

Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut

October - December 2015; Issue 2

What building do you need?

Department phone numbers start with 860-779-3411, followed by the option number.

4 Wolf Den Rd

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Selectman's Office - option 2

Town Clerk - option 4

Registrar of Voters - option 4

Tax Office - option 5

Assessor's Office - option 6

69 South Main St.

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Parks and Recreation - option 7

Financial Department - option 8

Building Official - option 9

Fire Marshall - option 9

Land Use Department - option 9

Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday:

8:00am - 5:00pm

Thursdays: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: Closed

Highway Department, option 3

95 Rukstela Rd

Hours: Monday - Thursday:

7:00am - 4:00pm

Friday: 7:00am - 11:00am

Town Offices Will be Closed On:

October 12: Columbus Day

November 12: Veteran's Day

November 26 and 27: Thanksgiving

December 25: Christmas

January 1: New Year's Day

Town Offices Will be Closing at

12:15pm on November 25 and

December 24.

Veterans Day



Please join the Town to honor our veterans on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at 1pm at the monuments across from Mortlake Fire Department. A short ceremony will include laying of the wreaths, prayer, Color Guard, TAPS, and a three volley salute.

Please come show your support!

Parking Ban

A parking ban takes effect from November 1, 2015 to April 1, 2016. This means that no cars are allowed to park on Town roads as snow plowing is a priority and roads have to be cleared to efficiently remove snow.

Parked cars will be ticketed.



Transfer Station

860-779-1105

77 Rukstela Rd

Hours: Friday: 10am-5pm

Saturday: 8am-5pm

Holiday Closings

The **Transfer Station** will be operating on normal hours on November 27th and 28th, but will be closed on Friday, December 25th & January 1st.

Website

The Town's permits and forms are now available to you on our website in a fillable format. You then can email the form directly to us or print it and send/bring it in. Please visit the Town's website at www.brooklynct.org.

@ Subscribe

Stay informed on the latest news in Town by subscribing to Town News & Announcements at www.brooklynct.org and clicking subscribe.

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News from the Assessor's Office

Please visit our website at www.brooklynct.org for any forms that may pertain to you.

Assessor

860-779-3411

Option 6

Fax: 860-779-7853

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

- The last day to file for **The Renter Rebate Program** is **October 1, 2015**. If you wish to request an extension of time to file, the form is available on our website www.brooklynct.org and also in our office. The deadline to apply for an extension is December 15, 2015.
- The last day to file for **Additional Veteran's Applications** is **October 1, 2015**. You must provide all income for **2014** including a Federal Income Tax form if you were required to file.

• **The deadline for filing Personal Property is Monday November 2, 2015**. If you are mailing your Declaration it must be postmarked by November 2, 2015. Failure to file by November 2, 2015 will result in a 25% Penalty assessment. NOTE: Real property or Connecticut registered motor vehicles do not need to be declared. Taxable personal property includes: **Unregistered motor vehicles, vehicles located in Connecticut but registered in another state**, horses, ponies, manufacturing machinery and equipment, business furniture and fixtures, farm machinery, farming tools, mechanics tools, electronic data processing equipment, telecommunication equipment, cables conduits, pipes, poles, business expended supplies and other such as billboards, video games, vending machines, leasehold improvements etc.



- **New Commercial Truck Applications** must be completed and filed by November 2, 2015.
- **Annual Farm Building Exemption** forms need to be **notarized** and filed between **September 1 and November 2, 2015**, as November 1, 2015 is a Sunday.
- **Totally Disabled/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption** forms must be filed annually and are due **November 2, 2015**. The form can be found on our website under Ambulance/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption.
- **REVALUATION: Tyler Technologies** continues to work on our town wide revaluation. All property owners will be notified in the Fall by mail of their new assessments, for the 2015 Grand List which will be reflected in the July 2016 tax bills.



- **Armed Service Members: Connecticut Resident in Military Service or Exemption for Federal Soldiers & Sailors Civil Relief Act** forms are available on our website and must be filed with the Assessor by **December 31, 2015**.
- We continue to accept applications for **PA 490, Open Space & Farm Land** until **December 31, 2015** (extension due to town wide revaluation).
- **Totally & Permanently Disabled Applications under the age of 65** must be filed by January 31, 2016. Proof of award is required.

As always we welcome any questions or comments. We can be reached at 860-779-3411 option 6.

Regards,

Kathleen M. Thornton CCMA II Assessor

Maryann E. Szela Assistant Assessor

News from the Town Clerk's Office

ELECTIONS

Town Clerk

860-779-3411

Option 4

Fax: 860-774-5732

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

It's Election season and the Town Clerk's office has been working hard to prepare! If you cannot make it to the polls on November 3, 2015 from 6am-8pm, come see us for an Absentee Ballot and make sure your vote counts! Ballots will be available starting October 5, 2015 and you can pick up and fill out an application in our office or look for one under the Town Clerk's section of the Town's website.

Are you permanently disabled but wish to vote? You might be eligible for Permanent Absentee Ballot Status. An absentee ballot application must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office with a note from your doctor stating that you have a permanent disability that prevents you from voting. Once received, you will automatically be mailed an absentee ballot for every election.

PROJECTS

The Town Clerk's office has ongoing projects to improve access to the Town's land records. Currently, there are two projects being completed. The first project is transferring the printed, hard-copy land record indexes to the computer. This will allow the public to access the indexes online. This project was paid for, in part, by a State Grant in the amount of \$5,000.

The second project is a microfilm-to-image conversion. This project takes the pages from the Town's microfilm and converts it to an image on the computer. The project will convert approximately 145,000 pages of land records to images and will take approximately two years to complete. This project is also part of a State Grant in the amount of \$3,000. When completed, the entire land record collection of the Town of Brooklyn will be digitized and available online.



HUNTING & FISHING INFORMATION

Hunting Season will soon be in full swing so don't forget you can purchase Hunting & Fishing licenses in our office. Remember that for those of you age 65 and over, the licenses are free!

News From the Registrar of Voters Office

Registrar of Voters

860-779-3411, Option 4

Fax: 860-779-3744

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

Hours: Tuesdays 2-4pm

Election season is upon the voters in the town and the Registrars will have special registration sessions on the following dates:

- **October 17, 2015 (Saturday):** Special Voter Registration Session at the Registrar of Voters office at the Brooklyn Town Hall. **Hours:** 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **October 27, 2015 (Tuesday):** Seventh Day Before Election Day Registration Session. In-person, by Mail or Online cut-off in all towns for last registration session. Applicants must appear in person. **Hours:** 9:00am to 8:00pm
- **November 2, 2015 (Monday):** Limited Registration Session the last weekday before elections in order to admit those seeking to vote in election whose qualification as to age, citizenship or residence was attained since October 27, 2015. **Hours:** 9:00am to 5:00pm

Election Day Registration (EDR)

For those residents in the Town of Brooklyn who have not, for any reason, registered to vote in the town prior to Election Day; these residents may proceed on Election Day to the Brooklyn Town Hall – Registrar's Office to register to vote and then be able to cast their ballot at the Town Hall.

Election Day is November 3, 2015

The polls will be open from 6am to 8pm at the Brooklyn Middle School



Parks & Recreation Fall Update

Parks & Recreation

860-779-3411
option 7
Fax: 860-779-9372
69 South Main St.
PO BOX 356

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is enjoying a beautiful New England fall! We have a lot going on for the Fall & Winter seasons. Programs, bus trips, and special events are all part of our plans for the upcoming seasons. Check out our website for our four bus trips, adult and youth programs, and our seasonal special events. Registration forms, program details and more are available on the department's webpage.

We are excited to be preparing for our 4th annual Spooky Nights event! This year's event will be held on **October 16th & 17th** and is sure to be a "Spooktacular" night. Your evening will include a hay wagon ride, which is bit more tame.....and a walk through Haunted House for the more daring! A bonfire area with food vendors, family friendly entertainment and a Not So Spooky Land for the little ones are all waiting for you after your ride. Tickets are currently on sale for \$10.00 per person and will be sold until 10:00am Friday, October 16th at the ticket venues. After this time, they are available at the gate only the nights of the event for \$12.00. Gates will open on the 16th & 17th at 5:00pm. See our webpage for all the details, including boarding times and ticket venues or look for our ads. This event sells out every year, so plan on getting your tickets early!



We have been busy at the Middle School, working on the renovation of the baseball field. Dugouts have been reroofed and painted, new fencing is being installed and the field is being revived! We hope to have everything ready for the spring playing season.

Look for more information on our webpage or in school flyers about our upcoming winter programs including the Toy Drive and Letters to Santa, both beginning in November. We are also teaming up with the Brooklyn Post Office again to offer the Holiday Coloring Contest.



We are hoping you take a few minutes to browse our webpage and see all that we have to offer this season. And don't forget to check out the Teen Center's update in this newsletter and their webpage too.

We know we have something fun and exciting for everyone in your family!

News From the Tax Collector's Office

The leaves are falling and you know what that means!

Fall is here and taxes are due!

Tax Collector

860-779-3411
Option 5
Fax: 860-779-7853
4 Wolf Den Rd
PO BOX 253

The second installment for real estate and personal property taxes are due this month.

You can pay your bills three different ways:

- You can mail in a check to PO Box 253, Brooklyn, CT 06234
- You can pay online with a credit card (2.50% fees for a credit or debit, \$3.95 fee for a Visa Debit Card ONLY, and \$2.00 for an electronic check).
- You can also come into the office and pay in person with check, cash, or card (fees still apply if you pay in the office).

Please remember to bring in your license plate receipts to the Assessor's Office. The Department of Motor Vehicles does not inform the Town when you sell, trade, or junk a vehicle.

The due dates for this year's taxes are:

October 1, 2015 – November 2, 2015
January 1, 2016 – February 1, 2016
April 1, 2016 – May 2, 2016

Supplemental Bills: Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bills will be mailed at the end of December for any vehicles that were registered after October 1, 2014.



What's happening at the Brooklyn Teen Center...

Brooklyn Teen Center

860-412-0060

Brooklyn Community Center

31 Tiffany St

Lower Level

Hours:

Monday-Friday: 2pm-6pm

Saturday: 9am-5pm

We are proud to announce, the Teen Center is up and running! We are ready for our second season and look forward to seeing some familiar faces and meeting some new students!

This year we have new trips planned, new equipment, a nutritionist, homework helpers, weekly sports tournaments, and more! We also offer After School Bus Transportation for all Brooklyn students in grades 6, 7, & 8. Students in 9th grade who attend Ellis, Woodstock Academy, and Killingly High School can also receive transportation to the Teen Center. We are open from 2pm-6pm Monday through Friday, and Saturday 9am - 5pm. Saturdays are our designated trip

days! Ekonk Corn maze was our first trip and we have more to follow.

We attended the Brooklyn Middle School Open House on September 9th to further promote our Teen Center. Memberships are \$20.00 a month or \$100.00 for a full school year! Trips are absolutely free, with no extra fees! Memberships include all daily activities and a number of fun filled trips. Don't miss out on a great opportunity to meet new friends and gain an experience you will never forget!

Some trips we are looking into for this year include: Holiday Lighting Fantasia, Strawberry Park, Launch, and NOMADS, just to name a few. These trips will be finalized very soon, so don't miss out on a chance to be part of these adventures! NOMADS is a trip that we went on last year that was very well-liked by all who attended. We look forward to visiting this facility again this year. If you are in need of a safe, positive, active environment for your child then this is the place for you! It's not too late to sign-up, but sign-up soon in order to come along on our exciting field trips. If you are wondering what the Teen Center is all about, come on down, meet the staff, and get a full tour of the building and what we have to offer! See you soon!



Commission Vacancies

Want to be more involved in the Town, but not sure how to go about it? Have you considered being a part of a commission? Right now there are vacancies in many of the Town's Commissions. If you are interested in serving on a Board or Commission, please fill out the Boards and Commissions Questionnaire and return to: Rick Ives, First Selectman, Brooklyn Town Hall, 4 Wolf Den Rd, PO Box 356, Brooklyn, CT 06234. To obtain the questionnaire, visit our website or the Town Hall.

Agriculture Commission

Vacancy for 1 alternate member

Conservation

Vacancies for 3 alternate members

Emergency Management/Homeland Security

Vacancies for 3 regular members and

Vacancy for 1 alternate member

Housing Authority

Vacancies for 2 regular members

Regulations Hearing Officer

Vacancy for 2 members

Inland Wetlands

Vacancy for 1 regular member and

Vacancies for 3 alternate members

Planning & Zoning

Vacancy for 1 regular member and

Vacancies for 3 alternate members

Resource Recovery

Vacancies for 2 alternate members

Zoning Board of Appeals

Vacancies for 3 alternate members



From the Desk of the Fire Marshal:

From the Desk of the Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

As fall approaches and we think of turning our clocks back, I would like to remind everyone that it is also time to change the batteries in our smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

For all you wood burning folks, it is a great time to have your stoves and chimneys cleaned and get them ready for the season ahead. Also, please remember to burn only seasoned

wood and to put ashes into a metal container. Put them outside, away from your house or other structures.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 860-779-3411, Option 9.

Douglas P. Kramer, Sr.
Fire Marshal

Change your clock,



CHANGE your batteries

From your Highway Department

Highway Dept.

860-779-3411

option 3

Fax: 860-779-0806

95 Rukstela Rd

The Highway Department is located at 95 Rukstela Road, which is just past the landfill gate. The department has six employees, including the Road Foreman, who maintain approximately 70 miles of roads plus other town owned areas. Since the office is open on a limited basis, the best way to contact the department is by fax or email (brooklynpw@hotmail.com).

The spring was a busy time with clearing debris, trimming trees, repairing storm damage, and sweeping sand off the roads from our late winter weather. This summer, the department has been paving, mowing, and trimming the sides of the roads, along with other miscellaneous ongoing work items.



If something along your road needs attention, please contact the department or the Selectman's Office.

Enjoy the upcoming Fall!

Town of Brooklyn Prescription Discount Card

Q: How does the card work?

A: Just present the FREE card to your pharmacist the next time you have a new prescription or need to refill one. One card covers your entire family. The card does not cost you or the Town anything!

Q: Where can I use the card?

A: The prescription card can be used at most pharmacies in Connecticut, including Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid, Stop & Shop, Big Y, and Wal-Mart.

Q: What does the card cover?

A: All prescription medications are covered, at a discount rate. Savings are also available on Vision, Lasik, and Hearing services.

Q: Can I use the card if my prescriptions are already covered by insurance?

A: No. This care is intended to be used if you do not have insurance or if something is not covered by your current program. It can not be used to discount prescription co-payments or deductible charges.

Please contact the Town Hall, ProAct at 1-877-776-2285, or visit www.CTRxDiscountCard.com for more information.

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A PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGEMENT COMPANY