NEW TOWN MANAGER – STANLEY HAWTHORNE

Stanley D. Hawthorne joined the Town of Bloomfield on August 31, 2021 as the new Town Manager. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Troy University and a Master of Arts in Public Administration from the University of Virginia.

Stanley received certifications of excellence from Harvard, Syracuse, and the Wharton School of Business. He has been the Assistant City Manager in Lakeland and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and the City Manager of Lauderdale Lakes, Florida. He looks forward to building professional, respectful, and supportive relationships with the governing body, boards, employees (“community builders”), and especially the public, whom he prefers to call “neighbors.” He is already inspired by the beauty of Bloomfield and the neighbors who live, play, and work here.

Welcome Stanley, we are so pleased to have you on our team.

Persons with disabilities who may need this newsletter in an alternative format should contact the ADA Coordinator, Cindy Coville at (860) 769-3538 or at ccoville@bloomfieldct.org.
POLICE

PROMOTION

Chief Hammick announced the promotion of Sergeant John Fox to the rank of Lieutenant during the month of August. Lieutenant Fox has demonstrated through his performance, skill, and dedication that he is prepared for his new role, and he will undoubtedly apply his skills to continue to serve well the community of Bloomfield.

NEW EMPLOYEES

We are very pleased to welcome two new employees to the Bloomfield Police Department in August: Police Dispatcher Shyrlene Chapman and Records Clerk Karen Brinkman.

AUTOMOBILE THEFTS AND BREAK-INS

The Bloomfield Police Department wants to remind everyone never to leave your car unattended while it is running, even in your driveway. Always lock your vehicle in your driveway and do not leave keys/fobs, valuables, or items with personal information in your vehicle. Also, remove everything in your car from plain sight, including the garage door opener, but do not move your valuables to the trunk while in public view.

BEAR ALERT

Numerous bears have been spotted and reported in Bloomfield, and bears have broken into several homes as well. Refer to the brochure entitled “Black Bears” on the Bloomfield Police Department website for reminders on what to do if you have a problem bear in your yard and how to minimize their attraction to your yard. To report a bear sighting, log on to the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection website: www.ct.gov/deep

CodeRED - EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE

The Town of Bloomfield has contracted with CodeRED to Provide Emergency Notification Services to citizens. This system will serve as the backbone of Bloomfield's emergency communications outreach to both citizens and Town employees. The system sends telephone calls, text messages, emails and posts to social media channels to inform residents to better protect life and property. People living and working within Bloomfield are encouraged to enroll their contact information including cell phone numbers and email addresses. No one should automatically assume they are in the emergency contact database. For information on how to get the App, type the link below:


What is CodeRED and what is it used for? - CodeRED is a web-based critical communication solution that enables local public safety personnel to notify residents and businesses by telephone, text message, email, and social media of time-sensitive information, emergencies, or urgent notifications. The system can reach hundreds of thousands of individuals in minutes to ensure information such as evacuation notices, missing persons, inclement weather advisories, and more are quickly shared. Only authorized officials have access to send alerts using the CodeRED system.

When will CodeRED be used? - Any message regarding the safety of our residents and community will be disseminated using CodeRED.
We will send out alerts via phone, text, email, and social media in a variety of situations including rising water level notices, gas leaks, evacuation notices, police activity, fire emergencies, missing persons, and more.

This is a community alert system to ensure you remain informed of important information.

As you register to receive CodeRED alerts, you have the ability to select the types of messages you wish to receive and your preferred means of communication.

**Is there a cost to register for CodeRED?** - No, registering for CodeRED phone calls, text messages, and emails are free. Simply sign up on our enrollment website and select your preferred means of communication.

**How will I know when CodeRED is calling?** - A CodeRED message will have the caller ID # 866-419-5000 for emergencies and caller ID # 855-969-4636 for non-emergencies. We suggest that you program these numbers into your cell phone as a "new contact" and use “CodeRED” as the contact name. If you need to replay the message, you can dial this number and listen to the message again.

**Why is CodeRED important to me?** - CodeRED is an important tool to help keep you informed and prepared for any emergencies that may occur in our area. Officials will send messages to alert you of emergency details, instructions, or precautions that you need in order to make well-informed decisions and remain safe. This system is precise enough to geotarget residents within an exact area of impact, so that only those people who are affected by an emergency situation are notified.

**HALLOWEEN – PLANNING AHEAD**

Choose costumes that are brightly colored, reflective, and are short enough to prevent tripping. Make sure that shoes fit well and add reflective tape to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility. Masks can limit or block eyesight; therefore, opt for non-toxic, hypoallergenic makeup or a decorative hat instead. Use battery-powered lanterns or light sticks instead of candles when decorating. Do not overload electrical outlets and do not block exit doors.

While Trick-or-Treating, have an adult or older, responsible person accompany children under the age of 12; stay on the sidewalks, avoid crossing yards; only go to well-lit houses; drivers may have difficulty seeing trick-or-treaters; even if one car stops, it does not mean others will too; stop at all street corners before crossing; cross streets only at intersections and crosswalks; never run out from between parked cars.

We are pleased to announce Bloomfield’s new Police vehicles.
SOCIAL SERVICES

2021 SEASON OF GIVING
Social & Youth Services will distribute Thanksgiving Baskets and Holiday Gifts to income eligible Bloomfield households with children ages 13 and younger. Contact Social & Youth Services at (860) 242-1895. We are also seeking donors who are interested in spreading joy to our families this Holiday Season.

HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT STARTS SOON
ACCESS HEALTH CT OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD: May 1st – December 15th
Increased financial assistance is available for low cost or free coverage

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT: October 15th – December 7th
Visit www.accesshealthct.org or www.medicare.gov for additional information

MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM: Financial assistance for Medicare Part B premiums, deductibles and co-insurance for eligible Medicare enrollees.

Visit https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Health-And-Home-Care/Medicare-Savings-Program for information
Bloomfield residents can contact Social & Youth Services to review insurance options @ 860-242-1895

NEED HELP PAYING OR LOWERING THE COST OF HEATING & UTILITY BILLS?
CRT Energy Assistance Program: Call 860-560-2694 to schedule an appointment for the Bloomfield office
Operation Fuel: Help with utility, heating & water costs to qualified Connecticut households
APPLY ONLINE: www.operationfuel.org/gethelp
APPLY IN PERSON: Call Social & Youth Services at 860-242-1895
Winter Protection Plan protects eligible households from utility service shut off between Nov. 1st – May 1st with no late payment fees - Contact Social & Youth Services for more information

RENT & MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
If you are behind on your rent or mortgage due to COVID-19 or other financial hardship and you meet the eligibility requirements, you may be eligible for assistance Bloomfield Rent & Mortgage Assistance: Eligible Bloomfield residents may qualify for rent or mortgage assistance. Contact Social & Youth Services for eligibility criteria at (860) 242-1895. CRT Housing Assistance Programs: Provides rent and mortgage assistance - Call 860-761-2381 for info. Visit www.crtct.org/programs/basic-needs/housing-counseling.
Apply for UNITE CT: UniteCT provides up to $15,000 in rent assistance and up to $1,500 electricity payment. To learn more visit www.bit.ly/Unitect or call 844-864-8328.

Are You At Risk of Eviction?: Governor Lamont has signed Executive Order No. 12D stating that, beginning June 30, 2021 landlords are required to apply for the UniteCT rental assistance program before delivering a notice to quit or initiating an eviction action for nonpayment of rent.

Bloomfield Food Bank: Location: Bloomfield Social & Youth Services, 330 Park Ave, 2nd floor
Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm & Fridays, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Care 4 Kids has increased income eligibility - Visit www.ctcare4kids.com or call 888-214-5437

Bloomfield Diaper Bank: Diapers are available to eligible Bloomfield households on a monthly basis
Contact Family Resource Center at 860-769-5518 or Social & Youth Services at 860-242-1895
YOUTH SERVICES

SAVE THE DATE: HALLOWEEN BOO BASH 2021!
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
(Rain Date: Friday, October 29, 2021)

In partnership with Leisure Services and Social & Youth Services, we will host our Annual Boo Bash Event. Stay tuned for additional information.

RISE – RAISING INDEPENDENT STRONG YOUTH IN EXCELLENCE - A program of the Bloomfield Foster Care Support Network

- RISE provides recreational and cultural activities and other support services for Bloomfield families and children placed in licensed foster homes or living with relative legal guardians.
- The Foster Care Support Network Team offers a variety of weekend activities and family events that are fun-filled, engaging and educational.

If you are interested in learning more about RISE, please contact Tiffany Wright, Assistant Youth Services Coordinator at (860) 242-1895.

PROJECT 330 YOUTH LEADERSHIP GROUP NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

Are you in grades 8-12, live in Bloomfield and seeking youth leadership, advocacy and team building opportunities? Project 330 needs you! For Additional Information, Contact Angelica Thompson, Youth Services Coordinator or Tiffany Wright, Assistant Youth Services Coordinator at (860) 242-1895.

YOUTH SERVICES FALL PROGRAMING PREVIEW

TRIBE - Young men’s mentoring Program: Grades 8th – 11th

SUNBEAMS - Empowerment group for young ladies: Grades 6th – 11th

BPDY YOUTH - Partnership with Bloomfield Police Department: Grades 7th – 12th

LIFE SKILLZ - Essential Skills to Becoming independent, young adults: Grades 7th – 10th

Contact Social & Youth Services for more information at (860) 242-1895
Scan QR Code below to view Youth Services Fall Schedule

Come Bloom with Us

www.bloomfieldct.gov
HUMAN RESOURCES

Interviewing Tips for Teenagers - Every year the town interviews many teenagers and college students for summer, part time and internship positions. Hiring is very competitive and only the best applicants are selected. We are hiring people who will be good role models for the kids, so we are looking for staff members who are friendly and confident.

Recruitment for our summer, 2022 camp and pool positions will begin in February 2022. Here are a few tips for your job interview:

• Know something about the position, the department and the town before you go to the interview
• Be on time. Plan to give yourself extra time in case of traffic
• Dress professionally
• Look the interviewer in the eye. This shows confidence and maturity
• Don’t be afraid to pause before answering a question. Think before you speak
• Before the interview, think about any hobbies, extracurricular activities or volunteering that could translate into skills for the job. Talk about your strengths
• Sell yourself. First impressions make a difference
• Turn your cellphone off and put it away
• Ask questions. This show you are interested in the job
• Project confidence. You want the interviewer to think you are the best person for the job

TOWN CLERK

Bloomfield Municipal Election

There shall be a Municipal Election held in Bloomfield on November 2, 2021 for the following purposes:


2. To vote on the following local questions for the approval or disapproval of resolutions adopted by the Town Council at the meeting held on August 9, 2021, which questions will be placed on the ballot under the following headings:

   Question 1:  “SHALL THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD APPROPRIATE $29,255,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWN LIBRARIES AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

   Question 2:  “SHALL THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD APPROPRIATE $2,000,000 FOR RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENTS TO FILLEY PARK AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APROPRIATION?”

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!
The polls will be open between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM. Electors will cast their vote at the following places in the districts specified:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District I</td>
<td>Leisure Services Gym</td>
<td>330 Park Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District II</td>
<td>Bloomfield High School</td>
<td>5 Huckleberry Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District III</td>
<td>Carmen Arace Middle School</td>
<td>390 Park Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District IV</td>
<td>Metacomet Elementary School</td>
<td>185 School Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District V</td>
<td>Laurel Elementary School</td>
<td>1 Filley Street</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Absentee ballots will be available, as provided by law, in the office of the Town Clerk. Applications for ballots are available at the Town Clerk’s Office as well as online, at the Town Clerk’s webpage on the Town of Bloomfield website (www.bloomfieldct.gov). Regular absentee ballots become available 31 days before the election so don’t wait until the last minute to request one. You can start requesting applications for absentee ballots at this time for the November Election.

EXPLANATORY TEXT -- NOVEMBER 2, 2021 REFERENDUM VOTE

This explanatory text has been prepared by the Bloomfield Town Clerk and approved by the Bloomfield Town Attorney in accordance with Section 9-369b(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes and as authorized by resolutions adopted by the Bloomfield Town Council at a meeting held August 9, 2021.

“SHALL THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD APPROPRIATE $29,255,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWN LIBRARIES AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

“SHALL THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD APPROPRIATE $2,000,000 FOR RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENTS TO FILLEY PARK AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

Resolutions adopted by the Bloomfield Town Council at meeting held August 9, 2021, shall be submitted under the ballot headings above to referendum vote of the electors of the Town of Bloomfield on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. in conjunction with the election to be held on that date.

If approved, the first resolution will appropriate $29,255,000, and authorize the issue of bonds, notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to improvements to Town Libraries. The improvements are for (a) a new Prosser Library, contemplated to include demolition of the existing building, design, construction, furnishing and equipping of a new Library of approximately 28,000 square feet on the same site, and (b) renovations and an addition to the P. Faith McMahon Wintonbury Library, contemplated to include renovation of the existing 6,023 square foot building, and construction of an approximately 2,895 square foot addition. Both facilities will be used for public library purposes and activities, including housing of books, non-print collections, space for small group meetings, training, public computers, individual/group study, teen space, children’s programming, staff sorting, and a café, where practical.

If approved, the second resolution will appropriate $2,000,000, and authorize the issue of bonds, notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to the restoration and improvements to Filley Park. The project is contemplated to include a main access bridge, natural playgrounds, rehabilitation and creation of trails, educational signage, a great lawn area, open air pavilion, north and south parking lots, connecting walkways, utilities, lighting, landscaping, and other site work creating passive recreational and educational uses.
The full texts of the resolutions are on file and available for public inspection in the Town Clerk’s Office in the Town Hall.

Electors shall vote at their regularly assigned polling places. Application for absentee ballots should be made to the Town Clerk’s Office.

LEISURE SERVICES

Location: 330 Park Avenue, Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center

Phone Numbers

Leisure Office---------------------------860-243-2923
Leisure Fax---------------------------860-242-4267
Youth Center---------------------------860-769-3566

Register online at: www.bloomfieldrec.com

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

The Leisure Services Department is coming off a wonderful summer here the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center. With the summer of 2021 behind us, we are looking forward to our upcoming fall season. Some of the upcoming programs we’re excited about are as follows: Code Wiz, Food Explorers, Pickleball, and Family Drop-In Gym Time to name a few. If you haven’t had a chance to review all of our offerings, we encourage you to visit the following website and click on the Fall Brochure – 2021 https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/leisure-services. Please give us a call if you have any questions or would like to see other programs that we currently don’t offer. Give one, two, or more of the offerings a try, the benefits are endless!

Family Open Gym
Drop-in Gym Time for the younger crowd. Come shoot basketballs around in the gym, challenge your kids to a game of pool or try your hand at air hockey or pickleball or other gym activities. Parents must accompany children in grades 4 and under and a youth membership is required for the child. Grades K – 6 on Wednesday: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Friday: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Saturday: 1:00 - 4:00 PM. October 7th - May 28th $10 Youth Center Membership Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center

Paint Party
We are having a paint party in conjunction with Senior Services. We will provide pre-packaged refreshments and art supplies; artist Harold Blanchard will explain what to do and you will take home your own personal work of art. No experience is necessary. Space is limited due to social distancing rules; please register early for the program. (No registration at the Door) Adults: Friday, September 24th, Friday, November 19th 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM $15 / Resident. Instructor Harold Blanchard Alvin & Beatrice Woods Human Services Center.

Family Bingo
It’s time for Family Bingo. We will be playing in the Great Room with the big bingo board. You must pre-register for the event by Thursday, October 1st. (No registration at the Door) Bloomfield Families: Saturday, October 8th, Saturday, November 12th 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM $5 / Resident Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center.

Pumpkin Carving
Join us for our pumpkin carving night. Pumpkins, carving utensils, paints and a light refreshment will be provided. Must pre-register by Thursday, October 10th. (No registration at the Door) Bloomfield Families Friday, October 15th 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM $15 / Pumpkin Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center - Picasso Room 149.
**Tie-Dye Night**
Come have some family fun and create your own unique tie-dye. Bring your own t-shirts, socks or anything else (within reason) that you want to tie-dye. [No registration at the Door] Bloomfield Families: Friday, November 5th 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, $10 / person Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center.

**Trunk or Treat**
Join us for socially-distanced trick or treating. Dress to impress in your favorite costume. You will be required to choose the session time that you would like to attend. Register early because space is limited. Because of COVID restrictions only one parent per child can attend. Mask must be worn during event. We will also have prizes for the top three decorated trunks!! Event will be held outdoors weather permitting. [No registration at the Door] Children ages 2 and up on Friday, October 22nd (Rain Date October 29th) 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM, $5 per Child, Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center.

**Tree Lighting & Holiday Parade**
Come join us at the Bloomfield Town Green for a holiday parade, music and hot cocoa. The night will conclude with the lighting of trees at Town Hall, Town Green and the Prosser Library. For more information or if you would like to participate in this parade or as a vendor, please contact Matthew Mace at the Bloomfield Leisure Services Department no later than Friday, November 19th. For more information please call (860) 243-2923. Bloomfield Families: Saturday, December 4th 6:00 PM, Bloomfield Town Green.

For additional youth and adult programs, please visit us online at [www.bloomfieldrec.com](http://www.bloomfieldrec.com) or [https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/leisure-services](https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/leisure-services)

---

**LIBRARY SERVICES**

**Hours:** Mon-Tue: 11am-6pm, Wed-Thu: 11am-8pm, Fri: 11am-6pm, Sat: 11am-3pm. BPL Online is always open!

- Prosser Library, 860-243-9721, 1 Tunxis Avenue
- McMahon Wintonbury Library, 860-242-0041, 1015 Blue Hills Avenue
- BPL Online, bplct.org, @bplct on Facebook and Instagram

**We’re here for you!**

- Masks and social distancing are required in Bloomfield Public Library buildings
- Computers/browsing/reference services/study space available
- Technology services (computer, printer, scanner, copier, fax)
- Call ahead for curbside delivery, or email print requests to askbplct@gmail.com
- Visit our event calendar on bplct.org for virtual programs
- Museum Passes for free or discounted admission to many area attractions
- Laminate a copy of your Vaccine Card for free
- BPL Online library is always open — read, watch, listen, research!

---

**Come Bloom with Us**

[www.bloomfieldct.gov](http://www.bloomfieldct.gov)
Bloomfield Public Library submitted a grant application to the CT State Library for up to $1 million towards a future library construction project. BPL and the BPL Board of Trustees created and adopted a new strategic plan, which contains four primary goals that the library will focus on from now until 2025:

**Goal 1: One Library Card, Endless Possibilities**
Library cards are free! Bloomfield residents of all ages from birth are eligible for a library card, yet only 33% of Bloomfield residents have one.

- Increase the number of residents with a library card
- Expand the potential of a library card
- Spread the word! You can use your library card in any public library in Connecticut

**Goal 2: A Library for Everyone**
Focus on excellence across the three locations serving all ages.

- Identify and address barriers to access with a specific focus on social justice and equity issues
- Modernize library facilities to be ADA compliant and responsive to community needs
- Design and execute Fine-Free Campaign

**Goal 3: We’re Here for You!**
Ensure positive patron experience through a responsive service model and empathetic staff, with access to collections, technology, and equipment.

- Connect people with what they need through excellent customer service
- Improve the user experience in-person and via BPL Online, with additional emphasis on technology access and education
- Provide ongoing professional development opportunities for staff in order to implement and maintain up-to-date services reflective of community interests and needs

**Goal 4: Community + Library = A Better Bloomfield**
Be the place, virtually and in-person, for people to meet, learn, and connect.

- Provide relevant, diverse, and responsive programming for all age groups and communities
- Foster community partnerships
- Improve and promote BPL Online library, which is always open — read, watch, listen, research

**CONSERVATION, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (CEEC)**

The Conservation, Energy & Environment Committee (CEEC) meets the second Thursday of each month from 4:30pm – 6:00pm. The CEEC is meeting virtually via ZOOM until further notice. Check the CEEC’s website at [https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/conservation-energy-environment-committee](https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/conservation-energy-environment-committee) for information on upcoming events and programs.

**Shred Day & Small Electronics Recycling at Town Hall, October 2nd, 9 am – 1 pm (or until the Truck fills).** Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Food Bank.

**Recycling:** It’s more important than ever to recycle correctly, especially as our regional trash-to-energy plant nears its closure, our landfills fill up, and the earth’s resources are over-stressed. RecyleCT has a new aid to help you decide whether “IT’S IN OR IT’S OUT.” The new app is available on both the Google Play Store and Apple
App Store. You can input an item and get an answer as to whether it should be put in the green Recycling Bin, put in the trash, or recycled in a special way. Download it today! For those who prefer to use their laptops or home computers, check out the RecycleCT website at https://www.recyclect.com/.

TREES FOR BLOOMFIELD Initiative: The CEEC is partnering with the Bloomfield Beautification Committee (BBC), the Department of Public Works (DPW), Leisure Services (LS), Bloomfield Public Library (BPL), and other town organizations and volunteers to improve the tree canopy in Bloomfield. There are several ways to participate this fall: (1) Enter the Photo Contest celebrating Bloomfield trees. Register with LS at https://bit.ly/3bhoLmC. Entries will be accepted until October 20th with winners announced in November. A reception for the contest winners at the Human Services Facility at 330 Park is planned for Thursday, December 9th from 6 – 8 pm. (2) Help plant trees at 330 Park September 22nd at 1pm. Register with LS at https://bit.ly/3stx7iu. (3) Take a Guided Tree Walk from Town Hall to Scott Trails at Filley Park on September 25th from 10 am to noon. Register for the walk with LS at https://bit.ly/3ZryFz. (4) Take a Guided “Silhouette” Tree ID Walk at Seabury Wildwoods Trail at Reservoir 2 on November 20th at 11 am. Register with LS at https://bit.ly/3yCrj7K. Email treesforbloomfield@gmail.com for more information about any of these events.

Summer Bird Count: Results: Each year, a summer bird count is held in-state and nation-wide. This count is done by citizen scientists and experts in the field of ornithology. Bloomfield held its count the weekend of June 23-24, 2021. Nine observers were assigned to different areas of town and a total of 1,367 individual birds, comprising of 67 species were counted. CEEC member Zellene Sandler participated in the Bloomfield count. Her area included Auerfarm, her personal yard, and the Wintonbury Land Trust’s Stout Family Fields. Auerfarm is known for its state-threatened Bobolinks, but this year was disappointing with only two seen, possibly because poison ivy is overtaking the grassy fields where they nest. The total for all of Bloomfield was 14, down from 32 last year. No Bluebirds were seen at Auerfarm, also down from last year. These counts are useful to see long-term trends, but weather and number of observers on a particular day make short-term trends less reliable.

Butterfly Count Results: The annual Butterfly Count in Bloomfield was on July 24th. Zellene Sandler also participated in this count; her section includes Auerfarm, her own butterfly garden, and the Stout Family Fields. Auerfarm was loaded with Pearl Crescents which provided a real spectacle … patches of clover so covered with butterflies that they looked like a moving mass of organisms! The annual count is part of a larger study by the North American Butterfly Association. It gathers information about the geographic distribution and relative population sizes of many butterfly species. Comparisons across the years help monitor the impacts of climate and habitat changes on butterfly populations. Zellene’s count included Pearl Crescents (60+), Cabbage Whites (40), Wood Nymphs (11), Spicebush Swallowtails (7), and a few Monarchs, Clouded Sulfurs, and Black Swallowtails. The previous year there were more Monarchs and some Common Buck.

The beautiful Pearl Crescent Butterfly
PUBLIC WORKS

Fall leaf Collection - Get ready for Fall! - Autumn is coming soon. Remember that leaf collection will begin on November 8th and will run through December 3, 2021. Residents must use paper biodegradable leaf bags for curbside collection. Leaf collections will occur on your regular trash collection day. Please do not place grass, garden clippings or other similar items in the bags.

Capital Road Work

The Public Works Department had a very busy season resurfacing several town roads. This included re-surfacing of Beacon Street, Central Avenue, Cross Street, Gorham Avenue, Hillcrest Avenue, Carpenter Lane, Green Meadow Drive, Woodland Road, Old Village Road, Pinney Lane, West Eggleston Street, Brewer Drive, Raleigh Circle, May Lane and Ledyard Avenue. In addition, the following streets were micropaved: Burr Road, Crestview Drive, Hubbard Street, Wade Avenue, Walker Lane, Watkins Road, West Street, Darby Street and Marguerite Avenue. In addition to the complete reconstruction of the road base, the stormwater collection system on these roads was upgraded and repaired.

Solid Waste Bulk Pickup - Bulk items are collected the 3rd full week of each month (a full week begins on a Sunday) on your regular trash collection day. Following is a partial list of acceptable bulk items:

Appliances and Metal (partial list)
- Refrigerator (remove door for child safety)
- Stoves
- Hot Water Heaters

Furniture
- Sofa (if sleeper remove frame and mattress)
- Mattress, head & foot boards
- Carpet and padding (must be rolled and tied, no longer than 4 feet)

Twigs wood and tires
- Twig bundles (no large branches)
- Prepared wood (nails removed)
- Tires (must be off rim)

Unacceptable Bulk pickup items
- Windows and doors
- Propane Tanks
- All car parts
- Building Materials; sheet rock, concrete, etc.
- Tree Stumps

Winter is coming….be prepared!

Inspect your mailbox and post for existing weakness or damage. For proper rules on mailbox installation please visit our website. (www.bloomfieldct.org/publicworks)
Limiting street traffic and parking allows our trucks to be most productive during snow removal season. This includes the temporary placement of your trash and recycle containers in areas where they won’t interfere with snow removal operations.

Holiday tree collection is expected to take place the second week of January 2022. See website for exact dates. Stay warm and we’ll see you in the spring!

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule**

Oct 2 - Rocky Hill, Rocky Hill WPCF, 80 Goff Brook Lane  
Oct 23 – Windsor Locks/E. Granby- Public Works garage, 6 Stanton Road, Windsor Locks  
Oct 30- East Hartford Transfer Station, 61 Ecology Drive

**HAZMAT COLLECTION DAY COVID 19 PROTOCOLS**

Below are the COVID 19 protocols when attending an MDC Hazardous Waste Collection:

- Limit one person per vehicle
- You must remain in your vehicle at all times
- Keep your windows rolled up
- Be ready to place driver’s license against window for proof of residency
- Place only the waste items you want removed in the trunk of your vehicle. Remove all other items
- Workers will remove the contents and will be in full safety gear
- Fuel containers will not be emptied and returned due to COVID 19

**COMMUNITY AWARENESS TASK FORCE (CATF)**

The Community Awareness Task Force is a group of Bloomfield residents, appointed by the Mayor, committed to celebrating the rich diversity of our town. The Task Force has operated at different points over the years and was revitalized in December 2020. We work to increase cultural awareness, understanding, and positive relationships by fostering civic engagement. Our goal is to ensure that Bloomfield offers an inclusive experience to everyone within our community.

Over the past few years, groups have come together within Bloomfield to conduct courageous conversations about the needs and experiences of people within our community and to celebrate our heritage. The Community Awareness Task Force will build on these experiences in the coming months. **We seek your input via a short survey** to ensure that we offer the best opportunities to share our rich cultures and gain appreciation for our differences.

You can complete the survey via the link or QR code below:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSevIQH1TRKTsUOFL4QWYMyGm70f-EfaGD1qV6-8j_GoNao9bA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSevIQH1TRKTsUOFL4QWYMyGm70f-EfaGD1qV6-8j_GoNao9bA/viewform)
BLOOMFIELD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Bloomfield Beautification Committee has been busy all summer maintaining our public gardens. As you enter Town Hall, eight hanging red geranium pots with long vinca vines are there to greet you. Bees are loving the town’s pollinator gardens and decorative planters located throughout our community. We have some wonderful events coming up in September all the way through to December. If you like what we are doing to beautify Bloomfield, send an email to our new Town Manager Stanley Hawthorne shawthorne@bloomfieldct.org and let him know.

- **BBC has been working with the Conservation, Energy & Environment Committee (CDDC) on a TREES FOR BLOOMFIELD Initiative (TFB).** We invite you to participate in planting trees along 330 Park Avenue extension parallel to the soccer fields and tennis court on the first day of autumn September 22nd from 1pm to 3 pm. Sign up, volunteer and you’ll receive one of our official TFB T-shirts. [https://bit.ly/3zwf1PH](https://bit.ly/3zwf1PH) COME AND BE PART OF KEEPING OUR TOWN GREEN!

- **Saturday September 25 will be the kickoff of The ARBORETUM at Bloomfield Town Hall.** BBC members Eva and Daria have been hard at work creating a new self-guided tour of the trees that are located on Town Hall grounds. Did you know that Town Hall is located on six acres and is home to over 60 trees, with 28 different species among them? They are now labeled and a tree brochure is available at the display in front of handicap parking on the north side by the front walk.

- **September 25 will be an exciting guided tree walk of the new ARBORETUM** continuing down all the way to Filley Park. John Kehoe, well-known arborist will lead those interested in a walk and talk to learn more about the trees that beautify Bloomfield Center, Town Green, Wintonbury Cemetery and the 200-year-old Scott Trail behind Filley Park. Co-sponsors are Filley Park Committee and Bloomfield Leisure Services. Pre-Register: [https://bit.ly/3zwf1PH](https://bit.ly/3zwf1PH)

- Several other TFB events are scheduled for the public this fall: an ongoing Tree Photo Contest (register at [https://bit.ly/3DC6aON](https://bit.ly/3DC6aON)); What’s that Silhouette? Tree ID Walk on November 20th, and a gallery presentation of the Photo Contest winners at 330 Park on December 8th. Check The Bloomfield Messenger and Bloomfield Leisure Services for updates and registration details. Questions can be directed to treesforbloomfield@gmail.com

- Follow BBC on Instagram @bbc_bloomfield_ct to see pictures of the town gardens and the 2021 BBC Notable Landscape winners. We invite you to watch a power point presentation on the 23 garden winners at the September 27th Town Council meeting at 7:30pm.

- This October and November, the BBC committee and volunteers will be planting spring bulbs. An hour of your time would be most helpful. Email us if you would like to be on our volunteer list to help: bbc06002@gmail.com.

As we embrace the cool fall weather, we encourage you to walk the ARBORETUM at Town Hall and enjoy the mosaic of colorful autumn leaves in our wonderful New England town. HAPPY FALL TO ALL!
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ECO\NOMIC DEVELOPMENT: BLOOMFIELD ADOPTS TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FOR THREE AREAS OF TOWN

On August 9, 2021 the Bloomfield Town Council adopted a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Policy that provides economic development incentives for three areas of focus pursuant to its Tax Increment Finance Districts Master Plan: Town Center, Tobey Road, and Blue Hills. Bloomfield Town Center is the focal point of the community, the seat of government, and a civic hub. The Tobey Road area is an older commercial and industrial corridor that is at the southern edge of the town and needs attention and investment. The Blue Hills area is an older residential area with a neighborhood scale commercial corridor (the focus of this TIF strategy and district) that runs through the neighborhood and is also in need of attention and investment.

TIF is a financing tool that can be used by the Town to encourage private investment and development in specific areas of Bloomfield that have experienced disinvestment or limited investment interest. It allows some or all of public and/or private costs associated with development to be financed over time by increases in the property tax revenues that are generated by the new development or redevelopment.

TIF can and should be used with other public and private financing tools as appropriate and available. They are not meant to be used “instead of” or “exclusive of” other financing mechanisms. TIF can, but does not have to be, used in conjunction with municipal bonding and related debt service. As available during the life of the District, TIF can be used to directly pay for specified costs or pay down debt service associated with the TIF District.

In addition to helping finance public costs to support economic development, TIF can be used to help finance private developers’ costs to spur further private investment. If Bloomfield chooses to help finance private development costs, the Town will require developers to demonstrate that “but for” the TIF support a project would not occur and that they have utilized and exhausted all other financing mechanisms, such as state and federal grants and tax credit programs.

The Adopted TIF Policy: (1) establishes the percentage of TIF Revenues associated with the captured assessed value from each TIF District that will be deposited into the Tax Increment Financing Development Fund for the TIF District, (2) outlines the different TIF financing mechanisms that are available and can be applied in each TIF District, and (3) provides a framework for the Town by which applications for TIF use can be evaluated. Each request for Town tax incentives using TIF will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by Town Staff, the Bloomfield TIF Advisory Committee, and ultimately approved by the Town Council.

The Policy calls for the formation of a Bloomfield TIF Advisory Committee which will be an advisory board of at least seven (7) individuals created by the Town Council for the purpose of discussing possible projects that could be developed within any TIF District and the possible uses of money within the Tax Increment Financing Development Fund established for each TIF District. Members of the Bloomfield TIF Advisory Committee will reflect the economic and racial diversity of the Town and include owners of real property located in each TIF District, members of the Bloomfield Economic Development Commission, other Bloomfield residents, and additional professionals and advisors designated by the Town Council.

Detailed copies of the Plan and Policy can be found on the Town’s Economic Development web page located at: https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/economic-development.

Any questions can be directed to the Director of Planning and Economic Development at 860-769-3515.
FALL IS HERE. ENJOY APPLE PICKING AND ALL THINGS PUMPKIN!

Want an easy pumpkin bread recipe? Look no further, try out the recipe below:

Pumpkin Bread (makes 2 loaves)

Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned into measuring cup and leveled-off (spooning creates a lighter loaf)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1-1/2 sticks (3/4 cup) unsalted butter, softened
- 2 cups sugar (trying to reduce refined sugar consumption? Use the following substitutes: for every one cup of granulated sugar, use ¾ cup maple syrup; ¾ cup honey; or 1 cup coconut sugar. Coconut sugar is a 1 for 1 substitution)
- 2 large eggs
- 1 15-oz can 100% pure pumpkin puree

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 325°F and set oven rack in the middle position. Generously grease two 8 x 4-inch loaf pans with butter and dust with flour (alternatively, use a baking spray with flour in it, such as Pam with Flour or Baker’s Joy).
2. In a medium bowl, combine the flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder, cloves, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Whisk until well combined; set aside.
3. In a large bowl of an electric mixer, beat the butter and sugar on medium speed until just blended. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Continue beating until very light and fluffy, a few minutes. Beat in the pumpkin. The mixture might look grainy and curdled at this point -- that’s okay.
4. Add the flour mixture and mix on low speed until just combined.
5. Turn the batter into the prepared pans, dividing evenly, and bake for 60 – 70 minutes (remember you are baking two loaves), or until a cake tester inserted into the center comes out clean. Let the loaves cool in the pans for about 10 minutes then turn out onto a wire rack to continue cooling. Slice, serve, and enjoy!

(BLOOMFIELD’S FY 2020-2021 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT AND 2022 CALENDAR TO BE PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER)