



Above: Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, State Representative Tim Ackert, Council Chairwoman Lisa Thomas, and members of Coventry Youth Baseball Association (CT) and Coventry Girls Softball gather to celebrate the State Bond Award of \$500,000 for improvements and enhancements of Miller Richardson Park. Photo by Coventry Parks and Recreation.



# Message from Lisa Thomas, Town Council Chairwoman

Dear Neighbors,

Autumn brings us cooler temperatures and blazing colors. Many of us call it our favorite season. As residents continue speaking with me during my office hours, I learn more and more about the victories and the challenges many in our community experience. Please remember that **both the State and the Town offer many forms of financial and social support**, such as tax rebates, exemption of pensions and certain retirement annuities from state income tax, town property tax reductions for seniors and disabled residents, heating assistance and hot lines for a variety of needs such as finding childcare and mental health support. You can contact our Human Services Department to find out about many of these programs: 860-742-5324. If our Director, Annemarie Sundgren, doesn't have the answer, she can connect you with someone who does.

A huge piece of news is that **Coventry received \$500,000 from the State Bond Commission**. I am incredibly happy to have secured these funds to modernize our town parks and facilities, including for Title IX compliance and for the Americans with Disabilities Act. One of our Town Council goals is to improve and upgrade facilities at Miller Richardson Park - to equal the playing field for youth softball, enhance landscaping, increase accessibility and safety and to create more diverse recreation opportunities. **Many thanks to our Town Manager and our staff who worked on developing the designs and budgets that Governor Lamont and the Bond Commission needed in order to make a decision.** This is truly a momentous time for our town and for every single person in it, no matter their age, gender, or ability.

Speaking of Town Council goals, the Council recently reviewed its goals. **I'm happy to share that we are making good progress!** The Council appreciates the Town Manager and all town staff for ensuring that so much important work is being accomplished.

We also **welcomed our new Police Chief, Eric Peterson, in July**. Chief Peterson came to us with rave reviews and strong leadership experience. As promised, we asked the interview panel to refer to the input you all provided on the community survey while they spoke with candidates. We appreciate the due diligence done by the panel when making its recommendations. We know that the Chief and his family will find they are warmly welcomed to our caring community!

**Our Public Works staff, Parks and Recreation Staff, Town Engineer, Town Planner, Town Manager - along with all of our town staff and departments - spent an incredibly busy summer overseeing large projects, managing our recreation programs, writing grants, readying proposals, and much more.** Working collaboratively, they have completed more than I can cover in this column! Make sure to read through this whole newsletter to find details about some of those projects. You can always **learn more by signing up for email alerts when Town Council or other committee agendas are posted.** The Town Council agendas always have the Town Manager's projects update attached. Pour yourself a cup of coffee and settle in for a review of the many things underway!

As always, I encourage you to take time to explore our [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) web site to learn about what our Town departments are up to. And visit [www.coventrypublicschools.org](http://www.coventrypublicschools.org) to see our schools' achievements and projects.

The Town Council and I wish you a bright autumn and joyful times during all of the holidays between now and our winter newsletter in January.

Be well.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Building & Permits ..... 3
- COVRRRA News..... 8
- Tax Office ..... 9
- Assessing Office ..... 9
- Human Services ..... 10
- Senior Center ..... 11
- Coming Events ..... 12
- Library ..... 13

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- Manager's Message — pg. 2
- Capital Projects — pg. 6
- School News — pg. 14

**TOWN HALL CLOSINGS:**

Oct. 10	Columbus Day
Nov. 11	Veterans Day
Nov. 24 & 25	Thanksgiving
Dec. 23 & 26	Christmas holiday
Jan. 2	New Year's holiday

## Comings & Goings and Staff Accomplishments

Many new employees have joined our staff over the past few months. A warm welcome goes out to **Eric Peterson**, Police Chief; **Stephanie Beauchamp**, Town Accountant; **Matthew Burns**, Patrol Officer; **John Preisner**; Assessor; and **Richard Mindek**, Cemetery Sexton. All of them bring a great deal of experience to their new roles. We also say farewell to former employees **Debbie Kratochvil**, Town Accountant; **Kevin Roberto**, Executive Assistant to the Police Chief; **Alexa Gorlick**, Zoning Enforcement Officer / Planning Technician; and **Yasmin Forte**, Recreation Office Assistant. We wish you well in the next chapters of your careers.

**Scott Francis** has been appointed as the Republican Registrar of Voters, with **Marilyn Barrette** taking on the role of Deputy Republican Registrar.

Congratulations to **Joyce Peterson**, who reached a milestone 35th year of employment with the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library.



Chief Peterson takes the Oath of Office, administered by Lori Tollmann, Town Clerk. Photo by Laura Stone.



As more and more households are cutting the cord to move away from cable television, we want to let you know that while you can still watch live broadcasts of Town Council meetings on Charter/Spectrum channel 191, you can also watch them live on the Town's YouTube channel. Tune in at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMJxoc7bpRM>.

## TOWN MANAGER JOHN ELSESSER'S MESSAGE

It has been a very busy summer, with great progress on many capital projects (see details on page 6); and the unexpected issue of blue-green algae on Coventry Lake (see pages 3 & 13).

Other projects underway include:

- **Library renovation:** Construction has started and the Children's room has been relocated upstairs to allow the downstairs to be the first area of renovation. The courtyard has been excavated and re-bar is going in. Walls and roofs should be in place before winter. Project completion is not likely until early summer 2023 due to long order times for the elevator.
- The **Hop River Road Bridge** project will be out to bid in September, allowing order time and utility work in fall for a spring construction start. Working hours were expanded to push for a one-season construction schedule. Funding is now 100% grant. This freed up funds which will allow more work on South Street.
- We have two grant applications pending for **replacement of culverts** on Bunker Hill Road and Parker Bridge Road. The match for these grants are included in the November road bond vote.
- We are planning to start work this fall on the **trails grant** to upgrade Nathan Hale Road and Bear Swamp Road through the forest. This will be tied into on-road sections to connect with the Hop River Trail at the intersection of Long Hill Road and Rt. 6 in Andover. This work is scheduled for completion by next fall.
- The Town received a large LOTCIP grant of approximately \$3 million to **reconstruct Daly Road** from Main Street to the vicinity of Lakeview. This grant will pay for 100% of construction of road, drainage and sidewalks.
- Congressman Courtney has championed a \$1.5 million Community Funding project to allow the **extension of a limited sewer system on Rt. 44** from the Bolton town line to sewer approximately 22 properties. It is in the House budget and subject to the reconciliation process with the Senate. We are working with our neighboring towns to have approvals in place. Sewers will allow better economic development and housing options at this key gateway.
- **School roofs:** We received favorable bids to replace roofs at G.H. Robertson and Coventry High School. GHR is mostly completed and the high school project will be completed next summer. A significant portion of the high school roof has been completed in time to allow a large solar project to be installed this fall/winter.
- We are evaluating proposals to **repair the spillway control** for the mill pond on Depot Road. When repaired, the pond will be a pond again. Learn more about this historic area in a Last Green Valley **Walktober** event led by John Holmy, Town Historian. Your choice of dates on 9/25, 10/15, or 11/5 at 11 AM. Walk departs from Mill Pond Park. Info: <https://thelastgreenvalley.org> or call 860-208-3065.
- The State authorized the Town to repair several buildings at **Creaser Park** and remove two that are beyond repair. State LOCIP grant funds are being used.
- **Frontier** continues to install **broadband** in our town. Please make your own comparison. Service will continue to expand over the next several months. You can call 877-211-1646 for information.
- Despite several supply chain obstacles, Jim McLoughlin, Fire/EMS Administrator, and Bud Meyers, Fire Chief, were able to obtain a **replacement ambulance** which will go into service mid-September. It will replace an older ambulance that has been very unreliable (which is not what you desire from an ambulance). The average wait for replacement is over two years, with no guaranteed price.

## PERMITS, INSPECTIONS AND YOUR INVESTMENT



### Why do I need building permits and inspections?

Many homeowners ask themselves this question when beginning a project on their house. While the primary purpose is to safeguard public safety, health and welfare, they are also a means to protect your investment. Getting work properly permitted and inspected not only

assures it meets the minimum requirements of the State Building Code, but it may also impact a homeowner financially.

The first consideration for homeowners is consequences with their insurance company. When an unpermitted addition or renovation is damaged by a flood or fire, claims may not be covered. A common example of this is a basement that was finished without obtaining permits and is flooded by a burst water pipe. Insurance companies may not recognize the work as ever being performed because it was undocumented, installed illegally, and therefore doesn't exist to them.

A second consideration is in the sale value of your home. With the current real estate market booming in Connecticut, a routine stop for real estate agents, attorney's offices, and prospective buyers is the local Building Department. They review files to verify projects such as additions, remodels, finished basements, and decks have been permitted and inspected before finalizing the sale. When discrepancies are found with unpermitted work, or incomplete inspections and open permits are discovered, the sales are oftentimes delayed until the permitting issues are corrected. While some of these issues are a simple fix, others are more financially burdensome and are used to negotiate a lower sale price to account for the corrections.

### I found there are open permits or no permits...what now?

Most importantly don't panic. The Building Department staff will work with you to determine what needs to be done to get your project properly permitted and finalized. Many times, with open permits, it's as simple as having a final inspection. In cases where no permits have been pulled or work has been concealed, we will work with you and your contractors to find the least intrusive manner to make the corrections. Please reach out to the Building Department at any time to determine if a permit is required or if you have any other building related questions. We can be reached directly at 860-742-4064 or you can access a plethora of useful information on our Building Department website page (including the online permitting portal) at: <https://www.coventryct.org/123/Building-Department>

### Some seasonal wrap up tips to protect your investment/home going into fall...

Call for your annual maintenance on your heating system. Woodstoves and chimneys should also be checked and cleaned to assure a safe heating season. Clean that chimney prior to winter accumulation of snow and ice on roof. Also, be sure to check smoke detectors for proper operation. It's wise to properly maintain any and all of these appliances in order to prevent falling victim to carbon monoxide poisoning or a lethal house fire.

To help defray some of those rising utility costs, fall is a great time to insulate areas. Caulking and sealing around door and window casings on exterior walls can reduce energy consumption. Door sweeps and gasket devices are also available at local home centers and hardware stores. Or if you are ready for a newer appearance to your home, windows and doors now have increased energy saving factors. Lastly, solar panels have been a popular energy saving choice amongst Coventry homeowners this past year.

**Blue-green algae event:** For the first time, in our knowledge, Coventry Lake experienced a severe blue/green algae event, which required Eastern Highland Health District to issue a health advisory against swimming and certain other lake activities. We appreciate all the efforts of our Lake Advisory and Monitoring Committee (*see their article on page 13*), Dr. Kortmann, our limnologist consultant, and State officials in advising us. We also thank those who made rapid adjustments in responding to these issues. The Recreation Department delivered a great camp substitute with water slides, and the Fire Department donated time for several splash downs during the heat wave.

**What caused it?** Early indications are that an unusually warm December allowed the blue-green algae to continue to grow (higher levels were noted last fall). Even though there was ice on the lake later in the season, it was for a shorter period. Continued evaluation by CT DEEP and the Health District may provide future information.

Our findings will be the focus of the annual State of the Lake Forum, September 20, 2022 at 7 PM in the CHS Veterans Auditorium. Watch for a link to a video of the forum on our website and Town Manager's Facebook page.

### STAY IN TOUCH:

The Town wants to keep you informed. We ask you to sign up for emergency alerts, read our monthly e-blast, and the more in-depth newsletter. Please sign up for the items of interest to you by clicking the blue "Alerts and Notifications" button on the home page of our website at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org).

We cannot monitor community Facebook pages for questions and requests for response. Direct emails and phone calls are welcome and will be a more reliable form of two-way communication. We are also in the process of updating our phone system to allow more direct access if you don't know a Town department phone number. A staff phone directory is also available on the Town website under the "Contact Us" menu.

## LAND USE OFFICE 860-742-4062

Please contact Eric M. Trott, Coventry Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or email [etrott@coventryct.org](mailto:etrott@coventryct.org), for further information or with questions.

**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 standard garbage bags are available in the Land Use Office and can be disposed of at the Public Works Garage at no charge once a citizen is registered in the program.

**CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENT REGULATIONS:** The State of CT adopted laws to allow for recreational cannabis to be sold and grown in our State last year. In early 2022, the Planning and Zoning Commission began deliberating on the creation of new Zoning Regulations that would permit either of these establishments at certain locations in town. The Commission voted to proceed with the drafting of regulations for these uses. The Commission adopted a moratorium on permitting any cannabis establishments earlier this year and are currently in the process of adopting a second moratorium to allow additional time for the Commission and Staff to prepare appropriate regulations. The Commission and Staff have conferred with the Town Attorney's office and have evaluated sample regulations from similar communities to consider prudent options and alternatives. A draft of regulations have been prepared and will be brought to public hearing in the fall.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN:** In early 2022, the Town initiated the development of a Housing Affordability Plan for our community. The CT General Statutes now requires that each town develop such a Plan and revise it every five years. The Town received a \$15,000 grant from the State of CT Department of Housing in order to prepare the Plan. A subcommittee consisting of members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Staff was formed to work with the consultant firm of SLR to complete the Plan. The Plan was completed and adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission at its meeting of July 25. The plan examines the current housing situation in the town, makes recommendations on changes to the Zoning Regulations that will help facilitate affordable housing projects, considers potential sites to support attainable projects, and possible funding mechanisms that can be explored. It is anticipated that a committee of Town Staff and volunteer citizens will be created to assist in executing the Plan. A website has been created to share all the details associated with the project which can be found by following this link:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2f49f1cb5a144800b0c23c749a0782c5>

**REGIONAL ECONOMIC VITALITY ACTION PLAN:** In September 2020, the Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield and Tolland cooperatively completed a regional economic vitality action plan that provides guidance on steps the towns can take independently and collectively to find

mutual success. The Plan is designed to better develop and promote key industry areas and to grow strategic partnerships, with the end goal of retention, expansion, and attraction of businesses to and within the region. As these businesses become more successful, the region will see job growth, increased investment, and increased tax revenue at the local level. A 4 Town Steering Committee to oversee the Plan implementation and Subcommittees have also been formed to focus on the action items. The Towns have hired a University of Connecticut Masters of Public Administration student, Joshua Bell, who will be assisting in the Plan implementation between September 2022 and May 2023. Also, during the summer the towns hired the marketing consulting firm of DKA to assist in the creation of a naming/branding campaign that will serve as the primary identifying image reflecting the significance of the towns in the region. Please use the following link to access the Plan: <https://www.coventryct.org/DocumentCenter/View/4541/AdvanceCT-CERC-Regional-Economic-Vitality-Plan-final>

**HOP RIVER TRAIL ALLIANCE:** The Towns of Andover, Bolton, Columbia, Coventry, Manchester, Vernon, Windham and the State of CT DEEP have recently initiated the creation of the Hop River Trail Alliance. The entity will serve as a focal point for matters that relate to the Hop River Trail amongst the member towns, such as maintenance, trail improvements, expanding connectivity to other open space amenities/businesses, and marketing the value of the Trail in the region. A kick-off meeting was held in June and plans are underway for a meeting in September. The goal is for the Alliance to meet quarterly and discuss ways that the towns and DEEP can work collaboratively to further enhance and maintain this important resource.



**KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL – 2022** Special thanks to all of the efforts of the Coventry/Bolton Girl Scouts this past spring to celebrate the Keep America Beautiful event! Troops 65277, 65071, 65042, 65447 performed roadside cleanups, planted trees and did a clean-up at Patriots Park. The Town of Coventry appreciates the dedicated efforts of the Girl Scouts to keep Coventry beautiful!

## TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

860-742-7966

Hours: M-W 8:30-4:30, Th 8:30-6:30,  
Fr 8:30-1:30

### OUR SERVICES

Being one of the most visited offices in the Town Hall, the Clerk's office provides the link between the residents, the local governing bodies and the boards, commissions, and committees of town government. Our main functions are the recording, indexing and copying of land record documents and maps; vital statistics (births, marriages, civil unions and deaths); official repository of notices, agendas and minutes of the various boards, committees and commissions; election related matters including but not limited to the issuance of absentee ballots; answering various questions from residents; notarizing of documents; issuing of dog, marriage, civil union, sporting licenses; and receiving for record military discharges, trade name certificates and liquor permits. We also house and safeguard all of the Town's permanent public records.

**DOGS — NEW FOR 2022:** Doggie daycares, groomers & kennels are all now requiring proof of licensing for participation of your pet at any age. **\*All dogs six months of age and older are required by the law to be licensed, and then renewed annually by June 30<sup>th</sup>.** The fees for September are \$11 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$22 for non-spayed or neutered. Pursuant to State Statutes, an additional \$1 per month penalty is assessed for each month after the June 30th deadline that your dog is not licensed. Remember you can mail your dog's renewal along with **updated documentation** if applicable, as indicated on the renewal letter mailed to you in May. We also ask that you send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with sufficient postage to ensure the delivery of your dog tags. **\*New dog owners** must provide a current rabies certificate and for altered dogs, evidence of neutering or spaying.

**QUESTIONS?** Please call the Town Clerk's Office.



**Coventry's Top Dog!!**  
Congratulations to Jebediah.  
Jebediah lives with the Pesce Family.

**SPORTS LICENSES AND FALL PERMITS** are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at [www.ct.gov/dep/sportsmenlicensing](http://www.ct.gov/dep/sportsmenlicensing). For hunting or trapping licenses, you must provide proof that you held a resident hunting or trapping license within the last 5 years, or a certificate from a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms course.

You can find Firearms Safety courses listed online at [www.ct.gov/dep](http://www.ct.gov/dep). Remember Deer/Turkey Kill Tags are now in the Connecticut Hunting and Trapping guides. The guides are available in our office during regular business hours.

## STATE ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 8, 2022

In person voting will take place from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. for those wishing to vote at the polls:

- **District #1**  
G.H. Robertson School,  
227 Cross St.
- **District #2**  
Coventry High School,  
78 Ripley Hill Rd.

**Absentee Ballots become available October 7, 2022.** By getting your application to us ASAP, it will help us to get them prepared and mailed out to you in a timely manner.

**Returning of Absentee Ballots:** We strongly encourage you to utilize the secure ballot drop box, which is near the entrance to our office. This will insure that we receive your ballot in a timely manner.



**Register to vote online.**  
Use this link: <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>

**Unsure if you are registered?**  
Use this link: <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
100 Olsen Farm Road • 860-742-6588

Director  
Town Engineer  
Superintendent of Operations/Tree Warden  
Admin. Secretary / COVRRRA

Bill Watkins  
Todd Penney  
Mark Owens  
Donna Wrubel

[wwatkins@coventryct.org](mailto:wwatkins@coventryct.org)  
[tpenney@coventryct.org](mailto:tpenney@coventryct.org)  
[mowens@coventryct.org](mailto:mowens@coventryct.org)  
[dwrubel@coventryct.org](mailto:dwrubel@coventryct.org)

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**Swamp Road @ Boston Turnpike Intersection Improvements:**

The Town is expecting the delivery of the Mast Arms & Poles for the new Boston Turnpike signal at the realigned Swamp Road expected in late September. The contractor, Spazzarini Construction, will remobilize at that point to install signal, make the permanent transition to Swamp Road, establish turf and install landscaping features. These tasks should take us to substantial completion by the end of November. Local and thru traffic can expect delays and minor detours to execute the work. There will be NO detouring of Boston Turnpike traffic. It is expected that Spazzarini will be back in the spring of 2023 to touch up the turf establishment. All questions may be directed to the Town Engineer.

**South Street Roadway and Pedestrian Improvements:** The project is in full swing this summer with a projected completion date of late November 2022. Traffic can expect partial delays throughout the duration of the construction schedule depending on the activity being completed. All questions may be directed to the Town Engineer.

**Transfer Station Relocation to DPW Facility – 100 Olsen Farm Road:** The Relocation of the Town’s Transfer Station construction started at the end of July and should be nearing completion mid-September and be fully operational at that time. All operational procedures and times should remain the same.

**Coventry Softball Field at the Transfer Station Site:** The Town expects to have a responsible low bid construction firm to start the work of the new softball field at the Miller Richardson Park. Construction will start mid-September and completion expected in spring of 2023. Field should be ready for use for the 2024 season. The Town will be looking to provide a more comprehensive and cohesive park at Miller Richardson with the relocation of the Transfer Station. Other future improvements are planned to help parking accommodations, pedestrian safety, sanitary facilities, and other park amenities.

**Community Connectivity Grant Program – Main Street Sidewalk Extension:** The project is planned for construction this fall. The project has been pushed back due to other capital projects mentioned above. Work will require alternating traffic conditions with Traffic Control Personnel during the work day until the work is completed. The sidewalk extension should go as far as the private driveway Winterbury Lane.

**Swamp Road and South Street Improvements:** The LOTCIP project improving sightline deficiencies on Swamp Road and intersection improvement at the Swamp Road and South Street intersection, and the “S” Curves on South Street should be in design in the fall. Residents can expect Land Surveyors in the project limits performing the necessary and very important data collection. Specific notices will be sent to the abutting residents on Swamp Road and South Street. Public Involvement Meeting to review preliminary design could be scheduled at the end of November and/or beginning of December of this year.

**FROM THE TREE WARDEN:**  
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. Email the Tree Warden at [mowens@coventryct.org](mailto:mowens@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.

**LEAF DISPOSAL GUIDELINES:**  
DPW is requesting that residents refrain from disposing leaves and yard waste into ditches, catch basin structures and culverts. It is vital to keep these areas clear and open to convey storm water in peak flow rain events. If you have a structure in front of your property please help clean the top off. DPW swept the entire town and cleaned all of the basin tops in the spring, but the grates still get covered over and plugged with organic debris. Leaves can be disposed of at the Transfer Station at no charge and brush may be cut up into 3 foot lengths, bundled and tied, 30-lbs. maximum and put out for bulk pickup on the second Monday of the month.



**SHRED EVENT:**  
Dispose of paper documents securely. Free for Coventry residents only. September 17, 2022 (9 am til noon) at Coventry Public Works, 100 Olsen Farm Road. A couple boxes or bags per resident.

## TRANSFER STATION: 325 MAIN ST.

**WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT NEW LOCATION COMING SOON.**

Open Thursdays noon—6 PM through September.

Thursday winter hours begin October 1, 2022 through March 30, 2023: 10 AM—4 PM.

Open Saturdays 9 AM – 3 PM all year long.

Closed holidays. Proof of residency is required.

**Now accepting electronic payments with a debit or credit card.**

### Materials acceptable with cost:

- Construction and demolition debris. Free of cardboard, metal and garbage.
- Land clearing debris; stumps & brush.
- Appliances with refrigerant \$10 each, no weigh-in necessary.  
**\*PLEASE REMOVE DOORS FROM REFRIGERATORS\***
- Tires – automobile size – on or off rim \$5 each.

### Materials acceptable no cost:

- Textiles—clean, dry, contained in a bag
- Gas grill propane tanks for recycling
- Single-stream recyclables (i.e., bottles, cans, cardboard, paper)
- Leaves for composting
- Mattress and box springs (dry only, if wet/mangled \$10 fee applies)
- Electronics, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries
- Appliances without refrigerants (stove, washer, dryer)
- Metal materials (**metal tanks must be cut open and crushed**).

### Materials NOT acceptable:

- Garbage
- Grass clippings
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste

**Commercial Users Must Remember** the facility 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.



**compost.**

**Come to the Transfer Station for some free**

**Bring your own shovel and bucket.**

**HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL WASTE DROP-OFF FACILITY:** This regional facility located at 57 Hancock Road in Willington is open once per month from 9 AM to 2 PM. Remaining dates for this season: 9/17 and 10/15. (860) 684-3163. Reopening in April 2023. *COVID-19 procedures for the remainder of this season: please stay in your vehicle. If you feel you need to get out of your vehicle, wear a mask.*

As a Coventry resident you may bring residential quantities of hazardous waste to the facility at no cost, but bring proof of residency. Small business operators, call the MidNEROC Administrator at 860-289-2296 to see if you qualify as a conditionally-exempt small-quantity generator. There is a fee for this service.

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

Other FAQ's:

- ✓ **Medication:** Do not flush down the toilet or drain. Many prescriptions may be disposed of at the Coventry Police Department (860) 742-7331.
- ✓ **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.

**PAINT RECYCLING** is available at the following locations: Regional Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility in Willington, Mansfield Supply on Route 195 in Mansfield, England Hardware on route 44 in Bolton, Cash True Value on Route 32 in Willimantic or Sherwin Williams in Willimantic. **Please contact all PaintCare drop-off sites to confirm their hours and availability before dropping off paint.**

**USED MOTOR & TRANSMISSION OIL, #2 FUEL OIL, BRAKE FLUID, KEROSENE, GAS CYLINDERS, DIESEL FUEL, ANTI-FREEZE, AND CAR BATTERIES** should be brought to the Public Works Facility at 100 Olsen Farm Road. DPW is equipped with a used motor oil furnace. Please call (860) 742-6588 for more info.

**TEXTILE RECYCLING** is available in Coventry through Bay State Textile at the following three locations: transfer station when open, next to the Annex behind the Town Hall anytime and Public Works on Olsen Farm Road anytime. Acceptable items for recycling through this program are footwear, clothing, accessories, linens and stuffed animals. For instance, a stained t-shirt or torn bath towel becomes a wiping cloth, a lone sock becomes pillow stuffing, worn out denim jeans are used to produce household insulation, a teddy bear is used for car seat stuffing and so on. Everything will be accepted from gently used to ripped or with broken zippers. Textiles can be recycled in any condition as long as they're clean and dry. Must be contained in bags.

**BYE BYE MATTRESS** is a mattress recycling program. The program was established by law and is operated by Mattress Recycling Council, a non-profit that uses a recycling fee collected on each mattress and box spring sold, making recycling easier in our communities.

Whether a retailer takes it back with your new purchase or you drop it off at the Transfer Station, the Bye Bye Mattress program converts your old product from waste to recycling. As a result, our landfills and incinerators are less crowded as old mattresses are recycled into new, useful products. **Residents can drop-off their old mattress at no-cost at the Coventry Transfer Station.**

## COVRRRA

Call Public Works (860) 742-6588 or email Donna Wrubel at [dwrubel@coventryct.org](mailto:dwrubel@coventryct.org) with questions

### **Holiday Trash Pickup Schedule:**

All American Waste will only observe one legal holiday for the season thereby altering curbside pickup accordingly: Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Day

### **Christmas and New Year's holidays WILL HAVE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES!**

**TIPPER BARREL BROKEN?** Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 for information. Push the lid plugs in snugly and inspect them regular so they stay tight. This will ensure your lid stays on the cart.

**Excess trash and recycling?** The Public Works Department has dumpsters for residents who occasionally have trash or recycling in excess of their carts. 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.

**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 THE PICKUP TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION.**

Homeowners are reminded that the **tipper carts are owned by All American Waste** and must remain at the property location that is billed for this service.

**MONTHLY CURBSIDE OVERSIZED ITEMS PICKUP** On the **2<sup>nd</sup> 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, rolled carpet 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. **No Mattress Curbside:** Mattress and boxspring will not be picked up at curbside. Must be brought to the Transfer Station for recycling.

**SPECIAL NEEDS TRASH/RECYCLING PICK-UP SERVICE AVAILABLE:** Get your tipper carts picked up right at your back door. (Some driveway length restrictions apply.) No more struggling to roll them to the curb!! No additional fees involved. Call Human Services at (860) 742-5324 to find out if you or someone you know might qualify.

**DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE:** *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 \$175 haul/\$98 ton, 15 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$195 haul/\$98 ton, and 30 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$195 haul/\$98 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 discounted rate.

## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (Sewer Department)

### **Contact Us:**

Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator

Phone: 860-531-2913

Email : [mruef@coventryct.org](mailto:mruef@coventryct.org)

Online: [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org)

*The link to the WPCA page of the website can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority.*

### **Sewer Smells:**

- Hydrogen sulfide, or sewer gas, is a colorless gas with a rotten egg odor. It is produced in sewer lines when microbes living in wastewater consume all of the dissolved oxygen in the water and begin to break apart oxygen containing organic compounds, which releases hydrogen sulfide as a by-product.
- Hydrogen sulfide gas can be corrosive, toxic, and flammable in enclosed spaces with poor ventilation - like sewer lines.
- We control hydrogen sulfide production in the sewer system by injecting compressed air into the wastewater at both pump stations and at the Treatment Plant. This dissolved oxygen gives the microbes something to "eat" so they don't need to break apart other compounds and produce hydrogen sulfide.
- Every time sewer dept staff enter manholes, underground tanks, or any other confined space we use strong fans to blow in fresh air and special gas meters to check for the presence of hydrogen sulfide (as well as methane, oxygen, and carbon monoxide). We have only ever seen very low concentrations of hydrogen sulfide gas in Coventry's sewer system.
- Your house is protected from hydrogen sulfide sewer gas with "traps" under every sink, toilet, and bathtub. The traps hold some water in them which blocks sewer gasses from entering your home.
- We get several calls each year from residents who smell sewer odors in their home. So far every call has been due to a trap in a seldom-used plumbing fixture or floor drain that has dried out. The best way to prevent this is to run water into every drain for 1 minute once a month. Contact staff for more info.

### **Financial Assistance Available for Sewer Connections:**

- Low interest/deferred loans for sewer connections are available for households within the sewer service area that meet federal income guidelines. Contact Mike Ruef for details.

## TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

860-742-4066

The July 2022 installment of the 2021 Grand List tax bills and 2022 COVRRRA/Trash fees are now delinquent and subject to 1 1/2 % interest per month. The first installment of the sewer assessment bill due in May 2022 is also now delinquent. Please call or go on the town website for correct amount due on any unpaid bill. The sewer use bills for 2022 were mailed at the end of August and are due in full in September. If your sewer use payment is not received within 30 days of the due date, applicable interest is due.

The real estate second installment bill due in January 2023 is not mailed. You should retain your two remaining copies from the original July 2022 billing: one to be presented upon payment of the January 2023 installment and the other as your receipt. Supplemental motor vehicle bills will be mailed at the end of December for January 2023 due date. This is due only for motor vehicles were registered after October 1, 2022.

Credit card payments for tax, sewer, and COVRRRA trash bills are accepted here in the office as well as online and are processed by Point and Pay. There is a convenience fee charged by Point and Pay for credit & debit card payments. *Visa debit only* is charged a flat rate of \$3.95. All *other debit* and *all credit cards* charged 2.75% (minimum \$2.00) fee. There is a link from the Tax Collector's page on the town's website [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) to pay by **credit card**. There is another link on the Collector's page if you prefer to pay online from your **bank account**. Webster Bank processes those payments and there is no convenience fee. Please feel free to call the Tax Office before making your online payments and we will be happy to walk you through the procedure.

Once again, the Webster Bank Lockbox will be processing current tax payments only during January 2023 for Real Estate 2<sup>nd</sup> half tax due and Supplemental Motor vehicle tax due. Please include your current payment coupon with your check and to Town of Coventry, Dept 336, PO Box 150417, Hartford CT 06115-0417. All other payments (partial, late, sewer, COVRRRA/Trash) should be mailed directly to the Town of Coventry, 1712 Main St., Coventry CT 06238.

Any individual needing an immediate DMV clearance in order to register any vehicle is reminded to pay by **cash or a money order** at the Tax Collector's office. Check payments may delay your DMV clearance up to ten (10) business days. Also, paying online by credit card or bank account through the town's website can take up to seven (7) days to clear with DMV due to weekends and holidays.

We strongly encourage paying online at our website [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org), by mail or use the convenience of the drop box permanently installed inside the rear vestibule entrance to Town Hall. Please do not use the ballot box located outside for payments.

**PAYMENT DUE CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER-** Sewer Use Fee **single** payment. **NOVEMBER** – Sewer Assessment fee 2<sup>nd</sup> installment. **JANUARY** – Real Estate 2<sup>nd</sup> installment and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax only if applicable. **MAY** – Sewer Assessment fee 1<sup>st</sup> installment. **JULY** – Real Estate 1<sup>st</sup> installment; Motor Vehicle, COVRRRA and Personal Property **single** payment.

## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

860-742-4067



Veterans have until September 30th to file your DD214 with the Town Clerk to be eligible for an exemption for the 2022 Grand List. You must have served at least 90 days during a time of war. If you have already filed, you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically each year.

If you are a disabled Veteran with a VA rating at 10% or more you are eligible for increased benefits. If you have filed previously and there is an increase in rating please submit your new rating letter to this office.

There is also an Additional Veteran's Exemption available for those Veterans who meet income guidelines. These applications must be submitted in person to the Assessor's office before October 1, 2022. Please call our office if your income is less than \$46,400 if married or less than \$38,100 if single. We will be happy to give you more information and assist you in filling out the application.

### **OTHER EXEMPTIONS – FILING DEADLINE OCTOBER 1, 2022:**

Totally Disabled and Legally Blind exemptions are available with a one-time application necessary.

### **PERSONAL PROPERTY:**

All business owners and owners of unregistered motor vehicles or vehicles registered out of state but are most often located in Coventry are required to declare their personal property by November 1st of each year. The forms will be available on the Town's web site, [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) and in the Assessor's Office. Please contact us for further information or with any questions you may have.

### **FARM AND FOREST CLASSIFICATIONS:**

The intent of these classifications is to encourage the preservation of farm land and forest land. Certain qualifications apply which can be reviewed on the applications that are available on the Town's web site, [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) and in the Assessor's Office. If you are considering applying for the Forestland designation, please note that you must have a completed Foresters Report completed by October 1, 2022. For application deadlines and guidance please contact our office.

*John Preisner, Assessor and Rachel Vertefeulle, Assistant Assessor are here to assist you. Please stop in or call with any questions.*

## FOOD BANK

Coventry Food Bank is available to any individual or family living in town that is experiencing difficult times and is in need of assistance with food. We have a variety of pantry and toiletries items. Please contact our office to schedule a brief intake and a food bank appointment.

We are solely a donor-funded program and would not be provided for this community without the generous donations from our residents, churches and schools. Thank you for your continued support!! If you would like to donate to the food bank, we are always in need of:

- Cereal
- Kids snacks
- Pasta/ pasta sauce
- Mac and cheese
- Peanut butter/jelly
- Rice
- Laundry soap
- Personal care (toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner)

The needs of the Food Bank can change depending on the month/season so follow us on Facebook for updates or give the office a call for updated list. *Please remember we cannot distribute expired items so please check expiration dates!*

## HOLIDAY “ADOPT A FAMILY” PROGRAM

If you are a family or individual in need of help this holiday season, we can help with a holiday meal or even gifts for the children in the house (birth to 18 if still in high school). Please call our office to set up an appointment to discuss your needs.

## HOLIDAY DONATIONS

The holidays are quickly approaching! Many families and individuals will benefit from your generosity this holiday season.

### How can you help?

- Donate a turkey or ham \*\*
- Donate canned goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, dessert
- Donate new unwrapped toy
- Donate gift cards (Walmart, Amazon, Target, Grocery Store, Gas cards, etc.)
- Call for information on you can “Adopt a family” for the holiday
- Monetary donations can be made in lieu of food or gifts. Please mail your donation to Coventry Human Services - 1712 Main Street, Coventry 06238.

\*\* Freezer space is limited, please call ahead if you are making a large donation of frozen turkeys or hams \*\*

## HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

860-742-5324

### WORRIED ABOUT WINTER HEATING COSTS?

**The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program** is designed to offset winter heating costs for low-income (below 60% of state median income) households.

### What do I do if I want to apply for help?

To apply for assistance, applicants must schedule an appointment and provide copies of required documents for all household members (**ALL** documentation needs to be brought to the appointment, if not the appointment will need to be rescheduled) - Please contact office for specific details.

We strongly encourage applicants to make an appointment with ACCESS Agency or Coventry Human Services early as space is limited. Appointments will be rescheduled if proper documentation is not provided at the initial intake.

\*Program follows CT Poverty Guidelines; please call the office to see if you qualify.

### CLERGY FUEL FUND

Residents who wish to contribute to the Clergy Fuel Fund can mail their donation to Coventry Human Services c/o Clergy Fuel Fund.

100% of the money raised is used to assist Coventry families in need of emergency fuel assistance once all other resources have been exhausted. We require proof of 1 out-of-pocket fuel payment.

Your contribution can make a difference this winter!

### Contacting us by email:

[Humanservices@coventryct.org](mailto:Humanservices@coventryct.org)

Administrator - Annemarie Sundgren: [asundgren@coventryct.org](mailto:asundgren@coventryct.org)

Administrative Assistant - Dianna Grindle: [dgrindle@coventryct.org](mailto:dgrindle@coventryct.org)



**Please follow Coventry Human Services on Facebook for updates on future programs and events!!**

## COVENTRY YOUTH SERVICES

### A message from the Administrator of Human Services:

In the end of April we acknowledged the departure of Sneha L’Heureux, a valued team member who pursued an excellent career opportunity. Her replacement, Samantha Breault, was a fantastic addition to our department! While Sam was only with us a short time, she was an ambitious self-starter. These qualities led her to accept an opportunity she couldn’t pass up. Her last day with us will be September 5, 2022. Please join us in wishing her the best!

While we search for our next candidate for Youth Services Coordinator, please know that Sam successfully concluded our Gearing Up to Learn back to school program and assisted families in need of back to school supplies and backpacks.

Our Youth department also met with our new Chief of Police, Eric Peterson, to discuss the Juvenile Review Board and collaboration with Coventry Police Department. It is with great dedication that we pursue open communication and a high level of care when making/receiving referrals from our community partners.

Our Youth Services department remains devoted to positive youth development. We offer short term case management and referrals for other direct services to at-risk children, youth and their families.

*Please follow Coventry Youth Services on Facebook for updates on future programs and events!!*

# SENIOR CENTER

172 Lake Street • 860-742-3525

The Coventry Senior Center is committed to providing adults 55+, a welcoming, inclusive and supportive environment to participate in recreational, educational and wellness programs. The Center is committed to these core principles, focusing on the integration of best practices in program development and continued community collaboration.

***We are here to meet the needs of our adult citizens in Coventry.***

Website: [www.coventryct.org/SeniorCenter](http://www.coventryct.org/SeniorCenter)  
"Friend" Us: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

#### Staff:

Brenda Bennett, Coordinator; [bbennett@coventryct.org](mailto:bbennett@coventryct.org)

#### Hours of Operation:

Mon - Wed, 9 AM - 4 PM; Thurs, 9 AM - 6 PM; Fri 9 AM - 1 PM

**Sign up for our Digital Newsletter:** The Senior Center is going paperless! Help us go green by signing up for our email list. To update your information and receive our monthly newsletter please call (860) 742-3525. No computer? No problem! Paper copies of the newsletter can be picked up at the Senior Center during our operational hours.

**Veteran's Coffee Hour:** Join the Senior Center, American Legion Post 52 and the VFW on October 12 at 9:30 at the Center for coffee and conversation, information sharing, camaraderie, and benefits/entitlements education and for Veterans. Enrollment forms for VA Healthcare will be available, and a representative from the Soldiers, Sailors, and Marine Fund will be on site to assist those who qualify. RSVP is appreciated.

**Veterans Day Tribute:** November 9, hosted by the Senior Center and American Legion Post 52 to honor and recognize our Coventry Veterans and their families. Ceremony at noon followed by fellowship and lunch at the Senior Center.

**CHOICES COUNSELING:** If you would like to review your health insurance options, please call us at 860-742-3525 to make a confidential appointment with a certified CHOICES Counselor. Appointments are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

#### AARP SAFE DRIVING COURSE

October 14: 9 AM—1 PM

Senior Center Lodge

Offered by AARP Driver Safety, the nation's first and largest refresher course designed specifically for older drivers. If you, your friends or family members may benefit from the course, we encourage you to take the opportunity to update your driving knowledge and skills. No written or road tests! You may qualify for a discount on your auto insurance. \$15 with AARP membership cards, \$20 non-members. Pre-registration and payment is required.

#### WHAT'S NEW WITH MEDICARE FOR 2023:

Join us on Tuesday, October 25 at 11 AM to learn about Medicare, Supplemental Insurance and Prescription Drug Insurance, and changes in store for next year. RSVP is appreciated.

#### COVENTRY RIDES TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Sarah Leete, Transportation Coordinator: [sleete@coventryct.org](mailto:sleete@coventryct.org)

**Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8:30am-1:30 PM**

Coventry Rides Transportation Program provides free handicap-accessible service for Coventry Seniors and residents with disabilities to the towns of Bolton, Tolland, Vernon, and Manchester. The program has an all-volunteer team of drivers who are available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Rides can be requested no later than 48 hours prior (and by noon on Thursday for a Monday ride) and no more than two weeks in advance. Priority will be given to those with medical appointments; however, rides can be scheduled for errands, shopping, banking, employment, etc. For more information or to schedule a ride please call 860-742-3525. Coventry Rides is funded with grants from the CT Department of Transportation and the Town of Coventry.

**WRTD (Windham Region Transit District) Dial-a-ride:** Dial-a-Ride services are available for Coventry-to-Coventry transit, as well as to the 9 towns within the Windham region. Reservations can be scheduled a minimum of one business day in advance and up to two weeks prior. To schedule a ride or for more information call 860-456-2223.

#### TRIPS

**Out to Lunch Bunch:** Join us once a month for good food and good company. Meet at the Senior Center and take the bus or drive yourself! If you have a suggestion for a local restaurant please let us know!

#### BEYOND VAN GOGH:

*The Immersive Experience*

September 29

Depart from Senior Center

Show time: 11:30 AM

(1 hour)

Hartford Convention Center

Immerse yourself in Van Gogh's artwork like you've never seen it before. Expect to be amazed at the way the images come to life before your eyes. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and limited. Transportation is *FREE!* Payment is due at the time of sign up.



In the Mood:

The World Famous  
Glenn Miller Orchestra

December 7

Depart: 10:15 AM

Estimated return: 5:00 PM

Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville

This world famous orchestra is the most popular and sought after swing band in the world. Join us for a fun and lively holiday show followed by a delicious lunch at the elegant Aqua Turf in Plantsville, CT. Family-style menu: garden salad, pasta, roast turkey & baked ham, vegetable, potato, rolls, dessert, and beverage. Tickets are \$65 and seats are limited. Sponsored by Friendship Tours.

## COMING EVENTS & NOTABLE ITEMS

### VETERANS CORNER

- If you are a veteran and would like to stay informed about local and regional activities and services, please let us know. Email [CovVMEC@gmail.com](mailto:CovVMEC@gmail.com) to get connected.
- There are many veteran events in the region, and the Commission is working closely with Annemarie Sundgren, Human Resources Administrator, to communicate to the Coventry veterans about these opportunities. Annemarie Sundgren is also Coventry's designated Municipal Veteran Representative. For those seeking veteran resources, she can be reached at 860-742-5324 or by email at [asundgren@coventryct.org](mailto:asundgren@coventryct.org).
- Coventry is a designated Purple Heart Town. We have pledged to honor military personnel wounded or killed in combat and to remember acts of resiliency of brave men and women. The Purple Heart is specifically a combat decoration, and it is our Nation's oldest military medal.
- The Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) is pleased to announce that they are preparing for their annual Veterans and service members STAND DOWN which will be held on **Friday September 23, 2022** from 8:00am – 2:00pm at four regional locations in Danbury, Bridgeport, Norwich, and at our main campus in Rocky Hill. The Stand Down is a "one stop" access to a range of programs and services offered by state and federal agencies, veterans organizations, and community-based non-profits at regional sites across the State. The Stand Down will help more Veterans and service members throughout Connecticut connect with the programs and benefits they have earned. Please contact Annemarie Sundgren to arrange transportation needs for the Norwich event.
- The annual CT Veterans Day Race is scheduled for **Saturday, November 5, 2022** at Patriots Park starting with a 9:45 patriotic ceremony. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to CT Veteran Service Organizations who are directly supporting the needy veteran community. Sponsorships from local businesses and participant revenue have raised over \$50,000 over the past six years to help CT veterans. Coventry is truly a patriotic town.

Contact [ctveteransdayrace@gmail.com](mailto:ctveteransdayrace@gmail.com) or check out [www.ctveteransdayrace.com](http://www.ctveteransdayrace.com) for more information.

**October 16: Crop Hunger Walk, 1 PM.** Coventry Fire Station 208, 1645 South Street/Judd Road. This annual walk raises money for world hunger. It's a 2.4 mile circle starting and ending at the fire house, or walk an alternate 1/2 mile route on South St. Register and/or donate online at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022> and join our team "First & Second Churches of Coventry Walk." Registration also available the day of the event at 12:30. For more info contact Laura Young at [LBYoung1964@gmail.com](mailto:LBYoung1964@gmail.com).

**October 22: Coventry Chili Fest, 12-2 PM.** Sponsored by the Coventry Lions Club, the Chili Fest will take place on Coventry High School. Prizes will be awarded. Information will be available on the Lions' Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/CoventryLionsClub](http://www.facebook.com/CoventryLionsClub).

**November 25-27 & December 3-4: Artists' Open Studios of NE CT (AOS) Tour, 10 AM—5 PM.** A free self-guided art adventure! This year we have 66 artists participating in 43 venues in 18 towns here in Connecticut's Quiet Corner. Here in Coventry there will be seven of us showing in four different places. Lorraine Funk, showing her paintings, and Barbara Timberman displaying her bookbinding, drawings, paintings and prints will be showing in their own homes. Aline Hoffman will have her gourd art, pyrography, birch paintings on textured paper and Chinese brush paintings on display in her home. Hoffman will be hosting two other artists: her sister-in-law Debbie Hoffman, a painter, and jeweler Marylin Makuch. Another group show will be at Mill Brook Place where Judith Myers and Jane Penfield will have their paintings on display.

For more information visit [www.aosct.org/](http://www.aosct.org/) or you can contact AOS president, Aline Hoffman at [optmst@icloud.com](mailto:optmst@icloud.com). Brochures will be available online and in numerous sponsoring businesses listed at the bottom of our homepage. Participating artists will have them as well. The final day of the tour, December 4, coincides with Christmas in the Village. In the event of bad weather check with the artists you want to see. Also, check with artists about mask use for Covid.

**December 4: Christmas in the Village, 12-4 PM, Main Street (Rt. 31).** Sponsored by Coventry Lions Club. A variety of fun activities are being planned. Specific details are forthcoming. For more info call 860-742-7160 or 860-617-3588 or 860-918-5957 or check the Coventry Lions Facebook page.

**The Coventry Visitors' Center** is not just for out-of-towners. In addition to tourist information, it features local historical displays and memorabilia. Built in 1876 as the original town hall, a look at this historical gem is worth a stop in Coventry Village. Staffed by volunteers, it is usually open weekends from 10 AM—2 PM during the summer and fall.

**The Daffodil Beautification Project**, sponsored by the Village Improvement Society, will be selling bulbs again this fall. Since the project began in 1993, approximately 382,190 bulbs have been planted throughout Coventry! To order Dutch Master or a variety of bulbs at \$5 per dozen, call Judy at 860-214-9567.

**Coventry Scholarship Foundation:** The CSF Dollars for Scholars program has completed another successful year. At the high school awards ceremony in June, scholarship money was distributed to 57 graduating seniors from Coventry. Including multi-year awards, the Foundation distributed over \$71,000 this school year. The annual fundraiser held in March, 2022 netted approximately \$24,000. The Foundation would like to thank all citizens of Coventry who helped make this another very successful year. This includes all of the volunteers, contributors, community organizations, school staff and Foundation board members whose joint efforts have helped this program grow each year. This is truly a community effort. We are looking forward to March 2023 and another successful fundraising year.

**Greetings from the Coventry Winter Farmers Market!** The market is back at Coventry High School from November 13, 2022 thru March 19, 2023. Although not affiliated with the summer market, we work together to provide attendees and vendors the best possible farmer's market experience. You'll find many of your favorite summer vendors (look for signs at summer vendor booths advertising their participation in the winter market) as well as many new ones. Check our website [www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com](http://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com) for hours and vendors, and please sign up for the weekly e-newsletter.

If you're interested in sponsoring CWFM please contact Aline Hoffman at [optmst@icloud.com](mailto:optmst@icloud.com). If you're interested in being a vendor, contact Stuart Hecht at [CWFM2022.23@gamil.com](mailto:CWFM2022.23@gamil.com).

## NEWS FROM PARKS AND RECREATION

860-742-4068



Camp Wangumbaug (Camp W) had a successful summer serving over 75 campers per week for 8 weeks. In addition to Camp Wangumbaug, the Parks and Rec Department ran seven specialty camp programs including Lego Camp, Volleyball Camp, and Mad Science Camp. A BIG THANK YOU to the Camp Wangumbaug staff for their hard work providing an amazing camp experience to so many campers this summer!

Patriots Park and Lisicke Beach saw big crowds throughout the summer prior to the Eastern Highlands Health District Health Advisory/Closure on July 22nd due to the blue – green algae bloom. A BIG THANK YOU to the lifeguards, gatekeepers, and swim lesson instructors for a GREAT SEASON! Also, a thank you to the community for their understanding through the algae bloom issues.

**SAVE THE DATE for Halloween on Main:** Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> with a rain date of Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Registration is OPEN for Coventry Youth Basketball! Programs offered for boys and girls in grades K – 8. Registration deadline is September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Now taking fall & winter reservations for the Lodge & Millbrook. Both rental facilities are ideal for a company holiday party or family holiday gathering. Book your next special event with Coventry Parks and Recreation!

**Fall/Winter Edition of 06238 Program Guide** hitting homes in September! Parks and Recreation continues to add new program offerings each season!

### FALL NEWS FROM COVENTRY LAKE ADVISORY & MONITORING COMMITTEE

Coventry Lake had its first toxic blue-green algae bloom in July that required Eastern Highlands Health District to issue a public health advisory that the bloom was at a level that could potentially impact the health of persons or animals coming in contact with the waters of the lake. Coventry joins other communities, such as Lower Bolton Lake, in what is a national concern that blue-green algae blooms are on the increase. The Town of Coventry along with Eastern Highlands Health District and Coventry's limnologist have joined together to provide to the public weekly reporting of the bloom while it is active and asked the public to assist by reporting blooms. Help be a part of the solution. The Annual State of the Lake Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 7 PM at CHS Veterans Auditorium.

It is fall and time to **CLEAN DRAIN DRY** your vessel and equipment. It is recommended not to use soap as it contains phosphorous, a known food for algae. Instead, wash your vessels with white vinegar and let them dry in the sun. Checkout CT DEEP's site for other tips: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/Boating/boating\\_guide/part8pdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/Boating/boating_guide/part8pdf.pdf)

2022 was the 5<sup>th</sup> season that Coventry Lake was treated for the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla using applications of the systemic herbicide, fluridone. The first two applications were in July, and August. Updates from North East Aquatic Research show that the treatment plan has been successful in reducing the spread of hydrilla. The last booster treatment for this year is September 20.

Find us on Facebook at Coventry, CT- Coventry Lake Community-'Lake Wangumbaug' or address questions to [CoventryLakeAdvisor@CoventryCT.org](mailto:CoventryLakeAdvisor@CoventryCT.org).

## NEWS FROM THE BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is under renovations and open normal hours! We are excited to have begun our Renovation & Improvement Project, which will see the library transformed into a modern and more user-friendly space. While construction is ongoing, our children's space has been temporarily moved upstairs. All materials throughout the building remain available for check-out. Please check our Facebook or website for further information on construction.

Regular programming is being offered for all ages at the library. Take & Make program bags are available weekly. For children, we are offering two new monthly programs. The first is an interactive, sensory focused story time called "Sing, Stomp, and Story." The second, "Curiosity Corner Live," is a hands-on, educational program that explores multiple subjects.



We are excited to be collaborating with the Bloomfield Public Library for a festive fall program "Ghosts & Legends," presented by Jeff Belanger. Watch at Mill Brook Place or Zoom in from home.

### Hours of Operation

Tuesday 10-8  
Wednesday 10-8  
Thursday 10-8  
Friday 10-8  
Saturday 10-6

1134 Main Street  
860-742-7606

[www.coventrypl.org](http://www.coventrypl.org)



#### **COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MEMBERS:** Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson; Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairperson; Mary Kortmann, Secretary; Peter DePaola; Emma Eaton; Courtney Rossignol; and Christina Williams.

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS:**

The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. The remaining scheduled meetings for 2022 are as follows: September 29, October 13, October 27, November 10, and December 8. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the Administration Building Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. and can be viewed on Channel 194. To watch previously recorded Board of Education meetings, please visit [www.coventryct.viebit.com](http://www.coventryct.viebit.com) to access the Town of Coventry's Video On Demand Library.

**OPEN DOOR MEETINGS:** Meet with Superintendent of Schools, David J. Petrone, Ed.D. His ongoing practice is to meet with as many parents and members of our Coventry community as possible. Open communication is a key component for true collaboration. Due to participation preferences, all of this year's informal gatherings will be held virtually via ZOOM. The link for meetings will be posted on the Superintendent Webpage under **OPEN DOOR MEETINGS**. All parents and community members are invited to keep informed about education in our town by attending any of his Open Door meetings in the new school year. The dates for the 2022-2023 school year are:

- Thursday, October 13 at 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 25 at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 26 5:30 p.m.

#### **SCHOOL CALENDAR APPROVED:**

The Board of Education approved the 2022-2023 Coventry Public Schools calendar at their meeting on February 24, 2022.

This calendar can be found on our website at <https://www.coventrypublicschools.org/quicklinks/2223-calendar>.

#### **EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS, CLOSINGS, LATE OPENINGS, UNPLANNED EARLY RELEASES:**

In addition to parents receiving messages through School Messenger, these announcements are carried on radio stations WILI (98.3 FM, 1400AM), WTIC (96.5 FM, 1080AM), WRCH (100.5 FM), WZMX (93.7), WKSS (95.7), and WWYZ (92.5). Announcements are also carried on the television stations WFSB Channel 3, WVIT Channel 30 (cable Channel 4), and WTNH Channel 8. For more information on start and end times during unexpected delays or early releases, please see our website.

#### **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:**

Coventry Public Schools has always benefited from the generous efforts and talents of community and parent volunteers. Interested in volunteering in any of the schools in district? To become a volunteer, please contact the building principals for more specific information.

- Joseph Blake, Coventry High School Principal, 860-742-7346, or [jblake@coventryct.org](mailto:jblake@coventryct.org)
- Ross Sward, Capt. Nathan Hale School Principal, 860-742-7334, or [rsward@coventryct.org](mailto:rsward@coventryct.org)
- Jennifer DeRagon, George Hersey Robertson School Principal, 860-742-7341, or [jderagon@coventryct.org](mailto:jderagon@coventryct.org)
- Ronda Carrie, Coventry Grammar School Principal, 860-742-7313, or [rcarrie@coventryct.org](mailto:rcarrie@coventryct.org)
- Lois Hasty, Preschool and Early Childhood Education Coordinator, 860-742-4550, or [lhasty@coventryct.org](mailto:lhasty@coventryct.org)

#### **IN THE PRESS:**

We are excited to share some recent district headlines with you:

- Coventry Teachers Awarded Innovative Grants for 2022-2023 School Year
- CGS Students Name Snowplows
- CNH Track and Field Competes in State Championship
- CNH Girls Softball and CNH Boys Baseball – Undefeated Season!

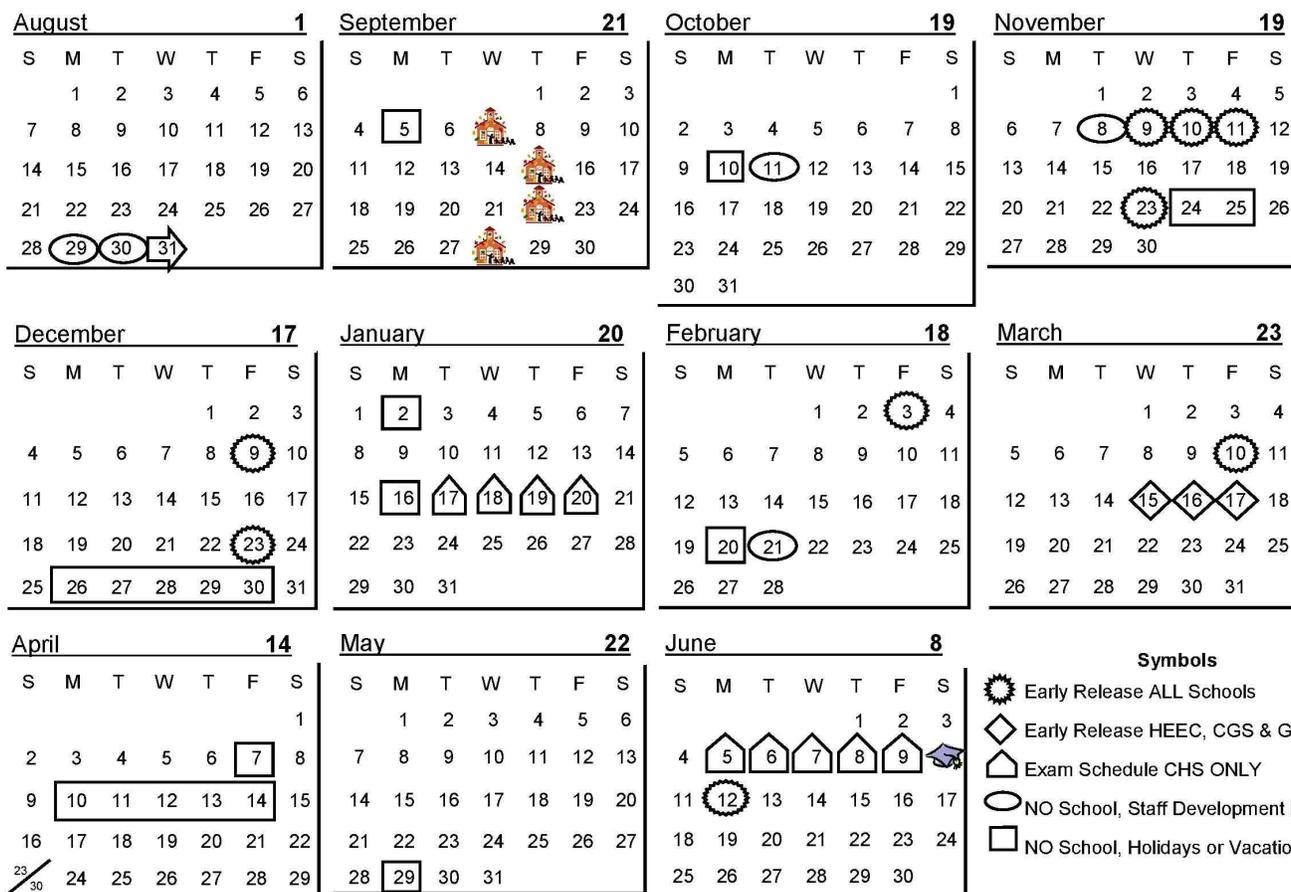
You can find the full press releases for these highlights and more on our website at:

<https://www.coventrypublicschools.org/district/news>



Photo: Grade One students, Public Works Driver John Hoffman and Truck # 14 "Frostbite."

# 2022-2023 Coventry Public Schools Calendar



**Student Days = 182 / Staff Days = 187**

**August 2022**

29 - 30 Staff Development  
 ↗ 31 **Students - Full Day**

**September**

5 No School, Labor Day  
 7 CGS Open House  
 15 HEEC Open House  
 15 CNH Open House  
 22 GHR Open House  
 28 CHS Open House

**October**

10 No School, October Break  
 11 No School, Staff Development

**November**

8 No School, Staff Development (Voting in the Schools)  
 9-10-11 All Schools Early Release - Conferences  
 23 All Schools Early Release  
 24-25 Thanksgiving Break

**December**

9 All Schools Early Release Staff Development  
 23 All Schools Early Release  
 26-30 No School December Break

**January 2023**

2 New Years Day Observed  
 16 No School, MLK Day  
 17-18-19-20 CHS Exam Schedule

**February**

3 All Schools Early Release Staff Development  
 20 No School, Presidents' Day  
 21 No School, Staff Development

**March**

10 All Schools Early Release Staff Development  
 15-16-17 HEEC, CGS & GHR Early Release - Conferences

**April**

7-14 No School, Good Friday and April

**May**

29 No School, Memorial Day

**June \***

5 - 9 CHS Exam Day Schedule  
 10 Graduation  
 12 (or last day of school) All Schools Early Release

**Grades PK - 5  
 Trimester Marking Periods & Report Card Distribution**

Period 1 ends **Dec 2** / Report Cards out on **Dec 9**  
 Period 2 ends **March 3** / Report Cards out on **March 10**  
 Period 3 ends **June 5** / Report Cards out on **June 12**

**Grades 6 - 12  
 Quarter Marking Periods & Report Card Distribution**

Period 1 ends **Nov 4** / Report Cards out on **Nov 11**  
 Period 2 ends **Jan 20** / Report Cards out on **Jan 27**  
 Period 3 ends **Mar 24** / Report Cards out on **Mar 31**  
 Period 4 Grades **6-8** ends **June 5** / Report Cards out on **June 12**  
 Period 4 Grades **9-12** ends **June 12** / Report Cards out on **June 23**

\* **Some** June dates are tentative, based upon the number of days to be made up.

**School Phone Numbers**

Hale Early Education Center (preK)..... 742-4550  
 Coventry Grammar School K-2 (CGS)... 742-7313  
 G. H. Robertson School 3-5 (GHR)..... 742-7341  
 Capt. Nathan Hale School 6-8 (CNH)... 742-7334  
 Coventry High School 9-12 (CHS)..... 742-7346  
 Administration Building..... 742-7317

[www.coventrypublicschools.org](http://www.coventrypublicschools.org)

BOE Approved: 02/24/2022

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



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

## **TOWN OF COVENTRY NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING AND NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING**

The electors and qualified voters entitled to vote in the Town Meetings of the Town of Coventry, are hereby notified and warned that a Special Town Meeting will be held at the Town Hall Annex (1712 Main Street, Coventry, Connecticut 06238) on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. (E.T.) for the following purposes:

1. To receive a communication from the Town Council with respect a resolution entitled “Resolution Appropriating \$4,865,000 For The Planning, Design, Engineering, Construction, Reconstruction And Improvement Of Various Town Roadways, Culverts And Bridge Replacement, And For The Acquisition Of A Payloader Machine And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$4,865,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.
2. To consider a resolution entitled “Resolution Appropriating \$4,865,000 For The Planning, Design, Engineering, Construction, Reconstruction And Improvement Of Various Town Roadways, Culverts And Bridge Replacement, And For The Acquisition Of A Payloader Machine And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$4,865,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.

Pursuant to Section 9-3(e) of the Town Charter, such meeting will be adjourned by the Moderator to a Referendum vote at an Adjourned Town Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 on the following question:

1. “Shall the resolution entitled ‘Resolution Appropriating \$4,865,000 For The Planning, Design, Engineering, Construction, Reconstruction And Improvement Of Various Town Roadways, Culverts And Bridge Replacement, And For The Acquisition Of A Payloader Machine And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$4,865,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose’, as introduced and read at a Special Town Meeting held September 6, 2022, be approved?”
2. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Copies of said proposed bond resolution are on file and open to public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at Coventry, Connecticut, this 23 day of August, 2022.

**VISIT THE TOWN WEBSITE AT [WWW.COVENTRYCT.ORG](http://WWW.COVENTRYCT.ORG)**