

Coventry, Connecticut



TOWN NEWS

COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

— Jeff Shorts

Winter has come and gone and spring is finally here. I would first like to thank our Public Works Department for all their hard work this past winter. I would also like to thank our Ambulance, Fire and Police staff for a job well done during these winter storms, this year. The winter season had one bright spot, which was a new tradition of the lighting of our new Town Christmas tree. I would like to thank Gunnar and Adella Hastillo for doing a great job on lighting the tree.

Spring time is the time for our baseball and softball leagues to start if the ground every dries out. Spring time is also a time for our Annual Town Budget, which the Town Council has been working on. The Town Budget will be reviewed at the Annual Town Meeting on April 25, 2015 at the Veteran's Auditorium in the High School at 10:00 a.m. The Town will vote on Tuesday May 5, 2015 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Stations. You can review the Town Budget on our website at www.coventryct.org. Please ask question if you have any concerns with the budget.

Parks and Rec will be offering lots for community gardens if you are interested. Watch for further information to come.

2015 TOWN HALL HOLIDAYS:

Memorial Day	May 25
Independence Day	July 3
Labor Day	Sept. 7

For those of you that are reading this newsletter and don't know yet, I have had to resign my Chairman's seat on the Town Council as I have taken a job in North Carolina. This was a hard decision for me and my family as we have enjoyed our time in Coventry. I have enjoyed my time coaching soccer, baseball and basketball and helping out with football. I would like to thank everyone that voted for me to put me on the Town Council. I have always tried to do what was best for you and the Town. Again, thank you for this opportunity to serve you and I will always cherish what we have done for Coventry.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Consider volunteering your time to serve on a Boards or Commissions. There are many groups that need members, and becoming involved might be an interesting and fulfilling way to help your town. For a current list of vacancies, contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-742-7966 or view the Town website at www.coventryct.org >Your Government >Boards & Commissions. Committees that particularly need members are CoventryVision and the School Building & Energy Efficiency Committee.

COMINGS & GOINGS AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Welcome to **Dianna Grindle**, Assistant Town Clerk, who will be working part time. Welcome also to **Colin Dunnack**, new Public Works Maintainer, and **Wayne Greener**, Police Officer. Congratulations to **Dan Smith**, who passed his Wastewater 1 License exam, a very difficult test, on his first attempt. Dan will now be able to cover for **Mike Ruef** at the Treatment Plant. **Michael D'Amicol**, Assessor, has been deployed overseas again for a year.

TOWN MANAGER'S MEMO

— John A. Elsesser,
Town Manager

Thank you for being involved with your community and taking the time to read this newsletter. I point you to important information on the proposed budget in the Budget in Brief and the explanatory text on the two borrowing questions; \$3,000,000 for roads, parking lots and hardscape surfaces and \$900,000 for a fire apparatus. All three will be voted on separately on May 5th between 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM at the two fire-houses.

We are proud that we have been able to obtain a bond rating upgrade to Aa2. This better credit rating saves money by obtaining a better interest rate. With this new rate we were able to save money on a refinancing of current long-term debt. This allowed a \$24,000 savings in the upcoming budget and \$290,000 in savings over the life of the debt.

To stay engaged with Coventry, please sign up for monthly e-blasts through the "Notify Me" section of our website at www.coventryct.org, or by visiting our Facebook page, Town of Coventry, CT - Manager's Office.

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EXPLANATORY TEXT PREPARED PURSUANT TO CGS SEC. 9-369 b.

Question 1: “Shall the resolution making an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for the planning, design, acquisition, construction, reconstruction and improvements of various town roadways, town and school parking lots and hardscape recreational surfaces and authorizing \$3,000,000 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation, be approved? YES/NO.”

This multi-faceted project will address \$2,500,000 of road improvements for approximately 17 miles of roads using Full Depth Reclamation, Cold in Place Recycling, Bituminous Overlay and/or Shimming, Chip Sealing. It will include spot drainage, site line improvements and some intersection work. An additional 15 miles of Crack Sealing is planned.

\$500,000 is requested for improvements to parking lots at Coventry High School, Town Hall, CVFA Main Fire Station and a new access road and parking for the preschool conversion of modular classrooms behind the Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School. Additionally funds are requested to add a tennis court at Coventry High School to meet league regulations for tennis meets and improve the basketball court at Patriots Park.

IBIC, the Town’s financial advisor, estimates the fiscal impact for median valued households will be \$39.51 (.27 mils) in FY 16/17 and declines over twenty years.

Question 2: “Shall the resolution making an appropriation of \$900,000 for the purchase of a fire truck and various fire apparatus and authorizing \$900,000 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation, be approved? YES/NO.”

North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department established a Fire Truck Committee to evaluate its fire apparatus in accordance with the replacement schedule contained in the adopted Capital Improvement Budget. They recommended the acquisition of a “Quint” style apparatus to serve the whole community. This recommendation was accepted by the Town’s Local Emergency Coordinating Committee and the Town Council. A “Quint” fire truck provides five features: pump, water tank, fire hose, aerial device and ground ladders. This would add the aerial functions to our Town to allow fire suppression from the air as well as from the ground. Currently, the Town relies on Mutual Aid from other towns for these services. The funds requested include the truck, equipment and tools which are assigned to the vehicle.

IBIC, the Town’s financial advisor, estimates the fiscal impact for median valued households will be \$17.58 (.12 mils) in FY 16/17 and declines over ten years.

The foregoing questions will be submitted to the legal voters of the town for a vote on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, during the hours between 6:00 o’clock (a.m.) and 8:00 o’clock (p.m.) (EST); that the voting take place in the polling places established in voting districts #1 & #2; and that those voters entitled to vote by reason of section 7-6 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, revised to January 1, 2013, as amended, may vote at District #1. Absentee ballots will be available at the office of the Town Clerk, April 27th, 2015 as provided by law. The polling places are as follows:

District 1 - Central Fire Station
1755 Main Street

District 2 - North Coventry Fire Station
3427 Main Street

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

JUNE IS DOG LICENSE RENEWAL MONTH!

YOUR DOG COULD BE #1!!
Anyone who sends in their dog license renewal along with the appropriate fee in the month of May will have their name entered into a drawing for the most desired Tag #1. The Top Dog will also receive their license for free! The drawing will be held on May 29th 2015 and the winner will be notified. All other license entries will be processed accordingly and mailed to you in the first week of June. Along with payment please include current rabies certificate, proof of spaying or neutering and a self-addressed stamped envelope. **GOOD LUCK!!!!**

Fees:

- * \$8.00 for spayed or neutered dogs
- * \$19.00 for unaltered dogs.
- * Any dog license issued after June 30th is subject to a \$1.00 per month late fee.
- * Licenses will be available during business hours beginning June 1st.
- * **Check your dog's rabies expiration date. If that date has expired, NEW WRITTEN proof of a current rabies vaccination is required to renew your dog's license.**

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN LOOK AT COVENTRY'S LAND RECORDS ONLINE?

Go to the Town website www.coventryct.org and visit the Town Clerk's Webpage, click on Land Record Database under the Quick Links. Follow the prompts to the Search page, and enter the property owner's name. Viewing is free. Documents can be printed for a fee with a credit card.

RABIES CLINIC

May 16, 2015 2-4 p.m.

Captain Nathan Hale Middle School

1776 Main St.

Our Low Cost Rabies Clinic for cats and dogs is scheduled for Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 2-4 p.m. The fee is \$20.00 per vaccination. Cash only please. Look for reminders on **Channel 191** and our web page www.coventryct.org. Also, look under the Events and the Town Clerk headings for reminders. Please bring written proof of last rabies vaccination. This clinic is made possible through the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association. **Vaccination of domestic animals is an important component of rabies prevention programs. Connecticut state law requires vaccination of cats and dogs.**

DATES TO REMEMBER:

APRIL 11th - Opening Day of Fishing

APRIL 25th - Annual Town Meeting

MAY 5th - Budget Vote



OPENING DAY OF FISHING SEASON HAS MOVED TO APRIL 11th!

- * Opening day has been moved one week earlier from the third Saturday in April to the second Saturday in April.
- * ALL lifetime licenses issued since October 9, 2009 are now required to renew annually.
- * All adults need to have a license to fish.
- * Children under the age of 16 do not need a license to fish.
- * **Parents, please note:** If you will be handling your child's fishing pole or baiting the line, Connecticut Law requires that you carry a current fishing license.

Consult the 2015 Connecticut Angler's Guides each year for updates on DEEP regulations and other useful information online at www.ct.gov/deep or they should arrive in our office shortly before opening day.

Your 2015 fishing licenses are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at www.ct.gov/deep.

- * Hunting/Fishing-\$38
- * Inland fishing license-\$28
- * All Waters Inland and Marine Fishing-\$32
- * All Waters Hunting & Fishing -\$40
- * Non-Resident licenses are also available at \$22 for a 3-day pass or \$55 for season license.
- * Lifetime licenses are available free of charge to persons over 65.

FEDERAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE TOWN OF COVENTRY

8th District – Tim Ackert 860-240-8700

35th District – Senator Anthony Guglielmo 860-240-8800

2nd Congressional District – Joseph D. Courtney 860-886-0139

Governor – Dannel P. Malloy 860-566-4840

Senate – Senator Richard Blumenthal 860-258-6940

Senate – Senator Christopher Murphy 860-549-8463

**FROM THE TAX OFFICE
(860) 742-4066**

Delinquent notices were mailed within the last few months for overdue taxes, sewer and COVRRRA bills. Intent to lien notices for Sewer and COVRRRA were mailed in March and liens were filed in April against those properties which were not paid current. Sewer assessment bills will be mailed the end of April. Due date for the first installment is May 1st and taxpayers have 30 days to pay before late charges apply. Taxpayers are able to use credit cards to pay their bills online or through a toll free phone number. This service is provided by Official Payments Corporation and they do charge a convenience fee. A link to their website can be found on the Town of Coventry's website, www.coventryct.org. The toll free phone number for Official Payments is: 1-800-2PAYTAX (1-800-272-9829). You will need to know your list number, correct amount due and Coventry's jurisdiction code which is 1721. Please call the Tax Office before contacting Official Payments Corp. and we will be happy to explain the procedure.

An additional on-line payment option is also available to Coventry taxpayers who wish to pay by check. From the home page on the Town website, www.coventryct.org, click on the left blue box titled **Pay your Taxes Online**. You will be offered two options for online payments and the first option is the payment from a bank account. This will connect you to the link to find your bill. You can pay one or more bills. Once you have selected your bills and added them to your cart, you will proceed to checkout. At checkout, you will be at the Webster online bill pay site where you will be directed to set up bank information. A charge of fifty cents per check may apply.

Please keep in mind those online payments by check or credit card can take up to seven (7) days to process due to weekends and holidays. Scheduling online payments during the last few days of any month may cost you in additional late fees due to the delay in moving your funds by your bank or credit card company.

Any individual needing an immediate DMV clearance in order to register any vehicle is reminded to pay by cash or money order at the Tax Collector's office. Check payments (in person or online) and online credit card payments may delay your DMV clearance up to ten (10) business days.

The current fiscal year will end June 30, 2015. In accordance with state statutes, liens will be filed before the end of the current fiscal year against properties with any outstanding balances on real estate taxes. Please contact this office if you have any questions concerning the status of your accounts.

CALENDAR OF PAYMENTS:

MAY – Sewer Assessment fee 1st installment.

JULY – Real Estate 1st installment; Motor Vehicle, COVRRRA and Personal Property **single** payment.

SEPTEMBER- Sewer Use Fee **single** payment.

NOVEMBER – Sewer Assessment fee 2nd installment.

JANUARY – Real Estate 2nd installment and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax only if applicable.

**FROM THE
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

Public records for the Assessor's Office can be viewed using the following links:

- ◆ <http://www.mapgeo.com/crcogct/> - CROG website
- ◆ or <http://data.visionappraisal.com/CoventryCT/> - Vision Appraisal
- ◆ or http://coventry.mapxpress.net/ags_map/ - Coventry Map Xpress

Property field cards, sketches, pictures, exemption applications and general information can be found on the Town's website. Remember, that the October 1, 2014 revaluation assessments will be effective for the July 2015 tax bills.

The Elderly and Disabled homeowner program began February 1, 2015, and applications are being processed until May 15, 2015. Our office sent reminder letters to those people who have to re-file. Remember, this program is income driven from the State and income guidelines are set by the State for both single and married individuals. Please contact our office if your income is less than \$42,200 if married, or less than \$34,600 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from your SSA-1099 and your adjusted gross income from your 2014 Federal Income tax return.

Veterans must file their DD-214 with the Town Clerk prior to **October 1st** to be eligible for exemption. If you have already filed, you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically. If veterans meet income guidelines, you may be eligible for Additional exemption. The program began February 1st, and applications are processed until October 1, 2015. Please call if your income is less than \$42,200 if married, or less than \$34,600 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from you SSA-1099 form and your adjusted gross income from your 2014 Federal Income tax return. You will be asked to provide proof of all the income documentation regarding both of the above mentioned applications

The Income and Expense forms will be mailed out by April 15th. The forms are to be filled out and returned to our office **no later than June 1, 2015.**

**WANT TO CHANGE YOUR
TIPPER BARREL SIZE?**

In response to citizen requests, we are offering another opportunity to exchange your tipper barrels for a different size at the reduced fee of \$25. If you would like to swap, contact the Tax Office at (860) 742-4066 for various options and rates. They will help you with the next step. **The swap order must be requested and paid for by May 20, 2015 in order to receive this price.** The swap will occur the last two weeks of June in conjunction with the new fiscal year. Consider upsizing your recycling. There is no increase in your annual bill for a larger recycling barrel.

Citizens are reminded that the tipper barrels are owned by All American Waste, the Town's contracted hauler, and must stay with the property to which it has been assigned. Each barrel is identified with a serial number for a specific property address. If you sell your house and/or move, **please do not take the barrels with you.** Your annual payment (\$170-\$250) pays for the disposal/recycle service only.

FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL

Noel Waite, 860-742-4064

Spring is here and you may be starting to clean up brush piles and garden clearings. If you are looking to dispose of any brush a burn permit must be obtained by the property owner. The permit allows for burning of brush only, it is free and is good for 2 weeks. The current permit application can be found at the Town Hall in the Land Use and Permitting Office during regular Town Hall hours. Home owners are responsible to go online to 2 specific sites required by DEEP to see if they are able to burn before they light their brush pile. They are now responsible for knowing that the fire danger level is at least low to moderate to burn as well as an Air Quality Index being no greater than 74 anywhere in the state of CT. Burn permits may be granted from any of the three Burn Officials on premise: Noel Waite, Heidi Leech or Brigit Tanganelli. Please note that burning without a permit is not allowed and violators will be fined. While sprucing up your surroundings, please reference the following fire prevention check list:

- ◆ Clean and check all smoke detectors and change out their batteries.
- ◆ Clean and inspect all wood burning appliances, chimneys and smoke pipes.
- ◆ Clean and inspect dryer vent pipes and lint screens. Chemicals from some scented dryer sheets will clog the screens. Wash them with soap and warm water.
- ◆ Clear the area around outdoor fire pits prior to burning.
- ◆ Hot ashes should never be placed in tipper barrels! Dispose of them in a covered metal ash container away from combustible materials.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

860-742-4064 (Joe or Brigit)

With excessive snow hitting us every few days from the end of January through most of February, many of us experienced ice dams throughout this time. If you were able to stay on top of roof raking the snow and closely monitoring the damming, you may have been fortunate to avoid any full blown issues. However, depending on what you may have experienced from these episodes, you may want to get the advice of your roofer and/or an insulation installer. Areas on your home to pay close attention to are as follows:

- ◆ Gutters: clean clogged gutters of debris and check them for corrosion, joint separation, and loose fasteners. Flush out downspouts and unclog leader pipes. Leader pipes should extend at least 5 feet to direct water away from the foundation. You may want to look into the pros and cons of running an ice melt heating system to your gutters and roof lines and determine whether this is a good solution for your situation.
- ◆ Roofs and Attics: inspect your roof from any storm or winter damage. Pay close attention to loosened shingles, sags and dips in the roof line, and mold or mildew scale which can be removed using a pressure washer. The attic is a good place to double check for roof damage. Inspect this area for any musty water smells that are coming in from a leaking roof or for any black mold or algae. Evaluate whether or not you have proper insulation in your attic space, which can help keep the heat in your house instead of escaping through your roof and assisting with melting and freezing cycles which exacerbate ice damming.

Taking the time to look for and correct these issues early on can combat costly repairs in the future.

Permitting: We have seen a surge of building and projects in town this past fall and expect it to continue into the spring and summer months. If you are considering a building project this year, be sure to submit your application 2-3 weeks in advance. The review process for applications can take longer during the busy construction season and is based on a first-come, first-served basis. Permits are required *before any* structure is built, enlarged, altered or changed in its use and also for new installation, increase or relocation of any part of the plumbing, heating or electrical system of a structure. Please stop in to the Building Department to pick-up your permit packet and a copy of your plot plan. We would be happy to take a few minutes to discuss your project and get you started.

C of C/ C of O: Has your project from prior years been given a final inspection? If you don't have a Certificate of Completion or Certificate of Use and Occupancy call to schedule a final inspection.

Want your Building Plans? Beginning June 1st and ending August 31st, the Building Department is allowing property owners to obtain the building plans for residential construction only. A Certificate of Use and Occupancy must have been issued for the structure prior to March 31, 2013. Under state statute, the Town is only obligated to hold residential plans for no more than 2 years once the project is issued a Certificate of Occupancy. If you feel that your project falls under this time frame and you would like to get your plans before they are disposed of, please call Brigit at 860-742-4064 with your name, address & daytime phone number and we will contact you within few days to let you know if there are building plans available. At that time, you will be given 2 weeks to pick up the plans. Plans that are not picked-up will be discarded.

**everbridge** TOWN OF COVENTRY MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

This is an important message to inform you that The TOWN OF COVENTRY uses the Everbridge communication suite to communicate information to its citizens. These notifications can be things like emergency closings, trash pick-up delays and voting reminders. You can choose which notifications you receive.

In order to notify you, we need to be able to reach you.

To Receive Important Notifications Register with the Everbridge Portal

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085611509>

You will be able to create a secure account in the Everbridge system and update your contacts, the types of notifications you receive and how you want to receive them.

	Receive Messages By
	Phone
	Email
	Text



AWARENESS

Please contact Dispatcher Mike Cole via telephone at 860-742-3502 Ext 153 or via email at MCOTE@coventryvt.org with any questions.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Address: 100 Olsen Farm Road Phone: (860) 742-6588

Director/Tree Warden:	Mark Kiefer	mkiefer@coventryct.org
Supt. of Operations:	Doug Reese	dreese@coventryct.org
Administrative Secretary/COVRRRA:	Donna Wrubel	dwrubel@coventryct.org
Subdivisions & Projects Engineer:	Todd Penney*	tpenney@coventryct.org
WPCA Technician:	Mike Ruef	mruef@coventryct.org

*Office located at Town Hall

Roadside Mowing: Residents may call and request that the Department not mow in front of their home. If you do request this you will be responsible to ensure safe travel of motor vehicles and pedestrian traffic. If residents have concerns please contact Doug Reese, Superintendent of Operations, at the Public Works Department (860) 742-6588 or email at dreese@coventryct.org.

Road Sweeping Schedule for the Spring of 2015 is available on the town's website, www.coventryct.org > Your Government > Departments > Public Works > Roads, or information is available by calling the Public Works Department at (860) 742-6588. Rake the sand and salt residue from your property edge to the roadside for cleanup.

Lake Wangumbaug: the lake level elevation is measured and adjusted at the lake street gate house. The gate will be lowered to allow for the level of the lake to rise naturally in preparation for spring and summer recreational activities. We will monitor the lake level and adjust the gate accordingly to prevent any property damage from the ice, which can occur if the level is raised too soon. We will be bringing the lake level up to summer level (93.0 feet) as Spring rain / snow melt allows. Call Doug Reese at Public Works (860) 742-6588 or dreese@coventryct.org.

Tree Warden: Connecticut laws protect trees in Town Right of Ways and properties. Planting, pruning or removal of trees within the Town Right of Ways (ROW) at roadside requires approval of the Tree Warden. State Statute requires a written request for permission to remove or plant trees in the ROW area. Unapproved work in the ROW is subject to fines and damages. Call before you cut. Rights of Way vary from Road to Road. Trees removed unlawfully are subject to a fine equal to the appraised value of the tree. The Tree Warden's email address is mkiefer@coventryct.org. Do not use email to contact the Tree Warden for **emergencies** – call Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or the Police Department at (860) 742-7331.

Coventry's Best Kept Secret -- "In yard" trash/recycling service available: Do you know someone who might benefit from having their trash or recycle cart picked up right at their back door? (A mutually agreed upon location somewhere along the driveway may be necessary for those extra long driveways.) No more struggling to wheel their carts to the curb!! The town has a few slots for those special needs people (no additional fees involved) who are elderly or handicapped and have no one living with them or visiting regularly who can assist them with this task. Call Human Services (860) 742-5324 to apply for this service.



If you like outdoor physical work, have a valid driver's license and are 18 or older, we are looking for you. The Public Works Department has an opening (pending budget approval) for a summer laborer paying \$10.00/hr. for 40 hour week. Accepting applications immediately. For more info call (860) 742-6588.

PROJECTS

Safe Routes to School – Main Street Sidewalk Project (CDOT #32-146): The sidewalk project was halted prior to completion due to the onset of winter 2014. Project will restart in sync with the Coventry Schools' April 2015 vacation schedule to minimize disruption between the school operations and the Contractor. The project will take two or three weeks to complete. The Contractor, Earth Dynamics, LLC, of Coventry has been responsible contractor to date.

Pucker Street Bridge Project (CDOT #32-139): Project successfully bid by New England Infrastructure of Hudson, MA for \$1,978,236.00. Anticipated start date is April 10th. A detour will be in place shortly after commencement as the old structure will be removed completely. Detour signage will be in place. Construction is expected to be complete by December.

Main Street Reconstruction (CDOT #32-130): Connecticut Department of Transportation anticipates bidding the Project in summer of 2015 with a construction start date of Spring 2016. The corridor will remain open to traffic with minor delays due to alternating one-way traffic by Traffic control personnel.

Lake Street and Cross Street Improvement (LOTCHIP): The Project includes sidewalk, intersection realignments, stormwater quality infrastructure, and traffic calming/pedestrian crossing improvements. Preliminary design was submitted for review. A Public Involvement Meeting will be held in mid-April to obtain public comment.

Main Street Streetscape/Sidewalk Project (CDOT #32-145): The Project extends the Streetscape components of CDOT #32-130 down to Booth-Dimock Library and sidewalk extension to at least School Street. Project improvements will be bid at the same time as the CDOT #32-130 project.

South Coventry Village Roads Project: Stormwater infrastructure improvements and repaving of the roads will commence this year. These improvements follow the recent upgrade by the Connecticut Water Company's water main in this area. The project is anticipated to be completed in two construction seasons.

Nathan Hale Cemetery Wall Repair Project: The front southerly granite block wall at the entrance to the Cemetery is failing. The project will be bid this spring and repairs anticipated summer of 2015.

Coventry Lake Gate Improvements Project: The preliminary/concept plan for Lake Gate improvements completed early 2015. The Town will be moving forward with the CT DEEP Permitting and Construction Documents for the project next.

TRANSFER STATION: 325 Main Street

Spring Ahead! Transfer Station hours of operation from April through November will be every Thursday from noon until 6 PM and every Saturday from 9 AM until 3 PM (excluding holidays). Proof of residency required.

Commercial Users Must Remember...The Town of Coventry Transfer Station is not intended for commercial use although small repair/remodeling contractors doing work for Coventry residents may be allowed limited use to dispose of materials incidental to their work within the limits of the Town of Coventry. Proof of residency and **building permits, as applicable**, will be checked as part of normal facility operations to insure the facility waste stream remains residential in nature.

Materials acceptable with cost:

- ◆ Construction and demolition debris. Free of cardboard, metal and garbage.
- ◆ Land clearing debris; stumps & brush.
- ◆ Appliances with CFC's (Freon) \$10 each, no weigh-in necessary.
- ◆ Tires – automobile size – on or off rim \$5 each.

Materials acceptable no cost:



- ◆ Textiles – clean, dry, contained in a bag, throw rugs
- ◆ Gas grill propane tanks for recycling
- ◆ Leaves for composting
- ◆ Electronics, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries
- ◆ Metal materials (**metal tanks must be cut open and crushed**)
- ◆ Corrugated cardboard in the specially marked cardboard dumpster

Materials NOT acceptable:

- ◆ Garbage or recyclable items picked up curbside
- ◆ Grass clippings
- ◆ Furniture (free monthly pickup)
- ◆ Hazardous waste

Come to the Transfer Station for some free compost. Bring your own shovel/bucket.

Additional Waste Services available from All American Waste (rates apply 8/1/11 – 7/31/17): If residents need to dispose of nonmetal oversized items and cannot wait until the next monthly pickup they now have the option of scheduling a single residence bulky pickup of these items at any time for an additional fee of \$175.00 for three items, \$225 for six items and \$350 for up to ten items. Residents will need to pay for this special pickup at the Public Works Garage, 100 Olsen Farm Road, before it is scheduled. Call (860) 742-6588 for additional information.

For major cleanup projects, the current COVRRRA contract for curbside pickup with All American Waste also includes pricing for 6 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$150 haul/\$80 ton, 15 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$175 haul/\$80 ton, and 30 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$175 haul/\$80 ton. Additional rental after 30 days will be billed at \$5 per day. Residents contract directly with All American Waste at (860) 289-7850. Be sure you specify you are a Coventry resident to get this contract rate.

COVRRRA questions can be answered by calling Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or e-mail dwrubel@coventryct.org.

Dumpsters available at The Public Works Department for residents who occasionally have trash or recycling in excess of their carts or are going on vacation. To use the trash dumpster you must pay \$1 for each bag that you toss in. Bring your trash and recycling to Public Works during work hours for disposal. Residents must stop in the office (7 AM – 3 PM) for the dumpster key.

Trash Holiday Schedule: All American Waste will observe the following legal holidays thereby altering the pickup days during that week:

May 25th – Memorial Day AND
September 7th – Labor Day

Pickup missed? Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 if your curbside trash or recycling is not picked up.



This direct communication allows for pickup arrangements to be made. This same number should be called if you have monthly items out that don't get picked up or if your cart is broken. **PLEASE CALL DURING THE WEEK OF PICKUP TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION.**

Curbside Monthly Oversized Items Pickup: On the 2nd Monday of every month residents may place at curbside by 6:30 am up to three oversized items to be picked up for free. These large nonmetal items must be out on Monday regardless of your regular trash day. Examples are dresser, mattress or recliner chair w/metal removed.

No Electronics Curbside: Electronics will not be picked up at curbside. Coventry residents must bring their electronics to the town's transfer station for recycling.



RECYCLED THROUGH YOUR TOWN

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Car batteries | Motor oil |
| Transmission oil | #2 fuel oil |
| Brake fluid | Kerosene |
| Gas cylinders | Diesel fuel |
| Antifreeze | |

For details on proper disposal of these items, Call Public Works at 860-742-6588.

Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility

57 Hancock Road - Willington, CT 06279

Phone: (860) 684-3163

Open from 9 AM to 2 PM on the first and third Saturday of the month from **April 18, 2015 through November 7, 2015. Closed 7/4/15 and 9/5/15.**

Prepare the materials by:

- ◆ Packing carefully in original containers only, seal and label
- ◆ Do not mix materials
- ◆ Drive carefully to prevent tipping
- ◆ No smoking while handling and transporting materials
- ◆ Residential limits of 10 gallons liquid and 100 pounds dry materials

As a Coventry resident you may bring residential quantities of hazardous waste to the facility at no cost but bring proof of residency. If you operate a small business in a MidNEROC town, then contact the MidNEROC Administrator at (860) 289-2296 to find out if you qualify as a "conditionally exempt small quantity generator" and to make an appointment. There is a fee for this service.

Chemical Waste is a problem! When hazardous wastes are poured down the sink or toilet, dumped "out back", poured into a street drain or put out into the trash, they eventually make their way into our water supply.

Acceptable Materials

- Bug spray
- Mercury thermometers
- Dry cleaning fluid
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Arts & crafts supplies
- Rechargeable batteries
- General purpose cleaners
- Aerosol cans with hazardous contents
- Drain cleaners
- Metal polishes
- Floor cleaners
- Oven cleaners
- Wax & polishes
- Tile cleaners
- Toilet cleaners
- Gasoline
- Engine/radiator flushes
- Fire starters
- Chemistry kits
- Paint (latex, oil or lead based)
- Rust preventative
- Wood preservative
- Solvents
- Degreasers
- Wood strippers
- Paint thinner
- Fertilizers with pesticides & herbicides
- Herbicides
- Muriatic acid
- Pesticides
- Insect spray
- Pool chemicals

Non-acceptable Materials

- Medication. Do not flush down the toilet or drain. Many prescriptions may be disposed of at the Coventry Police Department (860) 742-7331 or for further information
- Asbestos
- Double bag and seal this material. One cubic foot can be disposed with trash. For large quantities, contact an asbestos removal company.
- Explosives, fireworks, ammunition: Contact your state police barracks.
- Water reactive materials
- For peroxides and metallic sodium, contact a licensed environmental contractor.
- Biologically active materials. Contact a licensed medical & infectious waste contractor.

WPCA PROJECTS UPDATE

- No major projects were scheduled over the winter but we ordered 3 replacement valves and 1 new pump for the Plant.
- The Town received a grant for improvements and reconstruction of Lake St. and Cross St. This provide us with an opportunity to provide new sewer service to 2 properties without the expense of full roadway restoration.
- The WPCA approved a short sewer extension on Laurel Trail to provide sewer service to a home with a marginal septic system. The extension will be paid for by the property owners. Construction will begin once the ground thaws.
- WPCA staff have responded to several issues caused by grease buildup in sewer lines. Residents are reminded that all cooking fats/oils/grease should be disposed of in the trash.

Sewer Blockages/Ownership/CBYD:

If your sewer line is draining slowly and/or backing up and you believe the problem is in the sewer main please call Public Works at 860-742-6588 (M-F 7-3) or Coventry Police at 860-742-7331 outside of normal work hours. They will dispatch someone from the sewer department to investigate. The Town owns and is responsible for the sewer mains under the road and you are responsible for sewer lines on your property. For this reason we mark the location of Town owned sewers with green paint/flags when a CBYD request is submitted but **do not** mark sewers on private property. If you (or your contractor) plan on doing any digging please contact us and we'll provide a copy of your sewer 'as-built' plan.

Sewer Easements:

The Town has permanent easements where sewer mains need to cross private property. In these cases the Town owns the sewer main and we need access to the easements for routine and emergency sewer work. If the Town has an easement through your property please be reminded not to park vehicles or pile brush in the easement; anything preventing our trucks from accessing the easement will be removed with a backhoe and you will be charged for this expense, as well as being liable for any damage sustained to your property while it is removed. Thank you for your understanding as we work to continually improve our emergency response procedures and the reliability of the Town's sewer system.

Treating "Clean" Water:

Sewer users are reminded that sump pumps, roof leaders, yard drains, etc. should not be connected to the sewer system. These sources of clean water add up, especially during rainstorms, and push our system past its design capacity. The simplest way to get rid of clean water is to pipe/pump it onto the ground away from the road. If this is not an option you may obtain a no fee road cut permit from the Town Engineer's office (860-742-4078) and tie into the Town's storm drain system if available.

Sewer Connections:

If you have not yet connected to sewers please contact Mike Ruef at 860-742-4064 or mruef@coventryct.org for more info. Low interest/deferred loans for sewer connections may be available for homes that meet federal income guidelines.

General information related to the WPCA can be found on the Water Pollution Control Authority page on the Town website (www.coventryct.org). The link to our page can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority. You may now subscribe to WPCA Agendas by clicking on 'Notify Me' and entering your email or mobile phone number.

LAND USE

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

The Town has been awarded a \$6,000.00 Arts Catalyze Placemaking – Arts Leadership Grant from the Office of the Arts – Department of Economic and Community Development. The purpose of the grant is to prepare a strategic arts plan for the town by working with the artists in the community to create a cohesive strategy of visions, goals and recommendations to advance the arts. The Town Staff secured the consultant who will assist with the project and had an internal kick-off meeting in January. Professionally facilitated meetings and brainstorming sessions will begin in **April 2015**. Any artist wishing to be involved with the effort can contact Eric M. Trott, Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org or Wendy Rubin, Director of Parks and Recreation, at 860-742-4068 or wrubin@coventryct.org.

EAGLEVILLE LAKE AQUATIC INVASIVES

The Towns of Coventry and Mansfield have been awarded \$14,000.00 from the State of CT DEEP to address an aquatic invasive species infestation in Eagleville Lake. In the fall of 2012, the CT Agricultural Experimental Station performed an inspection and identified very high levels of Fanwort, an aquatic invasive. If the Fanwort is left untreated, the quality and allowance for recreational use of the Lake will continue to decline. The Towns have partnered to share in the required match for the grant and will work together to educate the public on the problem and create a plan to address it. Public outreach and communications will begin during the spring. The consultant, who will be hired to professionally apply an herbicide treatment, which must be authorized by the State of CT DEEP. The work will occur during the summer with two separate treatments likely being required. Questions regarding this project can be directed to Eric M. Trott, Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

ADOPT A ROAD PROGRAM

The Coventry Conservation Commission and Land Use Office continue to sponsor the Adopt a Road program for the community. The program entails ‘adopting’ a portion or all of a Town road and pick up the roadside trash that accumulates. Residents can do as much as they like and at their own pace. Free work gloves and standard garbage bags are available in the Land Use Office and can be disposed of at the Public Works Garage at no charge. The Town also has a lending program for trash grabbers to assist with picking up materials. Please contact Eric M. Trott at 742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org for further details and application forms.

PROTECTED SPACES STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

The Town Council is considering a resolution to create an Ad-Hoc Town Protected Spaces Stewardship Subcommittee, which will serve as an extension of the Conservation Commission. This new subcommittee will be tasked with a number of important duties, including: implement programs to coordinate volunteers in providing stewardship and minor maintenance to Town open space properties consistent with established management plans adopted by the Commission, conduct educational and training sessions to enable volunteers to perform appropriate stewardship activities, work with other established community groups (Girl/Boy Scouts, 4H). The subcommittee is geared for folks who like to be outdoors and perform various tasks to support passive recreation – think of a local version of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Questions regarding the subcommittee can be directed to Eric M. Trott, Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.



GET OUTSIDE! WALK, HIKE, PADDLE IN COVENTRY!

The Town of Coventry, with the support of other community groups and organizations, is sponsoring a series of walk, bike, paddle and other activities that showcase a number of significant town owned open space properties, natural resource rich assets and other noteworthy occasions. These center on nationally or locally designated ‘themes’ that celebrate a certain event or recognize a particular activity. The confirmed dates and times are still in the process of being finalized. Please visit the Town’s website for further detail as we approach the events. A formal program flyer is being developed.

APRIL 19-26 – Earth Day Celebration – The Coventry Land Use Office and Conservation Commission are sponsoring a roadside cleanup event. Other sponsors will likely join us as other groups firm up plans to perform a variety of clean-up efforts in Coventry.

MAY 8 - afternoon – National Screen Free Week – Coventry STEPS are sponsoring a pre-school age appropriate walk at Patriots Park.

JUNE 4 - 5:30pm – Connecticut Trails Weekend – The Coventry Land Use Office and Parks and Recreation Office are sponsoring a guided walk on the Mill Brook Greenway – from Patriots Park to Mill Brook.

In further celebration of CT Trails Weekend, which is June 6 and 7, other special activities have been planned, including: the official kickoff of the Town’s **new trail guide app** from ‘My Town Trails’; release of the newest Town **open space map guides** for Thornton Brook Preserve and Laidlaw Park; Coventry STEPS Hike Contest – a friendly competition to see who can accumulate the most ‘steps’ and win a **raffle** featuring outdoor related prizes.

JULY – Coventry Lake Awareness Month – The Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee is sponsoring a guided paddle on Coventry Lake.

OCTOBER – Walktoberfest - The Coventry Land Use Office is sponsoring a guided walk at Riverview Trail Park. Other sponsors will likely join us for other Walktober events as other groups firm up plans for other walking events.

Other potential activities being considered and planned:

- ◆ Recognition of Joshua’s Trust for donation of funds for the Williams Property open space purchase on-site at Cooper Lane.
- ◆ Bike related event using the bike route mapping created by the Conservation Commission.
- ◆ Hike at recently improved Coventry Grammar School Trail.
- ◆ Photo contest or photo identification contest.

Questions regarding this program can be directed to Eric M. Trott, Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

COMING EVENTS AND NOTABLE ITEMS

April 25 & 26 - Rid Litter Weekend: The Conservation Commission encourages residents to do roadside cleanups along their property and neighborhood. Great opportunity for civic groups to organize cleanup crews. Spring is a perfect time to remove some of the trash and litter that has accumulated on our streets and properties over the long winter season. Free garbage bags can be picked up at the Land Use Office at Town Hall.

May 2 - Town-Wide Tag Sale: Clear out the clutter and let us do the advertising. Register your tag sale with the Parks & Recreation Department by April 22nd. See their website at www.coventryrec.com or call (860) 742-4068 for information and registration forms. A complete list of participating tag sales will be available after 4/30.

May 8 - CECC Annual Golf Tournament, "Scramble for our School": 9AM, Skungmaug Golf Club. Includes golf, cart, lunch & prizes. To sign up, visit www.scrambleforourschool.com.

Mothers' Day Roses Sale: Bouquets of one dozen long-stem roses for \$15. Order by calling Cindy at 840-742-8709 or Gary at 860-742-6128. Pick up on Saturday May 9th, 9 AM - noon at high school parking lot. Supports Coventry Lions' community service projects.

May 17 - Brick Schoolhouse Reopens: Merrow Road at Goose Lane. 1-4 PM on the first and third Sundays of the month mid-May through early October. Free admission. Donations welcome. Info: Ginney Dilk, 860-742-9656 or email gdilk@aol.com. More events at Coventry Historical Society website at www.ctcoventryhistoricalsociety.org.

May 25 - Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast: 7-10 AM, First Congregational Church, 1172 Main Street. Sausage, pancakes and eggs. \$5 per person or \$12 per family. Children under 5 are free. Come enjoy breakfast while waiting for the parade. All proceeds benefit the Lions Club Coventry Scholarship Program.

May 25 - Memorial Day Parade: 10 AM. Kicks off at G.H. Robertson School on Cross Street, stopping at Veteran's Memorial Green for services, and continuing down Lake Street to Main Street and up to Bradbury Road. Sponsored by American Legion Post 52. On Sunday, May 24, wreath-laying services will be held at 2 PM at St Mary's Cemetery, Main St., proceeding to the New Cemetery, Center Cemetery-Rt.#44, Grant Hill Road, Silver St. and Wrights Mill Road Cemeteries, and Nathan Hale Cemetery on Lake Street.

May 31 - Opening Day, Coventry Regional Farmers' Market: Every Sunday from June - October on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Info at www.coventryfarmersmarket.com.

June 6 - "Fairies Near Laidlaw Park": 1-3 PM, Brick Schoolhouse, Merrow Road. Costumes provided for "fairies in training" and food, games and crafts (we will be building fairy houses). Reservations limited. Call Ginney Dilk, 860-742-9656.

June 6 - Strong Porter Museum Reopens: 2382 South Street. Every Sunday from 12-3 PM through October 5th. Free admission.

June 21 - Sundae on a Sunday at the Brick Schoolhouse. 1-4 PM. Merrow Road at Goose Lane. Toppings include fresh strawberries and homemade hot fudge sauce. Sundaes are \$1.50 each; Dad's sundaes are free.

June 27 - CoventryFest: 3-10 PM, Patriots Park. Music, games, vendors, food, fun and fireworks. Coordinated by Coventry Knights of Columbus. Rain date June 28. Info at www.coventryfest.org.

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE: A big thank you to all in the community who came, enjoyed, helped and supported the annual Christmas in Coventry Village held December 7 2014! We have heard many positive comments and reports on not only how it was well attended, but also, the just plain holiday fun that people had! Many thanks to those businesses and individuals who made monetary contributions, and those who donated trees for the Lions Club Tree Auction. What an honor it was to dedicate the day in memory of Rose Fowler, one of the founding organizers of the event!

We welcome your comments, suggestions and ideas and invite you to be part of the Christmas in the Village organizing group. Although a Lions Club sponsored event, involvement from the community is eagerly sought. Organizational meetings will be starting up soon. If you are interested, please contact any one of us for more information. Barbara Barry (860-803-7163) Cindy Houser (860-617-3588). Ruth O'Neil (860-918-5957).

HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM

The Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program is designed for low to moderate-income homeowners, as well as landlords with low to moderate-income tenants. Funds are used for safety and public health code violations first, but may also be used by homeowners for common repair projects, including, but not limited to: septic system repairs; roofing & siding; structural deficiencies; replacement windows; plumbing; electrical; and heating systems. Residents must be income eligible (see below), be up to date on Town taxes, have enough equity in the home to cover the lien & have current homeowner's insurance to apply. The housing rehabilitation funds are a loan to homeowners that must be eventually paid back. Loan repayments are used to continue the Program. Low-income eligible applicants will receive a loan that is 100% deferred until the property changes ownership. Moderate-income eligible applicants will receive a loan that is 2/3 deferred and 1/3 zero percent interest paid over ten years in monthly installments. For more information or applications, contact Peter at Community Consulting at 860-456-0782.

INCOME GUIDELINES (gross income, at or below)

Number in Family	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Income	30650	35000	39400	43750	47250	50750	54250	57750
Moderate Income	46100	52650	59250	65800	71100	76350	81600	86900



Coventry Energy Fair

10 am to 2 pm May 9, 2015 at Coventry High School
78 Ripley Hill Road, Coventry

We're Free & Fun!! Come Learn How You Can Save Energy (and Money!!)

- Low/No Cost Ways To Improve Your Home's Energy Efficiency
- Displays of Electric & Hybrid Cars
- Learn How to Purchase Clean Power For Your Home
- Solar Electric and Solar Thermal (With Live Demonstration!)
- Ribbon-cutting and Energizing of the New Solar on Coventry Schools!
- New Lighting Technology For Homes & Business
- Latest Technology High Efficiency Heating & Air Conditioning Equipment
- Geo-Thermal Heating & Cooling Systems

Attendees will be eligible for awesome free prize drawings!

Presented By:





HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

FOOD BANK

For those of you that do not know about our food bank, it is available to those who are going through difficult times and may need help with food. We have a variety of foods in stock like cereals, pastas, soups, canned vegetables, peanut butter and jelly and different school snacks. Everything that comes to our food bank is donated by local residents, churches, schools, scouts and other groups. If you are in need of the food bank please call our office at 860-742-5324 so we can set up an appointment for you.

FOODSHARE

Mobile Foodshare is an outdoor food distribution for persons in need and is available every other Wednesdays from 10-10:30 at the 1st Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street, Coventry. Food choices vary from week to week but usually include bread and several types of fresh produce. Other items may also be offered depending on availability. Please remember to bring a bag or box with you to carry your food. If you have any questions please call Foodshare at 860-286-9999 or www.foodshare.org

RENTER'S REBATE PROGRAM IS OPEN FROM APRIL-OCTOBER, 2014 OFFERED FOR ELDERLY & DISABLED RENTERS

Connecticut's Elderly Renters' Rebate Program provides direct, partial reimbursement to lower income elderly or disabled renters to help offset a portion of their rent and utility expenses. The program, administered by Office of Policy and Management, provides for payments ranging from \$50-\$900 to qualified married persons and \$50-\$700 to qualifying single persons. The rebate amount is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments (excluding telephone) made in the calendar year prior to the year in which the renter applies. In order to qualify, married persons must have an annual income not greater than \$41,600 and single persons must have an annual income not greater than \$34,000. Eligible person may apply between April 1

Look what's new in the Coventry Human Services Office. Like us on Facebook!



and October 1 each year and should contact the Coventry Human Services Office for any questions regarding the program and to schedule an appointment.

OPERATION FUEL ~ SUMMER UTILITIES

Human Services will also be taking applications for Operation Fuel, an emergency energy assistance program for households that are in financial crisis. This will be for summer electric utilities, only. Financial crisis is defined as "the inability of a family to pay for an outstanding gas or electric bill, a household faced with the decision to choose between paying for their energy needs, buying food, paying rent or mortgage, paying medical bills as a result of unemployment, limited or fixed income, illness, death, or other emergencies. Please call the office for more details and for income guidelines.

THE COVENTRY POLICE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES PROJECT SAFE RETURN

CPD is working in partnership with the Coventry School District to implement a program that will aide in the quick and safe return of children or adults who have wandered from their caregivers and are potentially at risk of harm. Project Safe Return specifically benefits persons who are challenged because of autism, dementia, or other conditions.

This program consists of a form that is to be filled out by the caregiver about the person with autism and then is submitted to CPD along with a recent picture. At Coventry Police HQ the information will be put into our computer data system under the person's name and address. If we have an incident at that address or with that name, the information will come up under our FLAG system. We then will have access to the relevant information that was given us in the completed form.

If you feel you could benefit from the Safe Return Program, please stop by Coventry Police Department to pick up the informational packet.

YOUTH SERVICES

Counseling Services – Free counseling services are available to Coventry youth and their families at Youth Services. A licensed clinical social worker provides brief, solution-focused therapy and can address numerous struggles (depression, stress, self-esteem, divorce, etc.) that youth may be having. To set up an appointment, contact Crystal Morawitz, Youth Services Coordinator.

Youth Job Bank – For Adults: Could you use some help with spring clean up, inside or outside? Need a babysitter, lawn mower, or other odd-jobs around the house done? Hire a student from the Youth Job Bank! Youth Job Bank students range in age from 12-18 years old and can assist with yard work services, clean homes, provide animal care, babysit and more! **For Youth:** Any student in grades 7-12 interested in becoming part of the job bank should contact Youth Services to schedule an appointment. We will go over program policies and procedures, in addition to learning basic job skills, safety measures and other key components to landing a job. Once students have completed this step, they can become part of the youth job bank pool.

Babysitters Training – This annual training will be held in June. Please contact Youth Services if you are between the ages of 12 and 18 and interested in taking this training. Registration information will be available in May.

Campership Donations – We are collecting donations for the 2015 summer campership fund. All donations go to help families in need pay for the Parks and Recreation Summer Adventure Camp. Checks can be made payable to The Town of Coventry. The number of camperships available is based on donations received.

Camp Connri – The Salvation Army's Camp Connri, located in Ashford, is accepting applications for youth ages 7-11 to attend the 2015 overnight summer camp. Due to the community's generous donations to the Bell Ringing Fund in December, Coventry Youth Services is able to send children to this camp at no cost or low cost based on financial eligibility. Applications are available in the Human Services office.

"Gearing up to Learn" Back to School Program – provides new backpacks and school supplies to Coventry families with school aged children, who meet the income guidelines. Please watch Coventry cable channel 191 and the local newspapers after July 18th for more information.

For more information on the programs listed above, or any issues or questions concerning youth in Coventry please contact Youth Services Coordinator, Crystal Morawitz at 860-742-5324.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

172 Lake Street, Coventry, CT • (860) 742-3525

COME JOIN THE FUN!

The Coventry Senior Center welcomes Seniors 60 years and older to enjoy a variety of social, educational and wellness programs. Join us for recreational activities and instructional classes, luncheons and health services. There are no membership or entry fees required to participate. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop in to see us at our beautiful location in Patriots Park, or for more information give us a call at 860-742-3525. To see our monthly calendar and special events, visit our page on the Town website.

SENIOR COMMUNITY LUNCHESES THROUGH TVCCA!

The Senior Center offers Community Luncheons twice per month for seniors. The lunches are prepared by Thames Valley Council for Community Action. The lunches cost \$5 or \$7 depending on the menu. Tickets for the lunch must be purchased in advance and are available at the Senior Center. **Upcoming Luncheons: April 22, May 13, May 27, June 10, June 24. Lunches are from 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m.**

EXERCISE AT THE CENTER!

Are you committed to increasing your health and fitness? Our exercise class is offered Tuesdays and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Certified Instructor Mary Hurley guides participants through various exercises that also include music and jokes. Exercises can be modified to accommodate beginners or advanced participants. Please wear comfortable clothing and athletic shoes.

Silver Sneakers is a new class offered weekly! Starting Monday, May 4, the class will meet every Monday at 9:30 a.m. to help you start the week off right! Certified Instructor Patty Flubacher guides participants through a series of exercises to increase strength and improve balance and flexibility. Exercises can be modified for all levels. Please wear comfortable clothing and athletic shoes. Silver Sneakers is covered through several health insurance companies. For those without qualifying insurance, the class is \$2 per week when paying in advance for the month, or \$3 per class for drop-in participants. The advance price for May is \$6 (three classes) and \$8 for June (four classes). **Upcoming classes: May 4, May 11, May 18, June 1, June 15, June 22, June 29. No class held on May 25 or June 8.**

Zumba Gold is a new class offered weekly! Starting Tuesday, May 5 the

class will meet every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. Wear comfortable clothes and appropriate shoes and be ready to move! This class is covered under Silver Sneakers for those with qualifying health insurance. Other participants are welcome: classes are \$2 per class when paid in advance for the month and \$3 per class for drop-in participants. The advance price for May is \$8 (four classes) and \$10 for June (five classes). **Upcoming Zumba Gold classes: May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26, June 2, June 9, June 16, June 23, June 30.**

For those who prefer individual fitness, our fitness area is truly a room with a view - one that makes you forget you are exercising. It features an elliptical, treadmill and stationary bike as well as mats, exercise balls and hand-held weights for your use. Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a Fitness Center Packet that includes all the information you need to get started. Attendance at an Equipment Orientation Session is mandatory before using the Fitness Center.

HEALTH AT THE CENTER!

The Wellness Nurse is available twice per month to test blood pressure and blood sugar, as well as answer any medical questions you may have and connect you to the appropriate local resources. **Upcoming Wellness Nurse visits: April 15, April 23, May 20, May 28 and June 25. The Wellness Nurse is available from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. No appointment necessary.**

There is a Podiatric Foot Clinic with Podiatrist Dr. Anthony Morgan to provide evaluation and toenail clipping. Dr. Morgan accepts Medicare and private insurance; bring your insurance card to your appointment. For all questions regarding fees and insurance coverage, call Dr. Morgan's office at 860-537-5520. Please call the Senior Center for information or to schedule an appointment. **Upcoming**

Foot Care: June 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., by appointment only.

WELLNESS AT THE CENTER!

Spa Days are scheduled throughout the year. Michelle DeLuco of Kennedy & Co. Salon & Spa offers spray bottle variety haircuts, clipper cuts and eyebrow or beard trimmings. The price is \$15 for haircuts, payable directly to Michelle at the time of the appointment. Hope Charette of Hope & Wellness Salon offers nail clipping: manicure or pedicure. Nail clipping is \$15 payable to Hope at the time of the appointment. Please call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment. **Upcoming Spa Days: April 13 and June 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., by appointment only.**

Massage Therapy & Reflexology sessions are scheduled throughout the year. Deb Turner, L.M.T offers table massage or reflexology by appointment. There is a \$15 fee payable directly to Deb at the time of the appointment. Please call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment. **Upcoming Massage & Reflexology: April 21, April 30, May 12, May 26, June 9, June 23, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., by appointment only.**

Free Rides! Senior Van Program

Coventry, Manchester, Vernon & Tolland

Monday, Tuesdays & Thursdays

Medical Appointments/Shopping/Personal Errands/Senior Center

Wednesdays

Senior Center Only

Sundays

Coventry Area Only

Please call the Senior Transportation Coordinator at 860-742-3525 to schedule rides at least 48 business hours in advance of your ride.

To become a volunteer driver, please call 860-742-3525 for more information.

For transportation to Willimantic, please contact Dial-A-Ride at 860-456-1462.

COMMUNITY NEWS



NEWS FROM THE BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

For more information on any programs and services, please contact the Library at 860-742-7606 or visit our website at www.CoventryPL.org.

ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE:

Preview April 30 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Free to Members or \$7 Admission

MAY 1 10:00 AM — 6:00 PM

MAY 2 from 10:00 AM — 3:00 PM

The Annual Library Used Book Sale is coming. Proceeds go towards library events and museum passes. Donations of gently used books and DVDs can be made until April 24th.

CRAFTS IN THE TEEN ZONE:

NINJA STARS

April 30 All Afternoon

Learn how to make tiny, deadly paper ninja stars.

TILE COASTERS

May 5 at 3:00 PM

Make vintage coasters with pictures of your choice—from Instagram or elsewhere. These make great gifts (especially for Mother's Day).

LED ART

May 26 at 3:00 PM

Paint, pen or collage, your artistic creation will be lit up with an LED sticker circuit.

DUCT TAPE-A-PALOOZA

June 2 at 3:00 PM

Wallets, flowers, and more. Everything is more fun made from duct tape.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S ROOM:

EVERY CHILD READY TO READ

Monday, May 5th 6:15 PM

An information session for parents or caregivers of children ages 0-5. We will be exploring ways to promote literacy at home through reading, writing, singing, playing, and talking. Childcare will be provided in the children's room and every parent or caregiver in attendance will take home an early literacy gift bag. Registration encouraged.

MO WILLEM'S PARTY

Thursday, May 7

4:00 PM — 5:00 PM

Do you love Pigeon, Elephant, or Piggie!? If so don't miss this party! Along with reading some hilarious books, we will be playing games, making crafts, and having a snack all based on Mo Willem's most popular characters! Just remember--- **DON'T LET THE PIGEON CRASH THE PARTY!**

TEA PARTY

Saturday, May 16

10:30 AM -12:00 NOON

Are you longing for the days of your youth? Do you want to have a fancy tea with the grown-ups? Whether you're three or 93, all ages are welcome at the library tea party! Come enjoy tea and delectable finger foods. Dressing up encouraged but not required, and don't forget, pinky up!

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFT: PRINT-MAKING

Wednesday, May 13

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Experiment with different types of print-making to create your own unique piece of art. Ages 3 & up.

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFT: SQUIRT GUN PAINTING

Tuesday, June 2 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Paint using a squirt gun! Dress in clothes you don't mind getting paint on. Meet in the courtyard. Weather permitting, ages 3 & up.

DID YOU KNOW: The children's room has a wide selection of parenting books! They are located in the back near the biography section. We have a lot of varieties including classics like *What To Expect When You're Expecting* and newer titles such as *Scream Free Parenting* and various kid-friendly cookbooks. Check some out today! Have any recommendations or notice any we seem to be missing? Let Miss Meg know!

SPRINGTIME MEANS HELPING TO PRESERVE THE HEALTH OF COVENTRY LAKE

Do Canadian Geese cause problems on your lakeshore property?

Time to apply to the federal government for a permit to add eggs at the following website: <http://epermits.fws.gov/eRCGR/geSI.aspx>

OR

Plant low shrubs or place a low fence near the water's edge to prevent Canadian Geese from nesting or grazing on your property.

If you live on the lake what are you fertilizing with? Do you need to use fertilizer?

Apply only **ZERO** phosphate fertilizers – the middle number on the fertilizer bag. It should read for example 32-0-4

OR

Think about whether ANY fertilizer is needed – the less nutrients added as runoff into the lake, the healthier the lake will be.

Have you planted a rain garden on your lakeshore property?

Use the rain garden app:

www.nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens to find out how and what plants to use

Have you heard about: 2015 CT legislation regarding municipal storm water? Cuts in the proposed CT budget resulting in closing of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's Aquatic Invasive Plant Program? Funding is not included in the current proposed CT budget to continue the Funds for Grants to Municipalities for the Control of Aquatic Invasive Species? All these could have an impact on Coventry Lake. Concerned?

Join the Connecticut Federation of Lakes and start receiving their newsletters to learn about these issues and how you can help make a difference. It is free to join! Their Winter 2015 Newsletter provides details on all these topics. The website is: <http://www.ctlakes.org/>

Do you have these dates on your calendar?

- ◆ July is Lake Awareness Month.
- ◆ September 15, 2015 is the annual State of Lake Forum

Interesting sightings or concerns about the Lake?

Contact the Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee by emailing us at: coventrylakeadvisory@coventryct.org.



COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman; Mary Kortmann, Vice-Chairman; Mary Minor, Secretary;
Eugene Marchand, William Oros, Denise Ryan and Michael Sobol



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS: The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the School Administration building at 7:30 p.m. Regular Board meetings for 2015 are: April 30, May 14, May 28, June 11, June 25, July 9, July 30, August 13, August 27, September 10, September 24, October 8, October 29, November 12, and December 10. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the School Administration building conference room, 1700 Main Street, at 7:30 p.m.

PRESCHOOL UPDATE:

The Coventry Board of Education is a recipient of the new State of Connecticut Smart Start Grant. The purpose of the Smart Start grant is to expand preschool spaces in public schools. This grant allows for 30 additional school day spaces for children ages 3 and 4. While this new initiative is exciting, Coventry Public Schools is pleased to continue its 30-plus year partnership with the Coventry Early Childhood Center (CECC). The entire preschool program which has been housed in the lower level of the First Congregational Church, for many years, is moving to the Capt. Nathan Hale School (CNH) campus for the start of the 2015-16 school year. CECC will operate as a separate entity in the rear portion of CNH. There will be a new driveway installed this summer leading up to the new location and CECC will have its own entrance.

The annual tuition for this school day program which runs from 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Monday – Friday is \$4,500. There is financial assistance available for these spaces to Coventry families qualifying based on family income. There is also a before and after school program available, if families need full time care.

Here are some examples of family income and the tuition that would be owed:

- If a family of three was earning \$25,000/year, they would owe \$1,400 for the program. A family of three qualifies for some tuition assistance if their income is under \$65,000.
- If a family of four was earning \$38,000/year, they would owe \$2,000 for the program. A family of four qualifies for some tuition assistance if their income is under \$78,000.
- If a family of five was earning \$60,000/year, they would owe \$2,400 for the program. A family of five qualifies for some tuition assistance if their income is under \$90,000.

Please contact CECC at 860-742-5859 or online at www.coventryecc.org to inquire about all available preschool options!

GRADUATION:



Due to the numerous snow events this year, the 2015 Coventry High School graduation ceremony has been changed from its original date of June 13 to June 20. Weather permitting, the ceremony will be held outside at Coventry High School. In case of inclement weather, graduation will be held in the Veterans Auditorium with closed circuit coverage in the Lecture Hall at the high school.

2015-16 SCHOOL CALENDAR APPROVED: The Board of Education approved the 2015-16 Coventry Public Schools calendar at the February 12 Board meeting. The calendar can be found on our website at www.coventrypublicschools.org

OPEN DOOR MEETINGS: Interested in learning more about our schools? Come meet with Superintendent of Schools, David J. Petrone. One of his initiatives is to meet with as many parents and members of our Coventry community as possible. Open communication is a key component for true collaboration. Keep informed about education in our town by attending any of his Open Door meetings this school year. All of these informal gatherings will be held in the Administration Building conference room at 1700 Main Street. The remaining 2014-15 date is: Monday, May 4 at 5:30 p.m.

COVENTRY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BUDGET Q & A SESSIONS: Have you ever had questions about how your public school system manages your taxpayer dollars? It is the intent of the Coventry Public Schools to not only be extraordinarily prudent and efficient but to also keep the public well informed. In that interest, we will be holding a public Budget Q & A sessions on Wednesday, April 29 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m in the Administration Building conference room.

WORKING PAPERS: All children under the age of 18, who have secured employment, are required to have “working papers.” To acquire these papers, please have a form of identification and verification in writing from your employer stating you have secured employment and bring them to the office at Coventry High School. You do not need to be a student at Coventry High School, only a resident of Coventry, to get working papers from the high school office. Should there be no one available at the high school, you may bring your information to the Superintendent’s Office. If there are any questions regarding working papers, please call the Coventry High School main office at 742-7346.

WRITERS WORKSHOP: *Welcome to Writer's Workshop in Coventry*

What are you working on as a writer today? That is the question most often asked of students, or writers, during Writer's Workshop at Coventry Grammar School (grades K-2) and G. H. Robertson School (grades 3-5). Columbia University's Teachers College version of Writer's Workshop was adopted at the K-5 level by the district two years ago.

Why this workshop? Writer's Workshop is an approach to the art of writing, rather than a formulaic program. Writer's Workshop is based on the idea that students learn to write best when they write frequently, for extended periods of time, and on topics of their own choosing. A daily opportunity to write builds stamina and a belief in the process. Starting with a mini-lesson in which a writing skill and strategy is explicitly taught, students then independently practice the strategies for writing they have learned in the workshop. Given time to practice the craft of writing, it is expected that students will improve their written expression. No longer do students spend time on a lot of worksheets and repetitive drill work; students are immersed in authentic writing for varied purposes.

In addition, Writer's Workshop is the perfect venue in which to teach and practice writing across multiple genres, such as narrative, opinion, and informational. This is a requirement of the Connecticut Core Standards (CCS). While there are some structural differences between genres, our writers do apply the skills and strategies taught throughout the year to their daily writing.

In grades kindergarten through second, students publish their writing in a book format. The writing process for our youngest writers in kindergarten begins with illustrating their ideas. The actual writing may initially include a picture label in early kindergarten, progressing to illustrations explained by a simple sentence across a 2-3 page book by the end of the year. Students in the first and second grades continue writing in book format, increasing the amount written both on each page as well as the number of pages per book.

As students transition to the G.H. Robertson School, in third grade, writers organize their written thoughts in paragraphs to publish papers, rather than books. Throughout grades three through five students, as writers, continue to refine their use of strong leads and vocabulary, transitions, specific details, and include conclusions. In addition to writing narratives, informational and opinion pieces, students are writing literary essays, fantasies, poetry, and research papers with careful attention paid to audience, task, and purpose.

The success of our implementation of Writer's Workshop is due, in large part, to our dedicated teachers who have worked tirelessly to learn the workshop model and adjust their instruction to meet the needs of all students. Additionally, we have been fortunate to have the support of staff developers from Columbia University's Teachers College. The staff developers spend 5 days throughout the year at each school coaching teachers to refine the workshop model. Our shift to the Writer's Workshop model would not have been possible, without the strong support of our Superintendent, Mr. David Petrone, and the Board of Education.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES: Coventry schools want you! Come and be a part of our school community! Whatever your interest, if you would like to volunteer in the schools, please contact one of the four principals.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: There are flexible hour and/or day schedules with a wide variety of experiences available. **Teacher, Para-educator, and School Nurse Substitutes:** Please visit our website at www.coventrypublicschools.org for additional information. **Cafeteria Substitutes:** Call Beth Pratt at 742-4535. **Bus Drivers/Substitutes:** Call Stephenie Greenleaf at M & J Bus Co. at 742-0344.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION!

Is your child turning 5 by December 31, 2015? If so, then it is time for Kindergarten registration! Kindergarten registration will now be done online. Visit www.coventryps.org for more information.



Visit www.coventrysteps.com for more information on local early childhood resources, news and events! Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CoventrySTEPS.

PEOPLE EMPOWERING PEOPLE CLASS

Coventry residents had the unique opportunity to participate in the UCONN People Empowering People (PEP) class in the winter of 2015. Coventry STEPS applied for and was awarded a grant from the CT Parent Trust Fund to offer this program. Participants met one evening a week for 10 weeks and also completed a community project. Participants met new friends, learned new information about themselves and others, gained new skills, and also gave back to their community. The PEP curriculum included information on communication and values, parenthood and being a community leader. Six Coventry residents enrolled in the class including Paula Blood, Max Ferguson, Tammy Regan, Jessica Stanizzi, Bridgette Jensen and Carrie Dunlap. Depending on state funding, Coventry STEPS hopes to offer another class next year. Check www.coventrysteps.com for information.

SCHOOL READINESS

Coventry has been a recipient of the State Department of Education School Readiness Grant since 2005. The School Readiness Grant allows children, ages 3 and 4, from families below State Median Income to have a high quality preschool experience, that they otherwise might not have had. All of the School Readiness spaces are currently at the Coventry Early Childhood Center. Coventry is currently reapplying for the School Readiness Grant. Other Coventry preschool programs are welcome to inquire about the potential to accept School Readiness spaces for their center and the requirements for accepting School Readiness funds. Please contact Kathryn Hassler at coventrysteps@yahoo.com for more information.

SCREEN FREE WEEK - May 4-10:

Coventry STEPS, Coventry Parks and Recreation and the Booth & Dimock Library will join thousands of schools, libraries, and community groups nationwide in a coordinated effort to encourage millions of Americans to turn off televisions, smartphones, tablets, and gaming consoles for seven days and turn on the world around them. Screen-Free Week is a chance for children to read, play, think, create, be more physically active, and to spend more time with friends and family. See a list of events at www.coventryrec.com.

**TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF COVENTRY
1712 MAIN STREET
COVENTRY, CT 06238**

*****ECRWSS***
POSTAL PATRON
COVENTRY, CT 06238**

LEGAL NOTICE-TOWN OF COVENTRY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING
APRIL 25, 2015

The legal voters of the Town of Coventry and those property owners qualified to vote in Town Meetings pursuant to Section 7-6 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut are hereby notified and warned that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Coventry will be held Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. in Veterans Auditorium, Coventry High School, Ripley Hill Rd., Coventry, CT to discuss and take action on the following items:

Item #1: To hear the Town Council's estimate of expenditures for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Item #2: To consider and take action on the Town Council's recommendation for the 2015-2016 fiscal year appropriation, pursuant to Section 9-1 of the Town Charter, the final vote shall be adjourned by the Moderator to May 5, 2015.

Town of Coventry Council Recommended Budget for FY 15-16							
	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016
EXPENDITURES	Actual	Adopted Budget	Actual YTD	Est. Actual	Agency Request	Town Manager	Council
General Administration	1,394,390	1,491,422	1,140,840	1,491,422	1,577,444	1,560,942	1,561,442
Public Safety	2,168,355	2,302,126	1,493,387	2,302,126	2,581,698	2,399,882	2,414,653
Public Works	2,117,792	2,188,883	1,780,914	2,283,233	2,307,614	2,282,976	2,268,207
Human Services	247,022	252,680	185,908	252,680	293,718	283,918	291,218
Civic & Cultural	500,751	524,725	503,693	524,725	536,107	536,107	536,107
Sundry	2,448,327	2,431,556	1,923,898	2,431,556	2,443,336	2,423,336	2,436,586
General Government Total	8,876,637	9,191,392	7,028,440	9,285,742	9,739,917	9,487,161	9,508,213
Debt Service	2,599,123	2,682,708	2,314,265	2,682,708	2,767,517	2,767,517	2,638,900
Board of Education	26,131,452	26,518,064	11,951,743	26,518,064	27,047,045	27,047,045	26,897,045
Capital	685,915	696,040	725,046	725,046	834,620	834,620	819,620
Expenditures Total	38,293,127	39,088,204	22,019,494	39,211,560	40,389,099	40,136,343	39,863,778
REVENUES							
Property Tax	28,250,691	28,571,662	28,232,691	28,571,662	29,977,041	29,724,285	29,441,320
Intergovernmental	10,148,190	9,927,092	5,112,758	9,927,092	9,869,608	9,869,608	9,884,108
Local	561,152	589,450	354,298	589,450	542,450	542,450	538,350
Revenues Total	38,960,033	39,088,204	33,699,747	39,088,204	40,389,099	40,136,343	39,863,778

If revenues remain unchanged and a collection rate of 98.15 is used; a proposed mil rate of 31.34 will be required.

Item #3: To authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation for Town Aid Funds for roads available to the Town of Coventry under Chapter 240 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Item #4: To take action on the Town Council's recommendation on the FY 2016 Capital Improvement Plan and to authorize the Town Manager to make application pursuant to Title 7, Chapter 116b of the Connecticut General Statutes for funding for eligible projects under the Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP).

Item #5: To authorize the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of tax collections to meet current expenditures.

20 summary copies of the proposed budget are available in the Town Clerk's Office, 1712 Main St., Coventry, CT 06238 or can be viewed online at www.Coventryct.org.

Dated at Coventry, CT this 7th day of April 2015.

The Adjourned Town Meeting vote will be May 5, 2015 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The polling places will be:

District 1 - Coventry Volunteer Fire Station, 1755 Main Street

District 2 - North Coventry Volunteer Fire Station, 3427 Main Street

*** PARK IN DESIGNATED AREAS AND DO NOT BLOCK BAY DOORS ***