



THE JEWEL OF BLOOMFIELD

FILLEY PARK RENOVATIONS *Bloomfield, Connecticut*





Filley Park has been referred to by numerous town residents as “Bloomfield’s Jewel”. Located just north of the Town center, the park features a pond, a brook, and an island set against a wooded hillside. In it’s century of history, the park has hosted egg hunts, skating, fishing, concerts, ceremonies, and winter carnivals.

In recent years, however the shine has come off of the jewel and the park has begun to show its age. The pond has silted in; the hut and bridges are closed; and the pond edge is failing. About the only thing enjoying the park now are the Canada geese!



But, geese and an urban park with an island and much lawn don’t mix. Geese are wild animals, and wild animals poop. And, when you get a lot of geese congregating in one small area, well... The poop makes the lawn quite unusable for us humans, and rainwater dissolving it and running into the pond isn’t healthy for the water. The Town is looking at many ways to deter the geese in the redone park; but the most important step is:

Don’t Feed the Geese!



In 2008, Bloomfield decided that it was time to re-polish the jewel and to give it a new setting. The Town Council appointed a committee of hard working, enthusiastic residents to guide the process. The Filley Park Committee engaged CR3 consultants to help them engage the public and determine what the community wanted for its jewel, and to create a preliminary concept plan based on that input, with a successful outcome.

The Committee and the Town then selected the consulting firm Fuss & O’Neill to dig deeper into the various factors affecting the park, especially the environmental and flood related issues, and thereby rework & refine the concept into a final design development plan. Above is the designer’s rendering of the overall plan; and on the accompanying pages are pictures and descriptions of the vision that the talented professionals at Fuss & O’Neill working with the Committee and Town staff have come up with to let our jewel sparkle like never before!