

the FIVE VILLAGE VOICE



East Windsor
CONNECTICUT



Spring 2023

Jason E. Bowsza

At the Board of Selectmen meeting on December 15th, the Board decided not to implement the recently completed property valuation.

Property revaluations are required by law every five years, with one cycle being a full physical valuation and the next being a statistical valuation. The one conducted over the past year was a statistical valuation. Statistical valuations consider real estate market activities (i.e. sale prices) and apportion those over all property of a similar building type. For example, the revaluation may look at the average increase in sale prices for thirty ranches that sold over the last year or two, and then apply the percentage change in value to all similar ranches in the community, regardless of sales.

What we found when digging into the results of the valuations was that nearly ninety percent of properties in East Windsor saw an increase in value – typically a good thing. However, in this case, many of those increases were substantial, and would have resulted in a significant shift in values away from commercial properties and onto residential properties. Values increased on res-

idential properties by 40% over five years ago, whereas they increased by 10% on commercial properties in that same period. Both swings in value are likely driven in part by changing market demand because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This swing would have increased the tax burden on homeowners during a time of high interest rates, high inflation, untenable utility increases, and other economic concerns. The Board of Selectmen considered the pros and cons of the three options that were available to the town to provide relief and decided that the best course of action would be to not implement the revaluation. By electing not to implement the revaluation, the average household in East Windsor will not see a significant swing in tax burden.

Recognizing the concerns in the community and the impact on households throughout town, I met three times with the Undersecretary of the Office of Police and Management (OPM), Martin Heft, to discuss each option (one meeting with all three of our legislators, once with just Undersecretary Heft, and once with the full Board of Selectmen). I want to thank the undersecretary for his willingness

to help us fully understand our options, the pros and cons of each, and to make a sound decision for the people in our community.

So, what comes next? The law allows the Town to forego implementation of a property revaluation one time, and for one year. To do so, the municipal CEO (the first selectman) needs to submit a waiver to the Secretary of OPM within thirty days of filing the Grand List that utilizes the old property valuations (this will take place in February). This will mean that a property valuation will need to be conducted in 2023, and then again in 2027. The delay in revaluation will allow for the real estate market to stabilize so that residential taxpayers are not locked into artificially high real estate prices for a five-year period.

The Board of Selectmen recognizes that townspeople are struggling with a challenging economy, and we do not want to compound those economic struggles with a property valuation right now if we can avoid it. There are simply too many outside pressures to impose this on our community at this time. We will continue to find ways of providing services that our community needs without overburdening taxpayers.

FIRST SELECTMAN

East Windsor Parks & Recreation

Office Info & Hours: 25 School Street, East Windsor CT 06088

Monday-Wednesday: 8:30am-4:30pm

Thursday: 8:30am-7:00pm

Friday: 8:30am-1:00pm

Mailing Address: 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Registration Website: www.EastWindsorRec.com

Recreation Staff:

Director of Recreation & Community Services: Melissa Maltese, mmaltese@eastwindsorct.com

Recreation Lead: Samantha Charette, scharette@eastwindsorct.com

Administrative Assistant: Irene Mosher, imosher@eastwindsorct.com

Office/Program Assistant: Debbie Williams, dwilliams@eastwindsorct.com

General Info

Age Requirement: For programs with age requirements, children must meet the minimum age before the program starts.

Inclement Weather: Program cancellations due to inclement weather are announced via email blasts through the Recreation Department's registration system as well as posted on our Facebook page. We also broadcast on Channel 3's Early Warning Announcement system. For programs located within the schools, we follow the school's weather cancellations.

Program Scholarships: Those requiring assistance to participate in programs may speak with the Director regarding financial assistance and scholarship opportunities.

Registration Info

Mail-In: Registrations are accepted on a first come-first serve basis. Printable registration forms are available at www.EastWindsorRec.com. Paper copies are also available in the Parks & Recreation Office and Town Hall.

Mail your completed form with payment to:

East Windsor Parks & Recreation, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016
Consider yourself registered if you do not hear from us.

Drop-Boxes: Drop-Boxes are conveniently located at four locations around town in which to place registrations and payments. Drop Boxes are locked and checked frequently by Parks & Recreation Staff. Locations are as follows

Broad Brook School – Outside of Main Office

East Windsor Middle School – Outside of Main Office

Town Hall – Outside Main Entrance

Police Station – Inside Lobby

Online: Conveniently register for most programs at www.EastWindsorRec.com. Upon registering for the first time, create a family account prior to registering for programs.

After registration, you will immediately receive an email confirmation.

Payment: Payment in full must be accepted before registration is considered valid. We accept cash, checks, and credit cards.

Refund Policy: No refunds will be given after a program begins unless extenuating circumstances prevent you from participating in the program. The Director of Recreation and Community Services has final say in all matters concerning refunds.

We encourage early registration because often we are forced to cancel programs if a minimum enrollment number is not reached prior to the start of class.

Check our website or Facebook page for updated programming.

Arts and Culture Committee

The East Windsor Arts and Culture Committee (EWA+C) has a logo! After collecting submissions from a variety of talented residents of all ages, the Committee chose a lightbulb design by Kelly Boulay, which they felt represented the Committee's ideas and innovation. Thank you and congratulations to Kelly!



This past December the Department of Public Works (DPW), with help from EWA+C, commissioned a local artist to paint the plow outside the Public Works facility. One side of the plow says "Welcome to Public Works" while the other side highlights the DPW's role as first responders.

In January, in collaboration with the American Heritage River Commission, the EWA+C debuted a chainsaw carving by Connecticut chainsaw artist Ed Crowell of E A Crowell's Bear Creek Studio at the annual New Year's Day hike. The carving is of a pileated woodpecker, which can often be seen along the trail at Scantic River State Park.

EWA+C has four projects in the works at East Windsor Schools: two at Broad Brook Elementary School and two at the High School. Broad Brook School will be getting a mural on the outside back wall of the cafeteria and will have a Rock River in front of the gym with rocks painted by fourth graders, and added to every year by the following class. East Windsor High School will have a Panther Pride installation on their tennis court fence, and the Class of 2023 will be customizing pallet boards for display at graduation in

the Spring.

EWA+C is currently holding a photography contest that started in January and runs until the end of April. Please check our Facebook page (East Windsor Arts and Culture) or email us at ewartsandculture@gmail.com for more information and contest rules.

As always, we would love to hear your ideas for future Arts and Culture projects!

Debbie Williams, Chair, Arts and Culture Committee

Mental Health Team

Over the last few years, our country has struggled with the pandemic, racism, climate change, drug addiction, violence, inflation, and many more stressful situations. It is no wonder that mental health has become an essential topic for us all. As a police department, we have seen the effects of these difficult times in our community which is why we were inspired to assist our citizens with a different approach. Thus, our Mental Health Team was born.

Our goal was to create a team to help our community's response to mental health issues, including opioid and other substance abuse disorders, assist those diagnosed or struggling with a mental illness, and seek resources for youth/juvenile services for families in need.

The team will focus on providing early intervention services through referral and assistance rather than police involvement. They will offer follow-up care and wrap-around services after a mental health/substance abuse event. They will partner with the school resource officer, town social services department, and outside resources to provide critical aid when needed, sponsor programs to teach and inform our citizens about safety and well-being issues and be an additional link for addressing community problems.

We set out to train our officers and find the right personnel to complement our evolving goals. This past summer, we welcomed Brittany Brice to our team as our part-time social worker. She came to us as a graduate of UCONN's one-year Advanced Master of Social Work Program and is current-



ly studying to take her LMSW exam to obtain her license in social work as she currently holds a temporary license.

Brittany jumped into her role of assisting officers in the field during mental health calls and providing follow-up to residents needing continued support. She is also working with our School Resource Officer to offer guidance to students and their families while providing resources and services as needed. Brittany has been networking with local and state civic and counseling agencies,

health groups, and organizations that can assist our team in enhancing the well-being of our community.

Brittany's goal is to make the program work seamlessly with all the Town already has to offer and keep adding to it. Her belief is that by providing individuals and their families with the support they need and making deep-rooted connections can help them overcome challenges and improve their mental stability. In addition, she will attend ongoing professional development in learning how to provide peer support for any of our officers who might need help with stress management or are in crisis themselves.

In her spare time, Brittany enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, reading, and assisting the Connecticut National Guard's family program.

Brittany has been open and welcoming to all that have needed her services in the short amount of time she has been with us. We are so thankful to have her as part of our team.

Roger Hart, Acting Chief

Social Services

Social Services was overwhelmed with the support it received for the 2022 Holiday Basket and Gift Programs, despite the current economic climate.

From the Stuff A Cruiser event held at Walmart by the East Windsor Police, to the generous contributions from sponsors, local businesses, community organizations, and East Windsor residents, Social Services was overflowing with donations of food, gift cards, toys, and gifts.

The Holiday Baskets Program provided hams or turkeys and gifts cards to 168 families at Thanksgiving and 253 families at Christmas. The Holiday Gift program assisted 72 East Windsor families consisting of 122 children ranging from newborns to 17-year-olds.

As ever, Social Services is grateful for the consistent support and generosity of the East Windsor Community during the holiday season.

Bridget Joy and Lori Butenas,
East Windsor Social Services

Park Hill

This is always a good time of the year to reflect on our accomplishments and stories that were created in 2022. We have a few here at Park Hill that I would like to share.

Though Covid 19 continues to be a part of our lives, we are learning that if we take the necessary precautions we can carry on with our daily routines and enjoy the activities that make us happy and promote socialization. Many of our residents enjoy various gatherings and activities either organized by the tenant association or by our Resident Services Coordinator, Carolyn and are all held in our community hall. Some of our residents also participate in the activities offered by the senior center.

With the generous award of \$700 through the East Windsor Greater Together Community Fund, we had a licensed nutritionist provide informational presentations on the benefits of eating healthy particularly how this can prevent certain diseases such as diabetes and hypertension.

Most recently we were very fortunate again to be the recipient of \$500 from the East Windsor Greater Together Community fund for a

small food pantry for our Park Hill residents located in our Resident Services office. This will be instrumental for the unexpected situations that could prevent our residents from shopping for their groceries or having food delivered such as inclement weather or a financial set back. The pantry will be stocked with nonperishable food and personal items.

CT Energize is working with Eversource to conduct weatherization upgrades for multi-family housing communities. In December they assessed 9 of our 84 apartments and installed LED light bulbs were needed, changed aerators, and checked windows and doors for drafts. Since our residents pay for their own electric, this program is certainly beneficial. If additional residents are interested, they will return in January. CT Energize will submit a full report once the assessment is complete.

On behalf of the entire staff, residents, and commissioners, we continue to be appreciative of the generosity and support that Park Hill receives from the entire East Windsor community.

Thank you,

Linda Collins, *Director*

We're from here.

Family owned and operated since 1974, we have always cared about the communities we serve—because we live, work, and play here, just like you. Inspired by future generations, we continue to adapt and innovate—embracing new technologies to meet the ever-evolving recycling landscape.

Our innovations include building the largest state-of-the-art recycling facility in the country, powering our buildings with solar energy, and fueling our trucks with all-American natural gas.

We're committed to our communities and the planet.



CALL TODAY: 800.826.7952
AAWLLC.COM

**At Your Service
Since 1974**



Our communities count on us.

Increasing Water Safety Awareness in East Windsor for Summer 2023

East Windsor Parks & Recreation is excited to announce that they are a recipient of grant monies from the East Windsor Greater Together Community Fund for their second round of funding. East Windsor Parks & Recreation has been awarded \$2,776.00 to fully fund two swim instructors and additional teaching aids needed to run swim lessons at East Windsor Reservoir. With this funding, we will be able to provide swim lessons at NO COST to East Windsor residents for the Summer of 2023, as well as adding additional capacity and levels.

With the suspension of many swim programs in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as an increase in backyard pools being built, water competency among our youth is more important than ever. The goal of this funding is to provide East Windsor Youth with



lessons that will help them become competent and confident in the water, while also extending our reach to those where cost is a barrier.

East Windsor Parks & Recreation provides American Red Cross swim lessons over the course of 4 - 2-week sessions in the summer. In addition, we are partnering with East Windsor Public Schools to provide classroom water safety lessons during the month of May, which just so happens to be Water Safety Month.

Please visit our website at www.EastWindsorRec.com or our social media pages (Facebook/Instagram). As we get closer to summer, we will announce registration dates for our swim sessions. We are incredibly grateful to the East Windsor Greater Together Community Fund and Hartford Foundation for seeing the value in our project and look forward to welcoming many faces (new and old) to the park this summer!

Panther Plunge Returns to East Windsor Reservoir in 2023

East Windsor Community Services is excited to announce the return of the Panther Plunge to East Windsor Reservoir! This event is not for the faint of heart, as plungers will have to succumb to the icy waters of the Res at the height of winter. However, the benefits far exceed the temporary discomfort the water will bring.

Proceeds from the event will go towards the East Windsor Fuel Bank. This will ensure that we can successfully help East Windsor families heat their homes during the cold winter months.

The event will take place on Saturday, February 18th (Inclement Weather Date of February 19th). Day of registration will begin at 12:00pm, with plunging at 1:00pm! After the plunge, stay for the warming party - warm up by the bonfire on the beach and purchase refreshments such as hot cocoa, tea, or coffee. A special appearance by Boomer from the Springfield Thunderbirds will also take place and we will have a DJ to keep you moving and grooving! Awards will be given out after the plunge for largest donation by a team, largest



donation by an individual and best costumes!

Those daring enough to take the plunge can register as an individual or as part of a team. You can also have friends and families sponsor your plunge by asking them to pledge donations on your behalf.

Pre-Registration is highly recommended, as T-Shirts are guaranteed to all those who reg-

ister by February 1st. For more information or to register or donate to the event, please visit www.EastWindsorRec.com. There you can register as a plunger or donate to a specific plunger or team. Even if you don't want to plunge, we hope to see you at the event! All questions should be directed to the Parks & Recreation Department by calling 860.627.6662.

Samantha Charette, Recreation Lead

Department of Public Works

At this writing the Department of Public Works (DPW) has finished our clean-up of the first snowstorm of the season. We received 4" - 5" of snow and worked through the night to keep the roads passable for the motoring public and, more importantly, emergency vehicles. We lost two

trucks to mechanical issues, one easily fixed, one not so much.

We are currently installing snow fence around Town in an effort to minimize drifting of snow onto Town roads. Reducing the drifting increases the visibility for drivers and helps to keep the roadway

clear of snow once the plows go through.

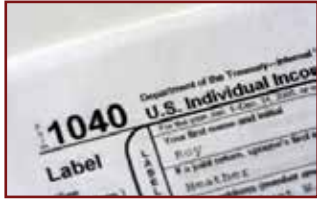
DPW Staff will be on the roads filling potholes and clearing roadsides of brush as the weather allows. Please be cautious when approaching any of our work zones. Also, if you see a

pothole, please call the Office at (860) 292-7073 and report the location. As you read this issue of the Five Village Voice, the DPW is hoping for an early spring.

Respectfully submitted.

Leonard J. Norton, P.E., Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

Elderly & Disabled Homeowner Benefit Deadline



The assessor reminds any residents eligible for homeowner benefits that the deadline to apply is **May 15th** this year. Eligibility is determined by age (over 65 years old) or the existence of a permanent disability and income.

The maximum income limit for a single person is \$40,300 and for a married couple it is \$49,100. If an income tax return has been filed with the IRS, a copy must be presented at the time of application, along with statements of any untaxable income such as Social Security or Railroad Retirement payments. If an income tax return is not filed, statements of all income must be presented. These include statements of wages, lottery winnings, taxable pensions, IRA's, interest, dividends, rental income, Social Security earnings, Railroad Retirement, veteran's payments, etc.

This is a two-year program, with refile applications, as well as new applications, due between Feb. 1 and May 15 each year, unless that deadline falls during a weekend. Existing applicants due to refile this year have been notified. We will also be accepting Veteran's, blind and totally disabled applications.

Board of Assessment Appeals BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS DEADLINE



The Board of Assessment appeals will be meeting in the month of March, if the Grand List is filed by January 31st and will meet in April if the Grand List is filed by February 28th. Appeal applications are available online on the Town website, under the Assessor's page. Applications for a hearing with the Board

must be submitted in writing at 11 Rye Street in Broad Brook CT 06016. Applications for the hearings in March must be received by February 20th and for hearings in April, by March 20th.

Please call the Assessor's Office to determine which date will be in effect. A **POST-MARK DATE IS NOT CONSIDERED TIMELY**; the application must be in the office by the deadline date. Please contact the Assessor's Office with any questions.

Helen Totz, Assessor

2023 Recycling Schedule

Recycling Collected on White Week

Holidays Observed - No Collection

Collection schedule is delayed one day after the holiday for the remainder of the week. The delay does not extend into the week after a holiday.

Mon, May 29, **Memorial Day**
Tues, July 4, **Independence Day**
Mon, Sept. 4, **Labor Day**

Thurs, Nov. 23, **Thanksgiving**
Mon, Dec. 25, **Christmas**
Mon, Jan. 1, 2024, **New Years Day**

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

East Windsor Water Pollution Control Facility

The staff of the East Windsor Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) has been busy preparing for the winter season. Much of our equipment is outside and exposed to the environment so the fall is when we attempt to complete maintenance on much of our equipment.

Along with the regular maintenance, staff has also been busy with pump station rehabilitations. The Scantic and Mill Street pump stations have been upgraded with new pumps, motors, bases, valves, and check valves. These two pump stations date back to the Tromley Road Interceptor (1984). These two stations handle much of the flow from Broad Brook. Replacing pumps and equipment at these stations is quite an undertaking as we need to shut down the station to remove the old pumps, yet we still have wastewater flowing in. This requires the use of septic haulers to pump the sewage while the equipment is being replaced.

Much planning, organization and coordination takes place prior to commencing work. The staff of the WPCF function as the General Contractor, using outside contractors on an as needed basis. The pump replacement project typically takes three complete days once we begin. Each station has two pumps along with ancillary equipment. The removal of the old equipment requires confined space work with staff working thirty-five feet underground. Once the first bolts are torched off there is no looking back. The three days are typically more than twelve hours.

Doing this type of work in-house saves an incredible amount of money. It also results in the WPCF being able to install the best equipment to ensure years of good service. It also results in the staff having institutional knowledge of the equipment. To date the Mill Street station

has received two new pumps along with valves and check valves. The Scantic station has had one complete pump assembly installed with the second pump slated for installation later this month.

Some of the other projects undertaken were the rebuilding of some of our

Raw Wastewater pumps and rebuilding of our Return Activated Sludge Pumps. New valves were installed in the solids handling process.

The Crew did a great job jetting sewer lines this season. We are mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection

See WPCF, page 8

EAST WINDSOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

Panther Plunge



"Freezin for a reason"

Proceeds will benefit the East Windsor Fuel Bank, ensuring that we can successfully help EW families heat their homes during the cold winter months

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH (INCLEMENT WEATHER DAY: FEBRUARY 19TH)

EAST WINDSOR RESERVOIR, 27 RESERVOIR AVE, BROAD BROOK

ON-SITE REGISTRATION AT 12:00PM

TAKE THE PLUNGE AT 1:00PM

JUST \$25.00 TO PLUNGE THE ICY WATERS OF THE RES!

Warming Party After the Plunge...

- Bonfire on the Beach
- Appearance by Boomer from the Springfield Thunderbirds
- Refreshments for Sale
- Costumes Encouraged: Prizes for Best Costumes!
- Mylar blankets, hand warmers and shirts provided to all plungers*

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



Awards Given For:
Largest Donation by a Team
Largest Donation by an Individual
Best Costumes

REGISTER AT WWW.EASTWINDSORREC.COM

NOT INTERESTED IN PLUNGING? DONATIONS ALSO ACCEPTED ONLINE OR IN-PERSON DAY OF EVENT.

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 1ST TO BE GUARANTEED A SHIRT

East Windsor Awarded 4.7 Million Dollars In Federal Funding

East Windsor, CT, January 5, 2023 – The Town of East Windsor has been awarded \$4.7 million in federal Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) awards, included in the recently signed federal budget. Senators Murphy and Blumenthal secured ninety-nine CDS awards across Connecticut, fourteen of which are in Congressman Larson's District. East Windsor has received three of those awards.

CDS projects approved for the Town of East Windsor include \$2.75 million for the renovation and expansion of East Windsor Scout Hall Youth Center and streamline town services for seniors and low-income residents; \$1.2 million for the School Hill Water Association to connect 31 homes and 87 residents to the Connecticut Water public water system; and

\$750,000 for the Connecticut Trolley Museum to move forward the goal of developing the Trolley Museum into a living history museum.

"This is a tremendous windfall in federal funds for the Town of East Windsor," said First Selectman Jason E. Bowsza. "We are so appreciative of the support from Senator Murphy, Senator Blumenthal, and Representative Larson."

In a statement released just after passage of the federal budget, Senator Blumenthal said "these projects will undoubtedly strengthen our communities and I am proud to have worked alongside Senator Murphy to deliver these invaluable investments to Connecticut."

"This year's government funding package will make a difference in our community locally

and across the county, and I commend (House Appropriations Chair) Rosa DeLauro on her leadership to get this package across the finish line," Congressman Larson said in a statement.

"The funding included for East Windsor represents one of the largest federal awards the Town of East Windsor has ever seen," Bowsza added.

The \$2.75 million for the renovation and expansion of the Scout Hall Youth Center represents fifty-five percent of the project estimate and is considered "last in" funding from the federal government, which means that the Town of East Windsor would need to secure the remaining \$2.25 million through other means to access the federal funds.

WPCF, continued from page 7

Agency (EPA) to clean a certain amount of sewer lines each year to mitigate the number of sewage backups and overflows. Our goal is to clean approximately twenty percent of the sewers each year. With thirty-five miles of sewer that is seven miles each year. This season we focused on the North Road corridor, the Prospect Hill Road and Prospect Hill Terrace out to where the wastewater drops onto Bridge Street at the 1-91 entrances.

We are migrating over to a new Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. We work directly with our integrator and computer supplier to upgrade and update all the software and hardware that keeps the entire facility operating without a glitch. Several desktop computers were replaced along with additional licenses for the new SCADA software. We now can remotely monitor and control equipment and processes throughout the facility. As we have ten remote sewage pumping stations that operate 24/7/365 we need to monitor them continuously, assuring no issues through redundant alarming applications. The facility is staffed during normal work hours but must also be monitored throughout the rest of the day as well, when no operators are present. This is where the value of

a rock-solid SCADA Application proves most valuable.

We have expanded our remote monitoring and control of the remote pump stations. This allows us the ability to control the stations from the WPCF in the event of a major snowstorm or the



inability to get access to the stations. The pump stations serve as the arteries to pump the wastewater to the main facility.

The WPCF welcomed a new staff member in August 2022. Kimberly Bergeron came on board as our new Laboratory Technician/Process Control Operator. Kim came from the Amherst, Massachusetts WPCF where she served as the Laboratory Director and interim Chief Operator. Kim holds the highest Massachusetts Wastewater Operator Li-

cense, Mass Grade 7, and is a Certified Lab Analyst. She has a B.S in Biology and fifteen years of experience. She is a welcome addition to our talented crew.

Budget season is upon us and the 2023/2024 WPCF budget is underway. The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is working to maintain the sewer use rate while continuing to repair and replace equipment at the WPCF, its ten pump stations and thirty-five miles of sewer. The WPCF continues to operate without any debt service. Projects are planned for and budgeted through the operating budget and Capital Improvements Fund.

This is yet another example of the WPCF staff being valuable assets and providing the rate payers with a great return on their investment. These improvements immediately showed their value by assisting the staff with troubleshooting, analysis, and diagnostics. The ability to view trends over time has proven to be extremely valuable. The WPCA encourages the staff to become the best they can be. All staff are empowered and given the ability to become great operators.

E. Arthur Enderle III, Superintendent East Windsor WPCF

Community Garden

This year, the East Windsor Agricultural Commission will be commencing its 11th season of the ever-popular Community Garden. Plots can be reserved beginning mid-March for \$25 per 16'x24' plot. Planting begins May 1st. Gardeners provide their own plants, tools, fencing, and other equipment (no plastic, please!) but compost is provided free of charge to those who wish for some extra nourishment for their cultivation. Improvements were made last year with installation of a hydrant by the Town. This hydrant delivers water from a well at East Windsor Town Park. A network of spouts in the pathways between the plots made it much easier to water, rather than making trips to the water storage tank that was previously filled by the Broad Brook Fire Department- especially with the unexpected drought we had!

The Community Garden is a great way to spend time outside, grow produce as a pleasurable activity and create the comfort of feeling food secure. Not only is there a practical reason for growing one's own food, but it appears there is a mental health aspect that is found to be



equally as important. Gardening is a grounding activity that can relieve stress. Organic food straight from the garden to the table is very healthy, fulfilling and satisfying. It's a good way to socialize too. Past participants got to know their neighboring gardeners, made friendships, and shared knowledge.

This fantastic town amenity has been run by the same group of volunteers for years and they are ready to pass the torch. Thank you to Jim Stempffer providing an old-fashioned, horse

drawn plowing experience for everyone; to Albert and Donna Grant spending countless hours configuring plot plans to accommodate requests from gardeners, and to members of the Agricultural Commission and other volunteers for making this program an enormous success for the past 10 years. The Community Garden cannot be sustained unless volunteers step forward from the next generation to take reins. Contact the East Windsor Planning Department today if you have an interest in helping this thriving, community oriented, successful team!

Last year the spaces sold out fast, with some residents opting to purchase double plots, so it is well advised to get your name in early! You can purchase a plot through the East Windsor Planning & Development Department by contacting Danielle Miller at (860) 698-1394, or dropping by in person at the Town Hall, located at 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook. Residents are prioritized, but plots remaining after May 1st are open to all those who love to garden.

Unlock Your Potential with East Windsor Adult Education

FREE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

- High School Completion - Three options (CDP, GED, NEDP)
- Learn English (ESL) day and evening programs
- Become a U.S. Citizen
- Prepare for College/Training
- Increase Employability Skills



East Windsor Adult Education is here to support you and help you accomplish your goals. Call today to find out more about our support services.



VRABE Regional Adult Based Education

Visit www.vrabe.org

Call 860-870-6060

Text VRABE to 866-436-0005



The East Windsor Athletic Club recently donated two sets of beautifully made cornhole boards to our senior center. We started *Cornhole Fridays* and as it grew in popularity, we now offer it on both Wednesday and Friday afternoons. The seniors love playing and have become very good at it! Cornhole offers our seniors socialization, exercise, coordination, and balance. It's a win win for all!! Thank you so much to the Athletic Club for thinking of us! This has truly been a fantastic addition to our center!

Shawna Tustin, Senior Center Lead/Program Assistant



Senior Center Transportation

As we come to the close of another successful year for our transportation program, we are pleased that we have had several new clients register as the cold, snowy months approach. We are here to service those who are sixty years of age and older and those who are eighteen years of age and older on Social Security Disability. Many of our clients have been using our service for years and are always so welcoming to those who are new and possibly adjusting to no longer driving. Many clients become friends through their trips on the bus and then are encouraged to come and join in the activities at the center.

I have been with the transportation program for twenty years, a driver for five, and the coordinator for fifteen. I will be retiring in January and will be leaving with many wonderful memories of my time with the seniors. I believe in our program as it has helped so many to remain independent as we fulfill their transportation needs not only for the necessities in life, such as their medical appointments, grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, banking etc., but we also provide their transportation to our center for their socialization and nutritional needs. I will leave the center fully intending to continue to recommend our transportation service to anyone who needs such a wonderful service.

Teresa Hill, Senior Center Transportation Coordinator

Senior Center Nutrition

The kitchen is busy at the Senior Center, with over twenty-five Meals on Wheels being delivered each day by our amazing volunteers, to our congregate meal that is served five days a week at noon each day. Community Renewal Team (CRT) out of Hartford provides our meals daily, from barbeque beef brisket, macaroni and cheese to roasted turkey with gravy and all the fixings. The center serves an average twenty seniors per day, unless of course it's twice a month BINGO Day or the monthly birthday social then the numbers soar into the thirties and forties. For some of our seniors this is often the only hot meal they receive that day and one of the few times they can interact with others. Our seniors have become a close-knit community within the center often looking out for each other's well-being. This family type environment makes our center unique.

The monthly "Food for Thought" program has been very successful. We have learned a lot about the benefits and origins of foods, including the history of Pizza and all about Honey and Honeybees. The program is very well attended and enjoyed by all. This program is on the third Wednesday of the month, to sign up you can call the center or sign up in person. We ask that you sign up by the second Friday of the month to have an accurate count for staff to buy ingredients.

If you are interested in receiving Meals on Wheels or coming to the center to enjoy a meal and meet new friends, please call the Nutrition Manager line at the Senior Center at (860) 292-8279.

Debra Nordell-Austin, Senior Center Nutrition Manager



License Information

Dog licenses are due from June 1st through June 30th for all dogs six months old or older.

Licenses may be obtained in person, or by mail. Per Connecticut General

Statutes 22-338(b) and 22-338, you must provide us with a current valid rabies certificate and a spay/neuter certificate (if applicable).

If you want to license your dog through the mail, please mail the following items to: Town Clerk, 11 Rye St., Broad Brook, CT 06016.

1. Check made out to: "Town of East Windsor" for the applicable fee.
2. Late fees included in check (if applicable).
3. Current valid rabies certificate.
4. Spay/Neuter certificate (if applicable).

Self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of the dog license, dog tag, rabies certificate and spay/neuter certificate.

The Town Clerk's office hours are Mon.-Wed. 8:30-4:30, Thurs. 8:30-7:00 and Fri. 8:30-1:00. For more information about dog licenses, call the Town Clerk's Office at (860) 292-8255.

Dog License Fees:

Neutered Male or Spayed Female	\$8.00
Male or Female (not spayed or neutered)	\$19.00
Kennel (10 tags)	\$51.00
Guide Dogs	FREE
Lost Tags	\$.50
Transfer from another CT town	\$.50
Transfer of ownership within town (if already licensed)	\$1.00
Late Penalty	\$1.00 per month or fraction thereof- starting in July

License Fees Support Many Local Animal Shelters

Typically, the annual fee that you pay to license your dog helps to keep shelters running and supports the work of your local animal control. By paying to properly ID your dog, you are helping to feed and house stray dogs found on the streets within your town.

If you have any questions, please call our office 860-292-8255.

Amy R. Lam, Town Clerk | **Lynn K. Lemieux, Assistant Town Clerk**
Larisa Hiti, Assistant Town Clerk

Vitals Information

A Connecticut birth certificate is available from the Town Clerk of the hospital town and in the town in which the child's mother was living at the time of birth. Birth certificates from 2003-present are on a state-wide database which allows you to go to any town to get a certified copy. If you are living in town and need your child's birth certificate but you moved from a different town, we will be able to help you in the office here!

A Connecticut death certificate is available certified from the Town Clerk of the town in which the death occurred and in the town in which the individual resided at the time of death.

A Connecticut marriage certificate is available from the Town Clerk of the town in which the marriage occurred and the in the town in which the individuals resided in at the time of marriage.

All vital records requests must be made in person or by postal mail. The cost of a certified copy is \$20.00. The Town Clerk accepts cash or check.

Land Records

Our Land Records provider New Visions is now online. Please go to <https://www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/> on the left land side and click on the link "Land Records Online Access".



Hunting and Fishing

We offer hunting and fishing licenses in office. You can contact DEEP by phone (860) 424-3105 with any additional questions. Any Connecticut Residents 65 years of age or older are entitled to a free license.

Important Budget Dates

May 9, 2023 - 1st Budget Referendum

May 10, 2023 - Public Hearing, if needed, or Board of Finance to set mill rate

May 23, 2023 - 2nd Budget Referendum (if needed)

May 24, 2023 - Public Hearing, if needed, or Board of Finance to set mill rate

June 13, 2023 - 3rd Budget Referendum (if needed)

June 14, 2023 - Board of Finance to set mill rate



OPEN 24 HOURS



Well Maintained & Disinfected Throughout Every Day. Well Lit, Safe, Over 40 Washers & Dryers: 12, 20, 30, 40, 60 & 80 Pound Washers.

Est 1974, family run business. Don't feel like doing laundry? Try our drop off wash & fold service, text **(860) 944-8146** for info & pick up & delivery is available. Coin operated & credit card/Apple Pay etc. on machines. Lucky 13! Use the same electronic payment on machines & get 13th wash free!

88 Bridge St. East Windsor in Geissler's plaza.

Free Wi-Fi & bathroom on premise

Town of East Windsor
11 Rye Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016

STD
US POSTAGE PAID
HARTFORD, CT
PERMIT NO. 5126

*****ECRWSS*****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

SEPTIC SYSTEM SERVICE



860-462-3926

   SepticologyLLC
septicology.com