

Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut
July - September 2017; Issue 9

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

Brooklyn Town Library

10 Canterbury Rd 860-774-0649
Monday and Wednesday: 2-7pm
Tuesday and Saturday: 11am-5pm
Thursday and Friday: 2-5pm

Town Offices Will be Closed On:

July 4: Independence Day
September 4: Labor Day

Annual Chicken Bar-b-que

Mortlake Fire Company

Always the last Sunday in July—July 30, 2017

Mortlake Fire Station
11:30 AM till 3:00 PM
Take out only
Chicken Only \$6.00
Chicken Dinner \$10.00



If we miss you when we sell door-to-door, call Lou Brodeur to arrange ticket delivery: 860-450-6566.

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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News From the Tax Collector's Office

It's July and you know what that means! Barbeques, pool parties, and taxes!

Tax Collector

860-779-3411

Option 5

Fax: 860-779-7853

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 253

The first installment for real estate, personal property taxes, and sewer taxes are due this month. Also motor vehicles and East Brooklyn Fire District 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/debit card, \$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).



The due dates for this year's taxes are:

July 1st – August 1st

October 1st – November 1st

January 1st – February 1st

April 1st – May 1st

Please check all of your tax bills and ask any questions that you have before paying the taxes. It makes it easier on you and us!

Sewer Usage Bills are printed on **green paper**, so as not to be confused with the Fire District Tax Bills that are printed on yellow paper.

The mill rate for the 2016 Grand List tax bills is 27.09.

Tax Bills are now Online!

Whether you need information for income taxes or to see what you owe, you can now view your tax bills online. Here is how:

- Go to www.brooklynct.org
- Staying on the home page, scroll down until you see three yellow buttons.
- Click on "Online Payments." It will bring you to a link, click on the link.
- You will be brought to the search page. Type in your last name space first initial (ex. John Doe would type in Doe J).
- You will be able to see your tax bills, date(s) of payment, and how much you paid to the Town of Brooklyn during a calendar year. You can also print out your tax bills for your records.



From the Assessment Appeals Board

September 14th at 6:30pm

Our next hearing of the Board of Assessment Appeals will be on September 14, 2017 at 6:30pm. This hearing will be for Motor Vehicles issues only. The September hearing is first come, first heard. **PLEASE NOTE:** it is important for you to bring to the hearing any and all information pertaining to your case including your tax bill and the vehicle in question if possible, or pictures if not possible.



Current members are: Casandra Leach, Chairperson, Diane Wimmer, and Robert Simons

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

☀ AS WE CONTINUE TO CORRECT DISCREPANCIES FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, WE ASK THAT ALL TAXPAYERS REVIEW THEIR JULY 2017 TAX BILL FOR ACCURACY and CHECK WITH THE TAX COLLECTOR FOR ANY OUTSTANDING BILLS YOU MAY HAVE. The Tax Office number is 860-779-3411 option 5.



☀ The Assessors will be conducting Building Permit assessment inspections July 1st through September 28th for the October 1, 2017 Grand List. Also please note: If you have recently acquired your property you will receive a notice of Sales Inspection so we may maintain accurate assessment data.

☀ The Renter's Rebate Program continues until Thursday, September 28, 2017.

You or your spouse must be 65 years of age or older or over 18 and totally disabled through Social Security. Applicants must submit their SSA 1099 from Social Security and proof of any other income, Federal Income Tax form (if you were required to file), rent receipt and utilities total for the entire 2016 year. All information must be for 2016 year. Please call for an appointment at 860-779-3411 option 6. Income cannot exceed \$42,900 for married or \$35,200 for single.



☀ Board of Assessment Appeals will meet in September 2017 for Motor Vehicles only. Time and date to be posted on our website.

☀ PA 490 Applications: September 1, 2017 we will begin to accept applications for PA 490, Open Space, Farm Land & Forest Land. The filing period is September 1 to October 31, 2017. Applications are available on our website.



☀ Annual Farm Building Exemption forms need to be notarized and filed between September 1, 2017 and November 1, 2017.

☀ Personal Property forms will be mailed by September 28, 2017 and are due November 1, 2017 (postmarked by November 1, 2017).

☀ New Commercial Truck Applications must be completed and filed by November 1, 2017.

☀ Totally Disabled/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption forms must be filed annually and are due November 1, 2017.

☀ The Additional Veteran's Program continues until Thursday September 28, 2017. You must provide all income for 2016 including a Federal Income Tax form if you were required to file.

☀ Honorable Discharge for new Veterans to Brooklyn must be filed with the Town Clerk by Thursday September 28, 2017. Original DD214 must be presented to the Town Clerk.



☀ 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, 2017 for exemption to your July 2017 bill.

As always we welcome any questions or comments. You may contact us at 860-779-3411 option 6.

Regards, Kathleen M. Thornton CCMA II & Maryann E. Szela Assistant Assessor

Emergency Management and Homeland Security Committee

Brooklyn Emergency Alert Registry – 2017

The Office of Emergency Management is working to compile a registry of Brooklyn residents with disabilities (ambulatory, vision, hearing, etc.), chronic health issues, or any special needs that would require special attention in the event of an emergency. By emergency it could mean a medical situation in your home, a fire, other life-threatening event, or in the event of a weather/storm event in which you may experience power loss or be forced to evacuate in a declared emergency. The information you provide for this registry will give First Responders the information they need to assess their plan of action in any of the scenarios mentioned above. The Brooklyn Emergency Alert Registry will also enable the Emergency Management Operation Team to focus their attention and resources based on prioritized needs. Your information will be kept strictly confidential and used only for purposes stated in this communication.

To continue, please contact me directly for me to mail the registration form to you or to advise where they can be picked up in town. Once the form has been completed, you can either mail or drop it off at the Town Hall to my attention. Once I receive the forms I will call you, if I may, to confirm all the information. If you have any questions about the form please feel free to call me directly at (860) 908-4033 (my personal cell phone).

If you have any questions about the legitimacy of this letter and the Brooklyn Emergency Alert Registry please feel free to contact the First Selectman, Rick Ives at (860) 779-3411 x 11.

Emergency Alert Registry	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
	

THIS IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR 9-1-1

Respectfully,
Stephen V. Mylly
Emergency Management Director
Town of Brooklyn

Brooklyn Fall Festival

September 23 & 24 (Rain or Shine)

The Fall Festival is a two-day festival with arts & entertainment and activities for the whole family!

If you would like to participate in the Scarecrow Contest, fill out the registration form below and include your \$5 check. The scarecrow frame is supplied, all you have to do is bring your imagination, clothes, and stuffing!

Decorating days: Install your scarecrow on the front lawn of **bankHometown** September 14-18. **Cash Prizes** and **Ribbons** will be awarded on September 19-22.

Scarecrow Contest

Brooklyn Fall Festival

\$5 Entry Fee – Prizes Awarded

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Categories: Individual Business

Frames & Applications are available for pick-up at **bankHometown**

Make checks payable to
& return this form to:
Brooklyn Fall Festival Committee
C/O bankHometown
13 Canterbury Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234



News from the Building Department

Happy Summer!! Please be advised that the following require a building permit:

Building Official

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

Hours of the official:

Monday: 8am-6pm

Thursday: 5pm-6pm

Hours of the office:

Monday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 8am-6pm

- ☀ new single family dwellings
- ☀ additions
- ☀ garages
- ☀ barns
- ☀ porches
- ☀ handicap ramps
- ☀ decks - new and replacement
- ☀ in-ground/above ground swimming pools
- ☀ basement or attic renovations
- ☀ storage sheds greater than 200 square feet



- ☀ interior remodel/renovations
- ☀ exterior remodel
- ☀ replacement windows
- ☀ strip and re-roof
- ☀ roof repair
- ☀ siding
- ☀ new chimney or repairs
- ☀ central air conditioning
- ☀ electric service repairs/upgrade
- ☀ fences over 6 feet high.

If you are unsure whether your project requires a building permit, please contact the building office.

Inspections are required by the Building Official, John Berard. Please contact the office at 860-779-3411 Extension 12 to set up an inspection date.

Town Ordinance 8-2 Withholding Approval of a Building Application When Taxes are Delinquent:

Pursuant to the authority of Public Act 95-320, it will be the policy of the Town to withhold approval of building applications when taxes are delinquent for the property for which an application is made.

Waiver. In the event that a taxpayer seeking an application is contesting the underlying tax assessment, or in cases of unusual hardship, the Board of Selectmen may waive the denial of approval set forth in this section. (Ord. No. 95-1 State Statute 1)

As always, we welcome any questions or comments. You may contact us at 860-779-3411, option 9.

Warmest Regards,

John Berard, Building Official

Audrey Cross-Lussier, Building Office Assistant

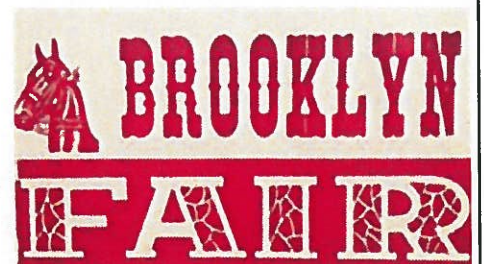
168th Annual Brooklyn Fair

August 24-27, 2017

The Fair offers something for everyone! Visitors can walk through the animal barns housing cattle, oxen, sheep, poultry and rabbits or stop by one of the event rings to see them in action. Other events include truck and tractor pulls, lawn mower racing, a skillet toss contest, arm wrestling, a kids' talent show and more.

This year's entertainment lineup includes, Jake Worthington, 2014 runner-up on NBC's *The Voice*, on Thursday. Friday is country new comer, Dylan Scott and Saturday night is platinum recording artists Parmalee. Sunday, 2017 New England Music Award Local Female Artist of the Year winner, the Annie Brobst Band will perform. All concerts are included with the price of admission and seating is based on a first come basis.

Parking is \$5. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (65+) and military (with ID). Admission is free for kids 12 and under. The Brooklyn Fair is located at 15 Fairgrounds Rd, Brooklyn CT. For more information, visit www.brooklynfair.org. See you at the Fair!



Here's what happening at the Brooklyn Teen Center...

Brooklyn Teen Center
860-412-0060
Brooklyn Community Center
31 Tiffany St
Lower Level



We are celebrating our second year at the TEEN Center's summer camp. The TEEN Center welcomed incoming 6th graders, who had the option of Regular Camp or Teen Camp, through those students entering 9th grade. We are thrilled to announce that we planned exciting new trips for our teens. Camp started with a visit from Knockerball Soccer. Weekly, our friendly General Store and Ice Cream Man paid us a visit, allowing our campers to purchase snacks at affordable prices. Our field trips include our very own Disc Golf Course, Skate Inn, Mohegan Bowl, Scarborough Beach, Battlegroundz, Paw Sox Game, Sonny's Place, Water Country, and Six Flags. When we are not on a trip we are at the center playing volley ball, Gaga in our Gaga pit, Volley Four Square and so much more! Camp began on June 26th and will end on August 4th.

Don't forget to register for the upcoming school year for the TEEN Center. We will begin registration for After School Programs such as the TEEN Center beginning in August. Check our website or read our Fall/Winter Brochure which will be sent out later this summer, for details, pricing and registration dates!! Don't worry about what your middle school student is doing after school; have them join us for afternoons of fun, friends and new adventures!



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.

Conservation

Vacancies for 2 regular members and
Vacancies for 3 alternate members

Economic Development

Vacancy for 1 regular member and
Vacancies for 2 alternate members

Emergency Management/Homeland Security

Vacancy for 1 regular member and
Vacancies for 2 alternate members

Housing Authority

Vacancy for 1 regular member

Inland Wetlands

Vacancy for 1 regular member and
Vacancies for 3 alternate members

Planning & Zoning

Vacancy for 1 regular member and
Vacancies for 2 alternate members

Regulations Hearing Officer

Vacancies for 2 members

Resource Recovery

Vacancies for 2 alternate members

Zoning Board of Appeals

Vacancy for 1 regular member and
Vacancies for 2 alternate members



Parks & Recreation Summer Update

Parks & Recreation

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

It's finally summer!! We hope everyone is getting outdoors and enjoying the warmer weather. Don't forget to enjoy our parks during these summer months. Tennis courts, basketball courts, walking trails and track, playing fields, playscapes, ball fields, and our canoe launch at Riverside Park are all waiting for you and your family to enjoy!



Starting July 10th, our second session of Sunrise Fitness will begin. This outdoor fitness class is held twice a week until August 9th, at the Prince Hill Park. Check out the details and registration online on our website.

We may still have tickets available for our August 11th Yankee Stadium bus trip. Call our office to check availability.

SUMMER CAMP!

Camp is in full swing, with both Summer Day Camp for the K-6th grade campers and TEEN Camp for the 6th-9th grade campers. Trips, in-house shows, and lots of fun camp activities are taking place through August 4th.

Don't forget to register your child for the Before or After School Recreation Programs. Registration begins in August. Be on the lookout for our Fall/Winter Brochure, with registration dates, details and pricing plus all our programs, trips and special events for the Fall and Winter.

Before and After



Program

We would like to thank everyone that supported the Jim Boyle Campership Program this year. Many Brooklyn children were able to attend camp through your generosity and kindness. We are unable to offer this type of assistance without your continued support and we are most appreciative of all your assistance.

*Thank
You*

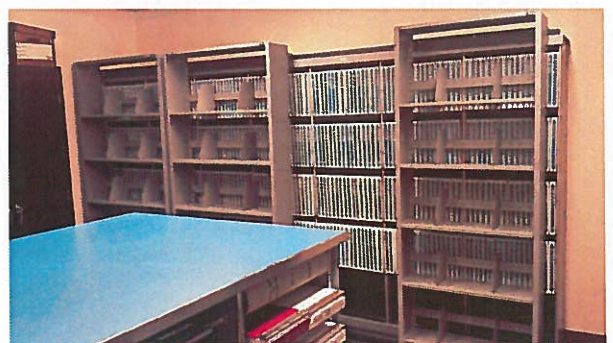
Check out our brochure coming to all Brooklyn households in August, visit our website at www.brooklynct.org and like us on Facebook – Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation.



News from the Town Clerk's Office

Town Clerk
860-779-3411
Option 4
Fax: 860-774-5732
4 Wolf Den Rd
PO BOX 356

The Town Clerk's Office Vault had new shelving units installed. The units are roller shelves which takes up very little space and accommodates an additional 375 volumes. The Town averages 18-20 volumes a year totaling 9,000-10,000 pages. The new shelving will meet our needs for approximately 20 years.



In addition, the entire land records collection is now accessible on the computer. This conversion project has taken many years to complete using funds from State Grants and Town Capital Funds. The images available go back to 1767!

DOG LICENSE MONTH WAS JUNE!



Did you remember to renew your dog license in June? If not, stop in our office with proof of your dog's up-to-date rabies vaccination and avoid accumulating late fees. You can also print and mail the application from the Town Clerk's page on our website.

From the Desk of the Fire Marshal:

Fire Marshal

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

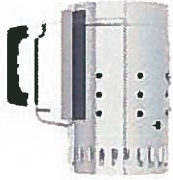
PO BOX 356

Summer is usually jam-packed with fun and festivities. However, it is also the time to take a few minutes to put you and your family's safety first. **Grilling** is popular all season long. With a few safety tips and facts, you can enjoy your BBQ without injury!

☀ Propane & charcoal grills can only be used outdoors. Make sure your grills are always clear from overhanging branches, deck railings and away from your house or other structures.



- ☀ Keep your children and pets away from the grilling area.
- ☀ Never leave your grill unattended.
- ☀ Open your gas grill's lid before lighting it.



- ☀ If you are using a charcoal grill, remember to let the coals completely cool before cleaning out the ashes. Dispose of them only in a metal container when completely cooled.
- ☀ Use a charcoal chimney to help get your charcoals ready to grill.
- ☀ Keep charcoal fluids away from heat sources and never allow a child to handle fluid. And never use any other flammable liquid to start the charcoals.

Summer is also the time for **Fireworks**. Please remember; fireworks handled improperly cause thousands of injuries every year. If you want to enjoy fireworks this summer, go to a public event put on by experts. Do not use consumer fireworks; this includes sparklers and firecrackers. Sparklers can cause third-degree burns. Keep children away from any firework at events you attend.



Enjoy your summer and stay safe!

Greetings From the Registrar's Office

Registrars of Voters

860-779-3411

Option 4

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

Office Hours:

Tuesdays:

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Questions can be referred to the Town Clerk all other times.

It's been a busy year in the Registrar's office! On April 19-21, we attended our annual Spring Registrar of Voters Association of Connecticut (ROVAC) conference held at the Mystic Marriott. We're in the process of finishing up our annual canvass of records, as well as entering our weekly registrations into the Connecticut Voter Registration System (CVRS). Both Registrars of Voters are required to attend four certification classes before the end of the year. As of now, we have attended and passed the first in a series of eight. As a newly appointed Registrar, Jo Ann has attended three "newbie" classes and will be attending a Moderator training course on June 10th in Norwich.



If you have any questions or need to make any changes to your voter registration, you can:

- ☀ Go online and make the change at voterregistration.ct.gov.
- ☀ Print a voter registration card online from the Registrar's section of www.brooklynct.org and drop it off or mail it to our office.
- ☀ Stop in to the Registrar of Voters office on Tuesday afternoons or the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours and fill out a registration card.

This is a municipal election year, Election Day is November 7, 2017. Don't forget to register to vote!