

Willington Wire

April-May-June 2024



Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Town Office Closed	2
Town of Willington Office Building Contacts	3
Boards & Commissions – Meeting Calendar	3
Assessor’s Office	5
Conservation Commission	10
EC-CHAP	11
Historical Society.....	16
Human Services.....	17
Button Hill Senior Apartments	19
Parks & Recreation.....	210
Public Library.....	25
Friends of the Willington Public Library.....	32
Registrar of Voters	33
Senior Center	34
Tax Collector	37
Town Clerk	38
VFW.....	40
Veterans Memorial Foundation.....	42
Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars.....	43

Town Office Closed

The Town Office Building will be closed on the following holidays:

Memorial Day
Juneteenth

Monday, May 27, 2024
Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Town of Willington Office Building Contacts

First Selectman	Peter Tanaka	860-487-3100
Animal Control Officer	Jennifer Miller	860-428-4422
Assessor	Kara Fishman	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Jim Rupert Rich McKinnon	860-918-3386 860-377-3508
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Fire Marshal	Trevor Gantick	959-929-4181
Human Services	Karen Cote	860-487-3118
Land Use	Michael D'Amato	860-487-4123
Parks & Recreation	Jimmy Callaghan	860-487-3108
Public Works	Troy Sposato	860-684-9313
Registrar of Voters	Christine Psathas & Suzanne Chapman	860-487-3120
Senior Center	Nan King	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Janice Clauson	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Robin Campbell	860-487-3121
Treasurer	Doug Roberts	860-487-3133

Boards & Commissions – Meeting Calendar MONTH, MONTH, MONTH YEAR

Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time
Board of Education	Tuesday	April 9, 2024	7pm
Board of Education	Tuesday	May 14, 2024	7pm
Board of Education	Tuesday	June 11, 2024	7pm
Board of Finance	Thursday	April 18, 2024	7pm
Board of Finance	Thursday	May 16, 2024	7pm
Board of Finance	Thursday	June 20, 2024	7pm
Board of Selectmen	Monday	April 1, 2024	6:30pm
Board of Selectmen	Monday	April 15, 2024	6:30pm
Board of Selectmen	Monday	May 6, 2024	6:30pm
Board of Selectmen	Monday	May 20, 2024	6:30pm
Board of Selectmen	Tuesday	June 3, 2024	6:30pm

Board of Selectmen	Monday	June 17, 2024	6:30pm
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	April 17, 2024	7pm
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	May 15, 2024	7pm
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	June 19, 2024	7pm
Economic Development	Wednesday	April 22, 2024	6:30pm
Economic Development	Wednesday	May 27, 2024	6:30pm
Economic Development	Wednesday	June 24, 2024	6:30pm
Historical Society	Tuesday	April 16, 2024	7pm
Historical Society	Tuesday	May 21, 2024	7pm
Historical Society	Tuesday	June 18, 2024	7pm
Housing Authority	Monday	April 15, 2024	4pm
Housing Authority	Monday	May 20, 2024	4pm
Housing Authority	Monday	June 17, 2024	4pm
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	April 22, 2024	7:30pm
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	May 20, 2024	7:30pm
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	June 24, 2024	7:30pm
Library Board of Directors	Monday	April 10, 2024	7pm
Library Board of Directors	Monday	April 24, 2024	7pm
Library Board of Directors	Monday	May 8, 2024	7pm
Library Board of Directors	Monday	May 22, 2024	7pm
Library Board of Directors	Monday	June 12, 2024	7pm
Library Board of Directors	Monday	June 26, 2024	7pm
Parks & Recreation	Monday	April 22, 2024	7pm
Parks & Recreation	Monday	May 20, 2024	7pm
Parks & Recreation	Monday	June 24, 2024	7pm
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	April 2, 2024	7:30pm
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	April 16, 2024	7:30pm
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	May 7, 2024	7:30pm
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	May 21, 2024	7:30pm
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	June 4, 2024	7:30pm
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	June 18, 2024	7:30pm
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	April 11, 2024	7:30pm
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	May 9, 2024	7:30pm
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	June 13, 2024	7:30pm

Assessor's Office

From the Assessor's Office

Exemption Programs For The Elderly, Disabled Or Blind Individual And Veterans.

Homeowner's Program for the Low-Income Elderly and Totally Disabled: The Assessor's Office is accepting NEW and RENEWAL applications for the homeowner program for the low-income elderly and totally disabled through May 15th, 2024. This program is income based. Depending on income and household size, the tax savings reduction can range from \$150 - \$1,250. Renewal applications were sent to participants already enrolled in the program. Applications are available on the town's website, at the Assessor's Office and by mail.

This is a two-year program, with refile applications every other year. **Taxpayers who were approved last year DO NOT NEED TO REFILE THIS YEAR**, unless your income is lower, and you are eligible for a higher exemption amount.

To be eligible for the tax credit:

- You or your spouse must be at least 65 years of age as of Dec 31, 2023 or over eighteen and permanently and totally disabled per Social Security or similar government program.
- You must be a permanent resident of the State of Connecticut as of 10/1/2023.
- You must own the property or hold a tenancy for life or for a term of years, which makes you responsible for payment of taxes as of October 1, 2023.
- The property must be the applicant's primary residence (domicile).
- Your 2023 income cannot exceed \$43,800 (single) or \$53,400 (married). Qualifying income includes taxable and certain non-taxable income. It does not necessarily equal your adjusted gross income for IRS purposes.
- If you filed a tax return for 2023, it 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 SSA1099, Railroad retirement, veteran's payments, etc.

Totally Disabled: Any individual who is less than 65 years of age and is receiving Social Security disability payments may be eligible for a 1,000 exemption off your assessment. To qualify you must file an application and proof of 100% disability from Social Security (form TPQY) or a copy of your "Award Letter" that states disability. This application only needs to be filed once. The filing deadline is October 1.

There is also a program to exempt a specially equipped and modified motor vehicle used to transport a disabled person for no cost. Details are available in the Assessor's Office.

Blind: Any individual that presents a Certification of Legal Blindness from the Board of Education and Services for the Blind, BESB, that states he/she is legally blind may be eligible for a 3,000 reduction of their assessment. The filing deadline is October 1.

Veterans: If you are a veteran or a widow of one that was active duty during periods of war, as defined by Connecticut General Statutes Section 27-103, you may be entitled to an exemption. An original or certified

copy of your honorable discharge (DD-214) must be filed with the Town Clerk in the Willington Land Records prior to October 1. There is no fee for this service.

If the veteran was serving in an active theater of war or hostilities on 10/1/2023 and is still serving, there are two ways to qualify until appropriate documentation is available:

- i. a parent, guardian, spouse or legal representative of such person may file a notarized statement that the service member is currently serving and is unable to appear in person by reason of such service.
- ii. the service member can forward a statement to the town clerk signed by their commanding officer or other officer that the service member is currently serving and is unable to appear in person by reason of such service.

If your household income for 2023 was less than \$43,800 (single) or \$53,400 (married) you may be eligible for a doubling of the basic exemption amount of 1,500. Applications are filed biennially.

If you are a disabled veteran with a disability rating from the VA of at least 10%, you may also be entitled to an increased exemption. The filing deadline is October 1.

Active-duty members of the United States armed forces (including reserves and National Guard) are eligible for the exemption from taxes of one motor vehicle upon application and may also be eligible for the 1,500 assessment reduction if a veteran.

Income And Expense Forms

Income and Expense Forms will be mailed to owners of rental property in Willington by April 15, 2024. They are due back in the Assessor's Office by June 1, 2024. To assess your rental property equitably during the 2024 revaluation, information regarding your property's income and expenses is required. Connecticut General Statute (CGS) 12-63c requires all owners of rental real property to file this report annually. **The information filed will remain confidential, is not open to public inspection and is not a public record** under the Connecticut Freedom of Information statute (CGS 1-19).

If a property owner receives a form, you must return it by June 1, 2024 to avoid a penalty that increases the property's assessment by 10% for one year. If you are an owner-occupant in a 1-6 family residence you are not required to complete the form. You must, however, return it so the Assessor's Office knows that. There is an option on the form if this applies.

Applications for all programs can be obtained at the Assessor's Office and can be sent to you by mail or by email. Please call the office for more information at 860-487-3122, during our regular business office hours, Monday 8:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Friday the office is closed.

Revaluation

Watch the Assessor's Office page on the town website, www.willingtonct.gov, for updated information.

2024 is a revaluation year for the Town of Willington. CT General Statute §12-62 requires the revaluation of all real estate every five years. The last revaluation in Willington was for the 10/1/2018 Grand List. Due to their being a vacancy in the Assessor's Office, a one-year delay was granted to the town by the state legislature and approved at a town meeting. The 10/1/2024 values will be used to determine taxes payable in the summer of 2025.

The town has contracted with Municipal Valuation Services LLC (MuniVal), based in Fairfield, CT to work with the Assessor's Office on revaluation. MuniVal data collectors and appraisers will be frequent visitors to town in the over 9 months, starting in April 2024.

All MuniVal employees will have identification and written documentation from the town stating their affiliation with the project. Homeowners are encouraged to ask for this identification before answering questions or admitting an inspector to their homes. The Assessor's Office, First Selectman's Office and State Police will be provided with information on the employees and their vehicles.

The first phase of a municipal revaluation is Data Collection.

PHASE 1: DATA COLLECTION [Estimated time frame is April 2024 thru October 2024].

The first phase of revaluation is collecting current information on each property, verifying recent sales and physical changes. During this phase, a data collector will visit some properties as part of a "Full Inspection, required at least once every 10 years." CT General Statute Sec.12-62(a)(3) has the following definition of "Full Inspection":

"Full inspection" or "fully inspect" means to measure or verify the exterior dimensions of a building or structure and to enter and examine the interior of such building or structure in order to observe and record or verify the characteristics and conditions thereof, provided permission to enter such interior is granted by the property owner or an adult occupant;

Exterior inspections and measurements will be taken, and an interior inspection will be performed, with the permission of the property owner. The data collector will note the building, size, age, quality of construction, outbuildings, topography, utilities, and other characteristics inside and out. Exterior photos of all primary buildings will be taken.

With prior arrangement, the Assessor will be available to accompany MuniVal inspectors or separately perform the inspection if the property owner prefers.

Properties to be inspected include the following:

- Residential properties that have not had a full inspection since 2013.
- All commercial and industrial properties.
- All properties under construction or newly completed since January 2024

All property owners will receive data mailers by mail to verify property characteristics. Make any corrections to the information listed for your property and return the form. Data mailers will also list open building permits. Please note on the form if the work has been completed. Note that this is only for the purposes of revaluation. You will still need to get permitted work approved by the Building Department.

Property owners are reminded that specific questions regarding their current assessment should be directed to the Assessor's Office. MuniVal personnel are not town employees and are not prepared to answer questions concerning current values or town laws.

PHASE 2: MARKET ANALYSIS AND DEVELOPMENT OF VALUATION MODELS.

While the physical data is being collected, MuniVal will be analyzing sales and building cost data in Willington over the past one – two years to determine which market factors influence property values. Properties are compared with the validated sales and income and expense data to develop cost, depreciation and income and expense schedules.

PHASE 3: FIELD REVIEW.

Field Review is the method of checking and re-checking values that have been established and the data that has been collected. During this review, properties are viewed in the field to check the uniformity and the accuracy of information.

A Sales Ratio study is done as part of the revaluation to assure that there is uniformity in the assessment of similar properties and that the assessment is the same proportion of market value for all properties, regardless of where they are on the valuation scale. The resulting ratios must meet state standards for the revaluation to be valid.

PHASE 4: NOTICES AND INFORMAL HEARINGS

A notice with the preliminary new assessed value will be mailed to each property owner in November or December. Property owners can meet with MuniVal staff concerning the revaluation process and to make corrections to the data collected on their property. If you request a hearing and the value is changed, you will be mailed a new notice.

The revalued properties will be included in the January 31, 2025 closing of the Grand List. Property owners will be able to file appeals with the Board of Assessment Appeals through February 20, 2025. If you do want to appeal, please reach out to the Assessor first, to see if your concerns can be addressed without going to the Board. The Assessor will also be available to

The Assessor and Assistant Assessor are available throughout this process to answer questions. If you do not contact us, we will not know if you have a concern. You may also directly contact the Assessor at 860-487-3106, kfishman@willingtonct.gov; and the Assistant Assessor at 860-487-3122, nsnyder@willingtonct.gov. The Assessor is in the office on Mondays and Thursdays, so there may be a short delay before responding.

We look forward to working with Willington property owners and MuniVal to establish fair and equitable property values for the next five years. Thank you!

New PA 490 Values take effect for the 2024 revaluation. Many property owners in Willington have land classified as farm or forest land under the PA 490 program, the use value assessment program in CT (CGS Sec. 12-107a – 12-107f). Every 5 years, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the Commissioner of Agriculture are required to develop per acre values for use in setting the use assessments for farm and forest land. Farmland values are based on agricultural rents. Forest land values are based on characteristics such as the type and density of trees, sawlog prices and tree growth rates. The old and new 100% PA 490 values are shown in the table below:

PA 490 100% VALUE*

Land Classification	<i>Per acre value</i>	
	Old Value, 2015	New Value, 2020
Tillable A	1,960	1,880
Tillable B	1,390	1,280
Tillable C	670	1,110
Tillable D	460	850
Orchard E	1,390	990
Pasture F	140	280
Swamp, Ledge, Scrub Lands	40	40
Woodland as Part of Farm Unit	240	390
Forest Land	240	390

Kara Fishman CCMA II, MAI ~ Assessor

Kfishman@willingtonct.gov

Nicole Snyder ~ Assistant Assessor

Nsnyder@willingtonct.gov

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTES –Spring 2024



Spring is a great time to get out on the trails to enjoy the warm air, ephemeral wildflowers, birdsong and the fresh green leaves on trees and shrubs. Be sure to look for Bumblebees and other pollinators visiting the spring blossoms in search of nectar and pollen!

The Town's 300-acre **Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve and Drobney Sanctuary** on Moose Meadow Road offers 4-plus miles of trails through woods, over ridges and along ponds and streams. A kiosk with maps is located at the parking area on Burma Road, and a box with nature trail guides is located a short distance down the Taylor Pond Trail. Dogs are welcome to accompany owners, but must be kept on a leash for their safety and to protect the Park's wildlife.

The Town also has several well-marked hiking trails in southeast Willington located off Mason Road. These include the **Split Rock Trail and Talmadge Spur Trail** on the 44-acre **Talmadge Conservation Tract** (west side of Mason Road) and the **Knowlton Spur Trail** on the 138-acre **Royal Knowlton Preserve** (east side of Mason Road). The Split Rock Trail is a 1 mile loop. The two "Spur" trails are ½ mile long each and connect with the **Nipmuck Trail** (part of the Connecticut Blue-Blazed Trail system). The spur trails can be combined with a portion of the Nipmuck Trail to form a 3-mile loop trail. The best place to access the trails is to use the gravel parking lot on Mason Road which is about ¼ mile north of Mason Road's intersection with RT 44. Trail maps can be found in the kiosk there and at the trailheads. Maps for the Mason Road properties, as well as for Fenton-Ruby Park, can also be found on the Conservation Commission webpage under "Boards and Commissions" on the Town of Willington's website/ home page: www.willingtonct.org

Chenes Roches (translation: "oaks rocks") is a 56-acre wooded preserve in northeast Willington owned by Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust. Trails wind through a varied terrain of hardwood forests, stands of pines and along a hemlock-shaded stream in a steep-sided valley. A round trip of 1.8 miles will take you across several small spring-fed streams via bridges, an altitude change of about 250 feet from the parking lot to the valley stream. A trail map and additional information about the preserve, including directions, can be found on the Joshua's Trust website, www.joshuastrust.org. There is a kiosk with trail maps at the small parking area at 71 Blair Road.

Other Opportunities: If you are interested in taking an active part in helping the Town manage its trails, open spaces and natural resources, the Conservation Commission has openings for new members. The Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm via Zoom. To contact us or for more information on agendas/minutes, conservation issues, trails, upcoming events and volunteering, visit the Conservation Commission webpage under "Boards and Commissions" on the Town of Willington's website/home page: www.willingtonct.org.



Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery

Hours: Saturdays from 10:00am to 12:00pm and by Appointment

EXHIBIT: “Mezcla” - The Paintings of Jack Broderick SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 - SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

”Mezcla” (Mixed)

The Spanish word for mixture is mezcla. This show, if anything, is a mixture of my work over the years. I have always been reluctant to consider myself solely a landscape painter, or a still life painter or a portrait artist. Each painting is a new beginning. Each painting is a question and a wonder.

Jack Broderick



JACK BRODERICK paints every day in his studio at The Mill Works in Willington, CT. He uses both image and feeling in developing his paintings. To him, painting is a conversation between artist and subject whether the subject is a model, a landscape or a still life. He has traveled and painted extensively in Ireland, Argentina, Spain, Cuba and Italy. He has exhibited internationally in Paris, Tokyo, Buenos Aires, Palermo and Tilcara.

In 2003 and 2004, Jack participated in several international gallery shows in Buenos Aires, Paris and Palermo. In October 2003, he had a one man show in the Galeria EdeA, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In January 2004, he was in a diverse show of 5 artists from Japan, Argentina and the United States in Paris, France. The following month he was in an invitational show in La Galeria Civica di Enna in Palermo, Italy. In April 2004, Jack was awarded a residency at the Fundacion Valparaiso in Mojacar, Spain. In April

2006, he exhibited in the Niche-Gallery in Tokyo, Japan. He taught a plein air workshop in Vagliagli, Italy in 2006 and 2007 and has taught painting in Buenos Aires.

He is an Elected Member of the Lyme Art Association and the Connecticut Plein Air Painters Society.





AL MATHES has always had an extensive interest in landscapes whether that be hands on structuring, as in landscape design and construction or in my abstracted paintings. Lots of elements are at play - color, shape, format, etc. but at the center is one's reaction to a presented situation. Sharing, memory, empathy and a sense of mystery are central concerns.

About Al Mathes

Born: Durham, North Carolina
University of South Florida, MFA, BFA, Tampa, FL
Art teacher, public schools, Immokalee, FL and Stockbridge, MA
Arcadian Landscaping, owner, 1978 to present

Various solo, juried group showings including:
Norwich Arts Center, Norwich, CT
Northeast Artist Guild, QVCC, Danielson, CT
Connecticut Coastal Magazine, Madison, CT
The Empty Space Project Gallery, Putnam, CT
Artworks Gallery, Hartford, CT
Lenore Grey Gallery, Providence, RI

A small inset photo showing Al Mathes standing in a gallery, looking at a large abstract painting on the wall.

Tom Buccino serves as EC-CHAP Executive Director and Acting Board Chair. Tom can be reached at: info@ec-chap.org.



THE PACKING HOUSE
1870
HISTORIC VENUE FOR PERFORMANCE & EVENTS

EC-CHAP

Eastern Connecticut Center for
History, Art, and Performance, Inc.

April 2024 Performance



May 2024 Performance



Check Out EC-CHAP's Monthly Articles!

EC-CHAP Contributors provide fresh original articles each month related to topics in CT History, the Visual Arts, and Performing Arts!
www.ec-chap.org/articles

EC-CHAP is Reorganizing for 2024-25!

Seeking Additional Volunteers and Board Members!
If You're Interested, Please Call 518-791-9474
or visit:
To Volunteer: www.ec-chap.org/volunteer-info
Board of Directors: www.ec-chap.org/board-of-directors

Recurring Monthly Events

"TALENT SHOWCASE"



**2nd
Wednesday**

7:00 - 10:00pm
Call to Schedule: 518.791.9474

"EC-CHAP FILM SERIES"

Curated by WECS "Musical Myriad" Host, Arthur Rovozzo

April 12: "British Invasion"

May 3: "Don't Look Back" - Bob Dylan

**"THE PACKING HOUSE
POETRY SERIES"**



**3rd
Thursday**

6:30 - 8:30pm
Sign-In at the Door

156 River Road, Willington, CT 06279 | WWW.THEPACKINGHOUSE.US | 518.791.9474



The Willington Historical Society



Please join us on Sunday, April 28th at 3 pm at the Willington Library for a highly anticipated presentation by author Robert Harris. Harris, a US Army Veteran and former correctional officer, authored the 2020 book, Historical Moments – Military Contributions of African Americans, after finding little documented about African Americans in the military. Harris also rides with the Buffalo Soldiers on his 2006 Honda Trike.

Willington Historical welcomed Richard Symonds, author of several mill books on February 25th. After his presentation on research methods, Symonds has decided to put together another book explaining in greater detail how he finds information for his publications and website.

We are actively working on the accessibility and storage issues at the Glazier Tavern so that it may be opened for public events. If you would like to volunteer with hands-on projects, please email us! We'd love to have you join us.

Please stop and see us on Willington Day, May 25th.

You are welcome to attend Historical Society meetings, generally held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. We have been meeting at the Library during the colder months, but will be returning to Glazier Tavern in spring. Our upcoming meetings will be on April 16, May 21, and June 18.

Do you want to contact us? willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Website: <https://willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org/>

Our mailing address is PO Box 214 Willington CT 06279

The Willington Historical Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and gifts are tax deductible.

Human Services

Department of Human Services

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, Connecticut 06279

Tel. (860)487-3118



FOOD PANTRY- The Willington Food Pantry offers canned and dry goods, seasonal vegetables, and eggs to Willington residents in need. Located at the Town Office Building, our pantry is open Mondays from 4-6pm and Fridays from 10am to noon.



MOBILE FOODSHARE- Bringing produce, breads, and on occasion, meats and more to Willington residents. The Foodshare truck comes every other Wednesday from 11-11:30 at the Town Office building, 40 Old Farms Road. Drive through only. All are welcome!



UTILITY ASSISTANCE – Energy Assistance Appointments are available until May! We can also help with your other utilities in certain circumstances year round. If you are having a hard time making ends meet, please contact our office for more information.

RENTERS REBATE TIME –Elderly or disabled people who rented in 2022 are invited to contact our office to apply for Renters Rebate, a state tax abatement program which can provide a payment of up to \$700 for those who qualify. Contact our office for more information.

WE ARE SOCIAL! –Be sure to “Like” Willington Human Services on Facebook! We are also now on Twitter and Instagram! Keep up with our events, programs, and happenings.
Thanks for your interest and support!



SENIOR CENTER SPRING BREAKFAST

20 SENIOR WAY, WILLINGTON

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024 - 8:30 am-10:30 am

\$7 per person—Pay at the Door

ONE LUCKY PERSON WILL FIND A FREE VOUCHER FOR THE NEXT BREAKFAST IN SLEEVE OF PLASTICWARE!

50-50 DRAWING!

MENU

- BACON OR HAM OMELET WITH CHEDDAR CHEESE, PEPPERS, ONIONS
- SCRAMBLED EGGS
- BLUEBERRY OR PLAIN PANCAKES
- WHITE OR RAISIN BREAD FRENCH TOAST
- HASH BROWN POTATO PATTIES
- SAUSAGE LINKS
- REGULAR COFFEE, DECAF COFFEE, HOT TEA, ORANGE JUICE, BOTTLED WATER.



Button Hill Senior Apartments

Affordable, One-Level Living



- Your Private Front Door is at Ground Level
- Ample Parking Right at Your Front Door
- Heating, Cooling & Electricity Included
- Washer & Dryer in Every Apartment
- Recreation Area and Pet Friendly
- Easy Access to the Senior Center

10-16 Senior Way, Willington, CT

**Applicants must be 62 or older and
meet certain income eligibility requirements**

For more information call our leasing office at:

860-742-5518



Visit us at www.buttonhill.com



Call Us Now to Schedule Your Tour

Summer is right around the corner and the Willington Parks & Recreation Department is excited for our annual “Wednesdays in the Park” Summer Concert Series at the River Road Athletic Complex! Every concert is FREE to the public, accessible to all and serves the entire community; families, seniors and anyone wishing to attend. As a resource to the community, our department is honored to coordinate special events like this with the support of local businesses, residents, and volunteers. Don’t miss this opportunity to become a valuable sponsor and supporter of this popular community event. Check out our performers below, and sponsorship information for you or your business.

In the meantime, we are hard at work preparing for the warmer months. More information will be coming out soon about Halls Pond, Summer Camp, and more! Make sure to keep an eye on our website, Facebook page, and bulletin boards. Looking to get involved? Attend a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at the end of the month. The newly formed Tricentennial Committee is also holding a meeting on June 17th @ 6:00pm.

Feel free to reach out any time with program ideas or suggestions! I look forward to seeing you in the Park!

James Callaghan

Director of Parks and Recreation



WILLINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION



STREET *Soccer*

\$100
PER CHILD

YOUTH AGES
2-6

6
SESSIONS

JOIN STREET SOCCER AND WPRD AT THE RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX TO LEARN THE GAME OF SOCCER!

SESSION DATES

APRIL 21ST, 28TH, MAY 5TH, 12TH,
19TH, 26TH

AGES 2-3: 1:00PM-2:00PM

AGES 4-6: 2:00PM-3:00PM

For more information, contact WPRD
at: jcallaghan@willingtonct.gov and
check out WPRD's registration page
below:

[HTTPS://WWW.WILLINGTONCT.GOV/PARKS-AND-RECREATION/PAGES/STREET-SOCCER](https://www.willingtonct.gov/parks-and-recreation/pages/street-soccer)



WILLINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION
WILLINGTON HUMAN SERVICES

WILLINGTON SPRING CAMP

Where: Hall Memorial School

When: April 15th-19th

Time: 9:00am-2:45pm

Bus pick-up will be between 8:00am-9:00am, and
drop-off will be between 2:45pm-3:45pm



Camp is now only \$100 per week thanks to grant funding!

Aftercare until 3:45pm is available for an additional \$50.

Additionally, Bus transportation is now being offered!

(Bus transportation not available for aftercare)

There is a max of 40 campers, so sign-up ASAP!

For more information, contact WPRD or WHS at:
jcallaghan@willingtonct.gov or kcote@willingtonct.gov



WILLINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION
PRESENTS:

Yoga

Connect with the inner you! We will work on balance, strength, and gentle stretching. This class is appropriate for all levels of Yoga experience!

**MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
6:00PM-7:00PM**

TUESDAY

9:00AM-10:00AM

**WILLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM**

INSTRUCTOR: CAITLIN DRAGHE

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT WPRD AT:
JCALLAGHAN@WILLINGTONCT.GOV





WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX

LIGHT RAIN OR SHINE (SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS)

Sponsor Benefits Package

\$800.00

Platinum Sponsor

- A 3'x8' banner at River Road Athletic Complex through Oct 2024
- Acknowledgement several times during concert
- Full Page Ad in the 2024 Summer Concert Program
- Listing in the Summer and Fall Editions of the Willington Wire
- Listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website & Facebook page

\$400.00

Gold Sponsor

- Acknowledgement at beginning of concert
- A Full Page Ad in the 2024 Summer Concert Program
- Listing in the Summer and Fall Editions of the Willington Wire
- Listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website & Facebook page

\$200.00

Silver Sponsors

- Acknowledgement at beginning of concert
- A Half Page Ad in the 2024 Summer Concert Program
- Listing in the Summer and Fall Editions of the Willington Wire
- Listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website & Facebook page

\$100.00

Bronze Sponsors

- Acknowledgement at beginning of concert
- A Quarter Page Ad in the 2024 Summer Concert Program
- Listing in the Summer and Fall Editions of the Willington Wire
- Listing on the Willington Facebook page

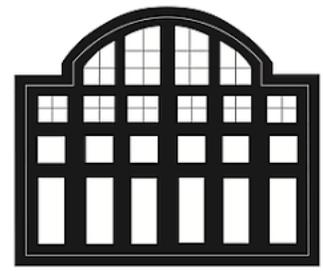
Up to \$100.00

Copper Sponsor

- Listing in the 2024 Summer Concert Program

Deadline for Sponsorship is June 1, 2024

****Please mail or email your business card/logo for advertisement with payment****



Willington Public Library
7 Ruby Road, Willington

860-429-3854, www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org

Find us on the WPL E-Blast, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter,
Youtube, & Burbio.com

Great libraries create communities!

SPRING has SPRUNG! Come and enjoy the beautiful outdoors here on the Library's beautifully gardened grounds. Watch and listen to the Blue Bird houses alive with activity and song. Sit, relax, and yes, even read, at one of our many picnic tables and benches throughout the property. Choose and enjoy a book from our FREE Library. Stroll along our StoryWalk. Grab a picnic lunch for under the Pavillon. All here and available for your enjoyment.

Passport to CT Public Libraries, April 1 – April 30, 2024



Visit the Willington Public Library during the month of April as we participate in the **Connecticut Library Association Passport to Connecticut Libraries Program**. Nearly 140 Connecticut libraries are proud to participate. Patrons can obtain their Library Passport here at the Willington Library and begin their journey to multiple participating CT Libraries. Take your Passport along as you visit other participating libraries. At each visit, you must show your library card, and then the library will stamp your passport and give you another small gift.

There will be winners in two categories, and four \$200 gift cards, one for adults (18 and up) and one for children (under 18) in each category.

Category One: Each participant who visits at least five participating public libraries and has the corresponding stamps (and returns their passport to a participating library by the deadline) will earn an entry into that library's drawing. There will be a final "all libraries" drawing among the contestants who have visited at least five libraries.

Category Two: Each library will select the adult and the child who have visited the most participating public libraries. There will be a final "all libraries" drawing among the contestants who have visited the most libraries.

In our 2024 season of **Museum and Attraction Passes**, we have nine (9) passes available, many are funded by the Friends of WPL. We hope you will take advantage of these passes and the many programs they offer through their establishments. Please check out their individual websites to see what fun things they offer to see and do. They are...

- **Children’s Museum**, West Hartford, CT & **Roaring Brook Nature Center**, Canton, CT
- **Connecticut Science Center**, Hartford, CT - 20% off coupons
- **Connecticut Old State House**, Hartford, CT
- **Florence Griswold Museum**, Old Lyme, CT
- **Lutz Children’s Museum**, Manchester, CT
- **New Britain Museum of American Art**, New Britain, CT
- **Old Sturbridge Village**, Sturbridge, MA
- **Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art**, Hartford, CT

The **CT State Parks & Forests - No Child Left Inside - a 3 in 1 pass**, which consists of the **Dinosaur State Park** (Rocky Hill), **Gillette Castle** (East Haddam), and **Fort Trumbull** (New London).

The American Revolution Experience Traveling Tour 2024. The Connecticut Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Battlefield Trust are excited to feature the “American Revolution Experience” at the CT Old State House from April 9 - April 19. Tuesday-Saturday, the exhibit is open 12-5, and on Thursday until 8pm.

The innovative pop-up exhibition includes display panels and interactive digital kiosks that use storytelling, illustration, technology and unique artifacts and primary accounts to connect modern audiences with the people and places that shaped the birth of our nation. **Reserve your library pass NOW for this event!**

LAST CHANCE to view many of our Children’s Audio Books, DVD’s, and Music CD’s, soon to be deleted from our system, due to lack of interest. Please take advantage of seeing them one more time. If people are still interested in keeping them within our circulation, now would be the time to show your interest, if not they will be gone forever. Check out our special displays located in the Children’s Library Room.

Spring Cleaning...

The Library continues to accept book donations during our regular hours of operation. Looking for a “home” for your unwanted, yet beloved books? Think of bringing them to the library. The library collects and uses them first, for our circulation, second, for our Book Shop, and lastly, for the Friends Book Sale.

We truly appreciate your donations, but we cannot use text books, magazines, encyclopedias, Reader's Digest condensed books, outdated computer books or travel guides, or books that smell moldy or have water damage. In addition, we cannot use VHS tapes or cassettes. Thank you for all your help!

***FYI, update...**The Friends will be holding their annual Book Sale on the weekend of June 8-9, this year. Watch for more information to follow, from the Friends of the Willington Public Library.*

Library Fundraiser..



not

For the first time ever, the library is now selling its very own **T-Shirt!** The shirt is a deep purple with dark yellow lettering. It reads on the front “Great Libraries Create Community”. Shirts are available for both adults (\$22) and children (\$18) and come in all sizes. If we do not have your size available, we can special-order it for you. These pending purchase orders will need to be paid for before the order is placed. We will contact you when your order arrives. Thank you in advance for your support!

We have **"SOLD OUT"** of our original one-of-a-kind (never to be repeated)

WPL Tote Bags. To all of you who were able to purchase these in the past, thank you for your support and enjoy them! They were made to last forever.

A NEW UnPlug Zone at WPL

The library’s Becker & Patton Family Reading Room is now a **DEVICE FREE-NO TECH ZONE** to help meet the growing need to take a break, turn off, and disconnect. This area is now designated for the WPL community to relax and de-stress.

Ongoing Programs:

Sound Healing Meditation: Classes meet on **Tuesdays or Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** in the Community Room. These classes are for adults.

Instructor Edie Jemiola uses crystal alchemy bowls and voice to bring patrons on a stress-reducing and rejuvenating guided meditation journey. You may bring a yoga mat, pillows, blanket, and/or lounging chair. Regular chairs are available for those who prefer.

Please call the library to register for the dates you would like to attend. Walk-ins also welcome. There is a \$10.00 suggested donation but all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Upcoming scheduled dates...

April: Tuesday the 9th and Thursday the 25th

May: Tuesday the 7th and Thursday the 23rd

June: Tuesday the 4th and Thursday the 20th

Every Tuesday, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., the **Yarn & Thread Group** meets in the Reading Room. Come and sit a spell while you enjoy some time working on your own project in the company of fellow crafters. This is a great opportunity to set aside time to work on or complete a project while sharing with others your ideas and talents.

Adult Book Club: Every first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in our Reading Room. Everyone is welcome to participate. Books are available in advance at the library. There are plenty of books to go around and available a month or more in advance.

Upcoming books for discussion are for...

- **April 4:** *Last Night at the Hollywood Canteen* by Sarah James
- **May 2:** *The Housekeeper* by Alex Hay
- **June 6:** *The Beach at Summerly* by Beatriz Williams

Family Movie Time: On the **last Saturday of every month at 12:30 p.m.** in the Community Room on the BIG SCREEN! Complimentary popcorn is served. You may bring your own snacks or enjoy your lunch as you watch. The following showings are planned for the coming months...

- **CHANGE of time** due to length of movie - beginning early at 12:00 pm vs. our regular time of 12:30pm...**April 27: Spider-man Across the Spider-Verse - PG**
- **May 25: Memorial Day Weekend Film (TBD)**
- **June 29: Summer Reading Movie Special (TBD)** Tentative movie showing depending on whether the hike planned for this day is canceled due to weather conditions

“Borrow” the BIG SCREEN for your own personal viewing. Let us know what date and time you would like and we will reserve the room for you. The movies starting time will be dependent upon how long the movie is and consider how long we are open for on the day or evening of your choice. Watch alone or bring a crowd!

Storytime & Craft: Join us every **first Saturday each month at 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.** for a themed story and craft. This program is more for the youngest children but all ages are welcome!

- **April 6: Solar Eclipse theme** (free eclipse glasses while supplies last) **Total Solar Eclipse is on Monday, April 8th!**
- **May 4: Special Star War theme: May the 4th Be With You!**
- **June 1: TBD**



Pokemon Club: Drop in on the **second Tuesday of the month from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.** Come and play the Pokemon Card Game! Trade cards! No experience required. Limited library decks will be available to borrow if you don't have your own, or you can bring your own. Ages 7+. No registration needed. Snacks are provided.

The Willington Public Library hosts a **“Lunch and A Good Book Club”** at the **Willington Senior Center every second Tuesday of the month at 11:00 a.m.** Check to see what they are reading next. Books can be borrowed from the library. Members are asked to bring their lunch and something to share. Drinks are provided.

The Library now offers TWO Writers' Groups!

Eastern CT Writers meet on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. This group is for aspiring and advanced writers working on a novel, novella, or collection of short stories or poetry. Submissions are limited to no more than 10 pages. Critiques and commentary constructive to each writer's work and goals will be encouraged. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, you may contact easternctwriters@gmail.com.

NEW...Writers' Group Course meet every Tuesday from 6:00 - 7:50 p.m.

A change...during the month of April, the group will meet only on April 2nd and 16th. They will resume their regular schedule in May, meeting every Tuesday.

This year-long course is for those who have previous writing experience. It will focus on short story writing, novels, and novellas. We will use the Iowa Writing Workshop approach to facilitate critiques and commentary constructive to the writer's work and goals. The intent of this course is for dedicated writers to become published on Amazon's KDP platform.

Writers should bring enough copies (at least 6) of their writing project (no more than 10 double-spaced pages) with them to the first class. The other writers will receive these copies and bring them home for critique, where they will then be the subject for group discussion at the next class. This will be the weekly class format.

Finding and recognizing your voice, outlining, structuring the plot, establishing the story arc, giving your characters depth and roundness, evoking the scene through description and detail, experimenting with points of view, and rewriting beginnings and endings are ongoing issues for exploration throughout the course as will any other pertinent topics that may evolve during class time.

Writers are not required to attend every week and may join throughout the year. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Please call the library to sign-up for your first time attending for whenever that may be.



Art Class for Homeschoolers

Nature that Imitates, Imagines, Paints, Draws, and more.
African Art to Picasso and Jungle Treehouses to Rousseau

For ages 5 - 12 years

Thursday's 11:00 am -12:00 pm

April 18, 25 and May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024

6 Classes for \$60. Plus \$15 for materials,
for returning student only \$10

A portion of the fee will be donated to the library.

Siblings are welcome to enjoy independent playtime during classes.

Nancy Cooke Bunnell is an award-winning, experienced and creative art teacher and painter who has exhibited her work throughout Connecticut. She is a certified art teacher who brings her own unique, wild, and wonderful skills to the Children's Art Program here at WPL. Nancy has been teaching children and adults for over 30 years throughout the State. **To register, contact: Nancy Bunnell at ncbunnell@gmail.com or call 860-377-7817**

Special Events TBD

May - Willington Day/Memorial Day Celebration

April 20 - Earth Day Weekend Activities

HEADS UP for WPL's SRP!

Summer 2024 Theme: Read, Renew, Repeat!

Looking ahead...

Our 8 week long program begins with our Kick-Off on Saturday, June 22 and will run through Saturday, August 17, ending with our Grand Finale.

Summer Reading registrations will begin on Saturday, June 22, between our regular hours of 9am - 3pm. Please see one of our staff members at the front Circulation Desk.

- **Saturday, June 22 - Summer Reading Program KICK-OFF - "CZR Reptiles" - 11am - 12pm**
- **Saturday, June 29 - SRP Tentative Special Storytime & HIKE at the Fenton Ruby Park 10 - 11am.** A TENTATIVE Rain Date has been scheduled for Saturday, July 6, same time. If the hike is canceled, we will have our regular scheduled Family Movie Time Showing - Title TBA

Here are more Summer programs to come...

- **Saturday, July 13 at 11:00am - Horizon Wings Raptor Program**
- **Saturday, July 20 at 11:00am - Author Talk with Marty Podskoch, on the subject of the CT CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps). It's History, Memories & Legacy**
- **Saturday, July 27 at 12:30pm - Movie: TBA**
- **Saturday, August 3 from 10 - 11am - Tentative Special Storytime & Hike at Chinese Roches Trail.** A TENTATIVE Rain Date has been scheduled for Saturday, August 10, same time.
- **Saturday, August 17 from 1:30 - 2:30pm - SRP's Grand Finale: "Search for the Kakapo" with the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company!** This is a live interactive show which involves the audience directly in the story. Join the Caterpillar Hunter on another exciting adventure as he travels around the world to rescue a rare endangered parrot known as the Kakapo, from New Zealand. His globe trotting quest teaches him (and the audience) about the many efforts underway to preserve precious habitats and protect the endangered species that live in them.
- **Saturday, August 24 at 12:30pm - Family Movie Time: TBA**

Further FYI items:

The library hosts many outside organizations and their programs. The views and opinions expressed in these programs are those of the speakers and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of any entities they represent nor do they reflect the views, opinions, official policy or position of the Willington Public Library. Any information needed or asked for regarding such events, is done by these groups or its individuals, and not by or through the library. What information we are given will be shared and you will see their flyer posted.

New schedule: The Willington Library Board now meets on the second AND fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00pm.

Library CLOSINGS this quarter:

Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth Day

The WPL Community Room is available to rent. If interested, please notify us.

Sign up for our library e-blast. It's the best way to keep informed. Get connected to what's happening here at your library. For all Library related things, join our library E-Blast, where we come to you! Join by calling us at 860-429-3854, by coming in person to the library and signing up, or on our website link at www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org. You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, & burbio.com

Programs are sponsored and made possible due to the hard and dedicated work of the **Friends of the Willington Public Library**. **Thank you to one and all, for all that you do.** Friends of WPL are always looking for new members to join their group to support the library. To join, email the Friends at willingtonfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com, fill out a paper membership form in the library, or register online here: [Online Membership Form](#)

The Staff at WPL wishes you a happy



Friends of the Willington Public Library

Friends of the Willington Public Library

BOOK Sale

2024

NEW!
DATE

NEW!
DATE

Saturday & Sunday

June 8-9

Find books for the whole family!

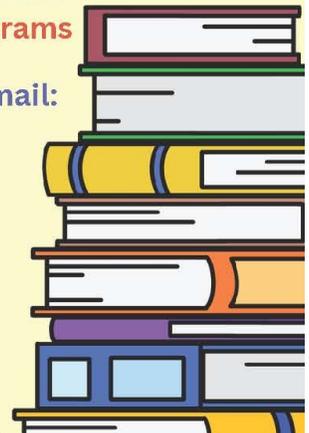
Donate your gently used books
today!

WILLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

7 Ruby Rd. Willington

All proceeds from the sale go toward the Friends of the Willington Library, who raise money for library programs

For more information or to join the Friends, please email:
wilmingtonfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com



News From the Elections Department

Please check the Elections Department's website for up-to-date voting events and voter registration information at willingtonct.gov/elections-department.



Upcoming events and deadlines:

- Tuesday, May 7—annual Town and Region #19 School District budget referendum. The referendum will be held at the Town Office Building, 40 Old Farms Road.
- Monday, May 13—last day that an enrolled elector can transfer from one party to another and be eligible to vote in the state and district primary of new party.
- *Tuesday, August 13—primary for state and district offices.

*date applies only if needed

Registering to vote is available 24/7 online at voterregistration.ct.gov. This site Coordinates with the Department of Motor Vehicles, so have your current Connecticut driver's license or state-issued ID available when filling out forms.

If you have questions, our office hours are Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 pm. You may also call 860 487.3120 and leave a message.

Suzanne G. Chapman and Christine Psathas
Registrars of Voters/Election Department

Election Fun Facts (Alleged)

-In 1874, the cartoonist for Harper's Weekly, Thomas Nash, created the Republican and Democratic party symbols, the elephant and the donkey, respectively. It wasn't long before those symbols were widely used and recognized.

Fun Fact:

HOW MANY VOTERS ARE THERE IN WILLINGTON

Democratic: 1026	Republican:939
Unaffiliated:1553	Other:68

Fun Fact:

The first woman governor in Connecticut was Ella T. Grasso

She was the 83rd Governor of Connecticut serving from January 8, 1975 – December 31, 1980. She was the first woman elected governor of a U.S. state without having been the spouse or widow of a former

Wilmington Senior Center News

April 2024



Hello everyone!

April is when I feel as if we really get into the swing of Spring. I'll be attending to my beehives, gardens, and yard from now until winter comes! I'm hoping to get a lot of work done this season — we'll see how that pans out. I nearly always bite off waaaaay more than I can chew!

We have great events and programs scheduled for April! In addition to our regular programs like **Tai Chi** and **Chair Volleyball**, take note of the following:

Blood Pressure Screenings begin on Tuesday, April 9th from 11AM-12PM. Come to the Center, get screened, & learn how to take your own blood pressure with our machines.

Ukelele Club: We enjoyed the Ukelele class so much that we've started a club! If you're interested, give me a call, or stop by on **Tuesdays from 11 AM to 12 PM** for the fun.

Our next **Senior Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, April 20th, from 8:30-10:30 AM.** It's always a fun time, meeting new neighbors and seeing old friends as well as enjoying the fantastic food! **No reservations are necessary, and the cost is only \$7.00.** Also, we'll be doing our new favorite, the 50/50 drawing, at the end of the breakfast! You do not need to be present to win.

And don't forget, our **3rd Annual Spring Afternoon Tea happens on Friday, May 10th, 3-5 PM!** I'm asking for a donation of \$5.00 per person. You must be 55 or over to attend. Call or drop by the Senior Center to register.

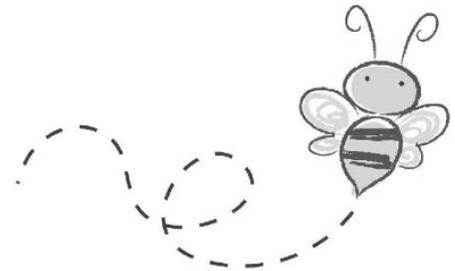
Our trips this month are **Walmart on April 9, Applebee's on April 17, a NEW Big Y trip on April 30th, and a Casino trip TBA.**

As always, if you have any questions about the Senior Center or the Wilmington Seniors, Inc., give me an email or a call.

I wish you all a happy April and a warm and sunny Spring!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nan King".

Nan King
Senior Center Coordinator
860-429-8321
nking@willingtonct.org



MARK your CALENDARS
FOR THE
WILLINGTON SENIORS, INC.
TAG SALE

MAY 18TH, 2024
9 AM-3 PM

WILLINGTON SENIOR CENTER
20 SENIOR WAY, WILLINGTON, CT

INDOOR & OUTDOOR!

(Weather Permitting)

25 Indoor Vendor Tables!

Fantastic Array of Items!

Food & Beverages Available!

Doors open at 9 AM —NO Early Birds!

CALL THE WILLINGTON SENIOR CENTER AT

860-429-8321 FOR MORE INFORMATION!

VENDORS
WANTED!

FOR THE
WILLINGTON SENIORS, INC.
TAG SALE

MAY 18TH, 2024, 9 AM-3 PM
WILLINGTON SENIOR CENTER
20 SENIOR WAY, WILLINGTON, CT

INDOOR & OUTDOOR

\$25.00 per space

25 Indoor Tables Available

CALL THE WILLINGTON SENIOR CENTER AT
860-429-8321 FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Tax Collector



TAX OFFICE

Greetings Willington Residents:

We are still encouraging everyone to make payments by mail, by use of our drop box located outside the front entrance or online at www.willingtonct.gov. Please note that there is a convenience fee of 2.50% for credit cards, flat fee of \$3.95 for a debit card and \$0.95 for EFT for online payments.

As a reminder, tax bills will be mailed out in June. These bills will be due July 1st, and may be paid without penalty until August 1, 2024. If you do not receive a bill, please contact our office at 860-487-3111 or email me at jclauson@willingtonct.gov.

Please note, that per §12-130 “**Failure to send out or receive any such bill or statement shall not invalidate the tax.**” Or in simpler terms, failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the tax payer of his/her responsibility for the payment of taxes or delinquent charges. So please make sure to reach out to our office if you do not receive an expected bill.

What am I being Taxed on?

You are being taxed on Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicles as of October 1, 2023.

Real Estate – All real property listed on the Grand List.

Personal Property – In the most general terms, personal property is everything subject to ownership, excluding land, any interest in land or any permanent improvement thereon. It is property that is not permanently affixed to or part of real estate. By its very nature then, personal property is moveable. This broad definition includes tangible items such as airplanes, campers, unregistered vehicles, items for business as furniture, fixtures, equipment, and animals.

Registered Motor Vehicles – Vehicles listed with the Department of Motor Vehicles are coded by tax town, and the Assessor is provided a list of registered vehicles annually. Willington’s Town Code is 160.

All tax bills are mailed directly to property owners unless the Tax Collector receives specific instructions to send the bill to your bank or financial institution.

Real Estate and Personal Property tax totaling \$100 or more are due in two installments; July and January. Motor vehicle tax is due in one installment in July. ***Please note, we do not send out bills for the second installment in January.*** There is a stub on the July bills for the January payment.

How can I pay my bill?

The Revenue Office accepts cash, money orders or personal checks for payment at the office. If our office is closed, you can leave a check in our Drop Box outside the front door of the building. You may also pay on line at www.willingtonct.gov and click on the button that says “**OnLine Tax Payments**”. There is a convenience fee of 2.50% for credit cards. \$3.95 for debit card or \$0.95 for EFT. You can also call 844-859-7566 to pay by phone, but an additional fee of 75 cents will be added. We do have a public access computer at Town Hall which will allow you to make a credit card payment on line.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous summer. See you in July!

Janice C. Clauson, CMC

Revenue Collector

860-487-3111

jclauson@willingtonct.gov

Grace Tharp

Assistant Revenue Collector

860-487-3111

gtharp@willingtonct.gov

Town Clerk

From the desk of the Willington Town Clerk

Welcome Spring!

Spring is a popular time for weddings. If you are planning to be married, please note that all marriage licenses must be obtained from the Town Clerk in which the ceremony will be held. First, fill out a Marriage license worksheet (found on our website: willingtonct.gov/town-clerk). Email or mail the worksheet to us and make an appointment to process the license. The fee for the license is \$70, which includes the cost of the certified vital that will be returned to the couple after the event. If you are in need of a Justice of the Peace, we have a list of certified JP's in town on our webpage as well.

Dog Licenses

June is dog-registration month. Per Connecticut General Statutes §§22-237 – 22-359b, every dog must be licensed when it becomes six months old, annually.

The annual fee for all spayed/neutered dogs is \$8.00 each and the fee for all male/female dogs is \$19.00 each. Licensing your dog is easy: either in person OR by mail. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope for us to return your dog's license to you. All dogs registered after June 30th will incur a \$1.00 late fee each, per month thereafter.

Be on the lookout for the annual renewal reminders, which will be sent out at the end of May. The reminders will also notify you of the rabies expiration date that we have on file and whether you will need to send in an updated certificate.

Hunting & Fishing licenses

Fishing season is here! Stop by our office to process your sportsman license today. you may also obtain these licenses at home by accessing the following website:
<https://ct.aspirafocus.com/internetsales>

The State of Connecticut DEEP has heard our residents and brought back (sort-of) the printed fishing guides. The new format is similar to the Hunting & Trapping Guide – they are smaller publications and no longer in color, however both publications have all the information you need for a successful hunting & fishing season. Stop in to grab your 2024 edition today!

The new fishing guide can also be found online at the following address:
<https://portal.ct.gov/deepfishing>

Lastly, a friendly reminder that the Town Clerk's office can accept payment by cash, check or money order. We do not have the capability to process credit or debit card payments. If you have questions regarding anything, do not hesitate to contact us – we are here to help.

We look forward to seeing you!

Robin Campbell, CCTC
Willington Town Clerk

Ivan Ruhnke
Assistant Town Clerk



Who We Are

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is a nonprofit veterans service organization comprised of eligible veterans and military service members

from the active, guard and reserve forces.

We trace our roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations that would eventually band together and become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. Today, membership stands at more than 1.4 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary.

Our voice was instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, development of the national cemetery system, in the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. In 2008, we won a long-fought victory with the passing of a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active duty service members, and members of the guard and reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. We were the driving force behind the Veterans Access and Accountability Act of 2014, and continually fight for improved VA medical centers services for women veterans. The VFW's legislative advocacy efforts were also the driving force behind the passage of the 2019 Blue Water Navy Veteran Act, and the passage of the 2022 Honoring Our PACT Act, which the VFW considers one of the most significant pieces of veterans legislation in history.

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korean War, World War II and Women in Military Service memorials, in 2005 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial, which opened in November 2010. And in 2015, we became the first supporter of the Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial which broke ground in July of 2022.

We have many programs and services that work to support veterans, service members and their families, as well as communities worldwide. Please send responses to **VFW Post #938 P.O. Box 12 Willington CT. 06279**. **No One Does More For Veterans.**

Consider an endowment or Memorial Donation

Corporal Henry Toberman Post # 938 VFW



Corporal Henry Toberman Post No. 938

There are two qualifiers for membership in the VFW, as set out in our National Bylaws. An individual must meet both in order to become a member. They are as follows:

1: **Honorable Service** – must have served in the Armed Forces of the United States and either received a discharge of Honorable or General (Under Honorable Conditions) or be currently serving.

2: **Service in a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters***. This can be proven by any of the following:

- An authorized campaign medal
- Receipt of Hostile Fire Pay or Imminent Danger Pay (verified by a military pay statement)
- Service in Korea for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days

*This information is usually available through a veteran's DD-214. If other information is needed or if a veteran's DD-214 is not complete, they can contact the National Personnel Records Center online or at 314.801.0800 to request more information.

Want to Join EMAIL THE POST: vfw938@gmail.com

Join today first years dues are on us

[Join us for the Memorial Day Celebration on the Town Green on the 27th of May](#)

Willington Veterans Memorial Foundation



The Foundation is Open to All! The next meeting of the Foundation will be April 16, 2024, at the Willington Senior Center at 6:30 pm. Please Note the Date Change. There will be a pot luck supper, at 5:30 pm, before the meeting. Please contact Claudia Dagata with what you will be bringing to the pot luck supper – her emails is cdagata@charter.net. This is our annual meeting with election of officers.

The meeting is open to all. We will be making plans for Memorial Day, for putting up road flags, updating the Willington veteran’s lists and the Memorial paver list. Membership in the Foundation is a \$5 donation for a lifetime membership. Come help support the patriotic work of the foundation.

One of our goals is to provide memorial paver of all the 40 Willington resident who gave their lives in service of our country starting with four in 1754 – French and Indian War to 14 who gave their live in World War 2. We have installed the fourteen pavers honoring the 14 service members from Willington who died in WWII this past Veterans Day. We now have memorial paver for 16 of the veterans. We are looking to get all 40 veterans honored. If you would like to sponsor a memorial paver for one of these veterans or a veteran from your family, please pick up a paver form at the Senior Center, town library or town clerk’s office. The cost of a paver is \$50. Paver Applications are Due by April 15th for installation by Memorial Day.



Willington Veterans Memorial Foundation
Membership Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Telephone: () _____ - _____ Cell Phone #: () _____ - _____

Military Service: ___ Active Duty ___ Veteran ___ Nat. Guard/Reserve ___ General Public

I give the Willington Veterans Memorial Foundation permission to contact me by email or text to make me aware of information pertaining to this organization.

Signed: _____

Membership Type: - ___ Veteran ___ Public ___ Other Membership Donation \$5

Drop the Application off at the Senior Center or turn it in to any
Foundation Officer: Joe Rondeau, Ed Dagata or Phil Monty

The purpose and goal of the foundation is to help maintain the Veteran’s Memorial & Veterans Memorial Honor Roll; support the patriotic display of flags; to coordinate with the Town and VFW to get flags and markers on graves of Veterans buried in Willington; to maintain a list of Veterans Memorial pavers and to help coordinate the ceremonies for Veterans Day and other patriotic days.



Renewable Scholarship Opportunity

Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS)

- **Reminder** to first year post-secondary students from

Willington:

Make sure to Apply Today for our Renewable Scholarship.

The deadline is June 15th.

- **Calling All New Donors:** Help Willington students succeed by donating whatever you can to the 2024 Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars annual appeal drive.
- **Thank You!** To all who have donated to WSFDFS this year and over the years we appreciate your support.

To contribute:

Mail a check to: **The Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars; P.O. Box 194; Willington, CT, 06279** or Text:

WILLINGTONFORSCHOLARS to 44321. or

Donate online: at www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org Click the "Donate Now" button on our homepage.

Check us out on these platforms: www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org



Thank You to all who donated in 2023

We appreciate your support!





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We appreciate your support!

Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSDFDS)

- @ **Ralph & Betty Amwake**
Gary & Sara Anderson
Mark Annulli & Angie Rockett
Rena & Rick Baker
- + **Mr. & Mrs. Fred Baltronis**
Donna Barbieri
Norman Barry
- + **Eric Beebe**
- + **Chris Bernard**
- + **Rick & Shirley Beyor**
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- # **John Blessington**
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- # **Peg Busse & Deb Lynch**
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Alice Cassells
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- @ **Gerard & Holly Chartier**
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+ Dawn & Joe Csiki
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- # **Peter Cortiel & Judith Marco**
- # **Claudia & Ed D'Agata**
- @ **Carl & Nadine DalBon**
- ^ **Michael Dechichio & Claudette M. Cote**
- # **Kathy & Chris Demers**
- # **Janice Deskus**
- + **Jim & Peg Dinger**
- # **David & Barbara Dion**
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Ronald Distin
- + **Sue & John Driscoll**
- @ **Mark & Dot Drobney**
Rebecca Eckert
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- + **Diane Gallant**
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Richard Mindek
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- ^ **Robert Navratil**
- ^ **Jane & Don Neel**
Brad & Elaine Newcomb
Claudia Nunn
Michael Oehler & Stephanie Summers
- @ **Dawn O'Neil and Family**
- + **Deb & Rick Ostien**
- @ **Jerry & Rosanne Parizek**
- + **Maureen Parsell**
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- # **Marilyn & Dave Schreiber**
- @ **Paul & Susan Schur**
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- # **Karen & Earl Stoudt**
Polly Streb
- + **Greg & Lisa Suchy**
- ^ **Robert & Geraldine Swanson**
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Nate & Angellina Swart
Sarah Swart
- ^ **Anne Sylvia**
- @ **Ed & Sally Taiman**
Peter & Lisa Tanaka
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^ **Mary Wiecewski**
- + **Robert & Joyce Wilkins**
- ^ **Roger & Marlene Wilson**
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Denise Wojtyna
Charles & Cheryl Woodworth
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The Zalewa Family

In Memory of:

- Jan Bitner
@ **Bob Bitner**
- Thomas Borovicka
+ **Bob & Judy Borovicka**
+ **Charley & Rita Borovicka**
Stephen & Tracey Borovicka
Wilbur Gangaway
- Henry & Betty Borovicka
Debbie & John Arnott
- Chris Emond
@ **Maryanne LeGrow & Family**
^ **Greg & Carole-Lynn Saros**
- Irene Gantick
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Michael & Lisa Gantick
@ **Raymond Gantick**
+ **Ron & Denise Gantick**
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- Sonny Hipsky
@ **Lyle Champagne**
Roy & Sherri Champagne
@ **Joyce Helenski**
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Jocelyn Hipsky
Barbara C. M. Smith
@ **Connie Wilde**
- Sharon Sutton Jellen
@ **Robert Jellen**
- Jamie McKinnon
Melissa McKinnon & Family
- Michael A. Pallo
+ **Dianne Pallo**
- Walter Emerson Parsell IV
Walter & Sarah Parsell

+ = 10+ year donor
^ = 15+ year donor
= 20+ year donor
@ = 25+ year

Thank You to the
Businesses and
Organizations that donate
to WSDFDS!
See the complete list on our
website.
www.willington.dollarsforscholars.org