Saturday October 29, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon, and Thursday November 3, 2016 until 7:00 pm. for voting by absentee ballot.

In order to vote by absentee ballot, you must first complete an absentee ballot application. You may obtain an application for an absentee ballot by any of the following methods:

- at the Town Clerk's office
- by calling (860-675-2380)
- by emailing: rayp@farmington-ct.org
- from the link contained in the Town Clerk's section of the Town of Farmington website www.farmington-ct.org under the Absentee Ballot heading.

If you have any questions about voting by absentee ballot, please call the Town Clerk's office at 860-675-2380.

The Assessor's Office would like to remind businesses that Personal Property Declarations must be filed on or before November 1, 2016 in order to avoid a 25% penalty.

If you have not received a form, you may contact the Assessor's Office to request one. A declaration form is also available on the Town of Farmington website. Please go to the Assessor page under "Forms".

As always, if you have any questions regarding this or any other Assessor-related matter, please do not hesitate to contact us at 860-675-2370 or

Email: BartaC@farmington-ct.org

MAILBOX SURVIVAL

Snow thrown against a mailbox is often sufficient to cause damage to a less than perfect installation. Moisture content of the snow varies between storms, the higher the moisture content, the heavier the snow will be. This snow, mixed with the snowmelt caused by salt and traffic, may be ten-times as heavy.

Help Us Help You: The time to inspect your mailbox is before snowstorms; i.e. shake, and rattle your mailbox to inspect your mailbox post for age, cracks, dry rot and deterioration at the bottom where the post goes into the ground. Posts with cracks, dry rot, or deterioration at the bottom are likely to fail when wet snow from the snowplow trucks hits them. Also, per our inspection, your mailbox will not be fixed if there is evidence of any pre-existing damage.

Keep in mind that the larger the mailbox, the more square inches of area is exposed to the force of the snow. A larger, sturdier post and mount are needed to support the load.

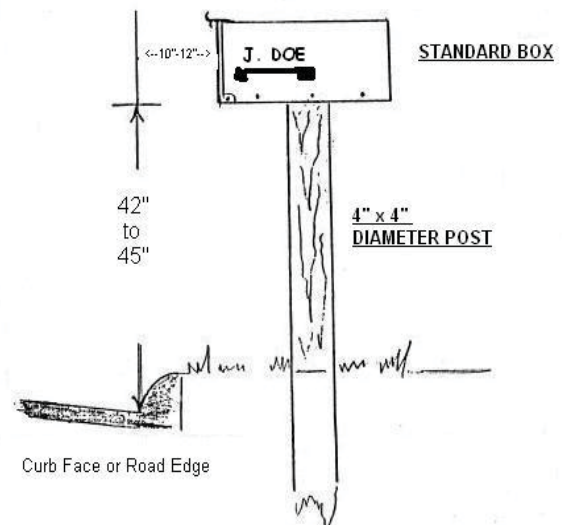
Decorative posts turned on a lathe to make them round in places reduce the strength of the post. They will not withstand the twisting torque motion causing a split along the grain of the wood starting at the support arm or at one of the narrowest points. Also, any and all mailboxes and posts made out of plastic will NOT be replaced.

Heavy snow coming off the plow blade will often knock over and damage mailboxes that haven't been adequately mounted or braced; or those mailboxes whose doors have been left open. Also private contractors, homeowners clearing snow, errant motorists, etc., damage mailboxes. The Town will not compensate for mailboxes in these situations.

Mailboxes are to be installed 42" to 45" above the gutter line and 10" to 12" behind the edge of the road or face of curb, allowing the plow to clear snow to the road edge.

The Town will not be responsible for additional paper boxes or decorations placed or installed below the required mailbox height.

The Town will compensate for a damaged mailbox when the Director of Public Works, or his designee, determines that a plow physically hit the mailbox. This determination is made by observation of cut marks, paint off the plow blade, etc. In the event a mailbox or post is physically struck by the Town Highway Department snow plow/truck, it will be repaired or replaced only if the mailbox was installed properly. The repair or replacement by the Highway Department will be with a standard Post Office-approved mailbox and/or a pretreated 4" x 4" square wooden post. No mailbox or post will be repaired or replaced if the force of snow thrown by plows caused damage. See sketch of a typical mailbox installation.





the **Farmington
Town
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Town Hall
Farmington, CT 06032-1053

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FROM THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

***It's a Toilet,
Not a Trashcan!***

Toilets are only meant for one activity, and you know what we're talking about! When the wrong things are flushed, results can include costly backups on your own property, and in the Town's sewer system. They also cause problems at our wastewater treatment plant. That's why it's so important to treat toilets properly and flush only your personal contributions to the Town's wastewater treatment plant. Some of the following items are also controversially labeled as "flushable".



Don't flush any of the following items:



- ⊗ *Baby wipes and diapers*
- ⊗ *Paper towels*
- ⊗ *Cleaning/ disinfecting wipes*
- ⊗ *Cotton swabs*
- ⊗ *Syringes*
- ⊗ *Candy and other food wrappers*
- ⊗ *Cleaning sponges*
- ⊗ *Plastic items of any description*
- ⊗ *Kitty litter*
- ⊗ *Rubber items such as latex gloves*
- ⊗ *Cigarette butts*
- ⊗ *Sanitary napkins*
- ⊗ *Hair*
- ⊗ *Underwear*
- ⊗ *Disposable toilet brushes*

Kitchen Clean Up

Rinsing Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) and food waste down your drains also results in problems in our pipes and sewer system. Although fats, oils, and grease in a warm liquid may appear harmless as they flow easily down the drain; as the liquid cools, FOG solidifies and separates from the water and sticks to the inside of pipes. Over time, layers of FOG build up and form restrictions, blockages and accumulations in our sewers and pump stations. Allow grease and oil to cool and pour it into a container, or wipe it out of pots, pans and dishes and dispose of it in the garbage. Run a web search for "Fatberg" for some interesting reading.

Also make use of the Drug Collection Unit available at the Police Department to dispose of unused medications.

Remember - in one way or another:

ALL DRAINS LEAD TO THE RIVER

