

Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut

April - June 2019; Issue 16

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:

April 19: Good Friday (Parks and Rec and Highway Department)
May 27: Memorial Day



Earth Day Event

Saturday, April 13th, 2019

Community Center at 31 Tiffany Street

Beginning at 9am



The Town, in conjunction with the Last Green Valley, will supply gloves, trash pickers, trash bags, trash trackers and snacks. Routes and Parks around Town will be mapped out and assigned to volunteers. Garbage will later be picked up by the Town and disposed of at the transfer station. Connecticut State Police will also be participating in a **Drug Take-Back Day**. This will take place at the Community Center from 9am-12pm. Bring your medications for disposal free of charge and anonymous, no questions asked. Mortlake Fire Department in conjunction with the Town, will have a **shred truck** available at the Community Center from 9am-12pm. You may bring up to two boxes or bags of your personal documents for shredding. Please be sure there is no metal or cardboard, this is strictly for paper.

If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Melissa Bradley m.bradley@brooklynct.org.

Always practice the 7 R's – Reuse, Repurpose, Rot, Repair, Return, Refill, Refuse

Memorial Day Parade & Family Fun Day

The parade kicks off on Monday, May 27, 2019 at 9am from the Brooklyn Fairgrounds to the center of Town, ending back at the Fairgrounds. Immediately following the Parade, Brooklyn Family Fun Day will be held at the Fairgrounds. Hamburgers, hotdogs and ice cream will be served and there will be fun activities for the whole family! Please contact Parks & Recreation for more information on Brooklyn Family Fun Day at (860) 779-3411 ext. 33. If your Organization would like to participate in the Parade, please contact the First Selectman's Office at (860) 779-3411 ext. 16.



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Parks & Recreation Spring Update

Parks & Recreation

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

It's time to welcome in warmer weather and some outdoor fun! Now that spring has arrived, we are all thinking about enjoying some warm weather outdoor activities. Brooklyn Parks & Recreation Department has playgrounds, basketball courts, tennis courts, trails and more to help with that endeavor. Looking for a family activity that all can enjoy? Check out our Disc Golf Course at Davis



Forest. Want to get active and stay in shape? We have fitness programs to fit your needs. Nate's Fitness Class or Christina's Running Club are ongoing or check out one of their awesome summer offerings.



Camp registration began in March. Take advantage of the Early Bird Registration and register your child for six weeks of fun and excitement before May 16th. We have two options; Summer Day Camp for kids in grades K-5th or TEEN Camp for grades 6th – 8th. (entering each grade) Weekly field trips, in house programs and lots of camp fun and games are all part of the camp experience! Check it out

online or in our Spring/Summer Brochure. All registration including Late Registration and Non-resident ends June 13th.



We hope you plan on joining us on Memorial Day with family and friends at the Brooklyn Memorial Day Parade and Family Fun Day. Held on Monday May 27th, the annual Family Fun Day event has become an annual tradition for our residents. Following the parade, meet us at Brooklyn Fairgrounds for an afternoon of family fun with demonstrations, face painting, information booths, moon bounces and more. Our volunteers work tirelessly all day grilling up food, serving up ice cream and working the booths. Look for our Brooklyn Baton Twirlers, marching in the parade!

Don't forget that registration is ongoing for all our spring and summer programs. Summer Slam Basketball Clinic is summer favorite! Registration for this week-long half day camp that runs July 8th – 12th at the Brooklyn Middle School gym has begun. Call to reserve your child's spot today, or go online for a registration form.



Call us to check on Red Sox or Yankees Bus Trip availability! We have three trips this spring and summer. Information about the trips is listed on our website.



The Parks & Recreation Department is committed to finding ways to continue to bring you and your family affordable programming and facilities that offer something for everyone. We thank our residents and our local businesses for your continued support. We look forward to continuing to provide you with the quality services you deserve!

Check out all our trips, programs and events online at www.brooklynct.org.
And like us on Facebook at Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation!



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



- ☘ **ELDERLY and/or DISABLED HOMEOWNERS:** We are accepting applications until **Wednesday May 15th, 2019**. To be eligible for this tax credit:
1. You or your spouse must be at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2018 or over 18 and permanently disabled per Social Security.
 2. You must be a permanent resident of Connecticut. You must own the property or hold tenancy for life or for a term of years, which makes the applicant liable for payment of taxes (CGS Sec. 12-48) as of October 1, 2018. The property must be the applicant's primary residence (domicile).
 3. Your 2018 income cannot exceed \$43,900 if you are married or \$36,000 if unmarried.
 4. **You must provide the Assessor with a copy of you SSA1099 for 2018.**

Please call the Assessor's Office at 860-779-3411, option 6 for an appointment to apply.

☘ **2018 ANNUAL INCOME and EXPENSE REPORTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE BY JUNE 1, 2019:**

All individuals and businesses who have received the form should complete and return the form to the Assessor's Office. All properties which are rented or leased, including commercial, retail, industrial and residential properties except "such property used for residential purposes, containing not more than six dwelling units and in which the owner resides" **must** complete the form. If a property is partially rented and partially owner-occupied the report **must** be filed.



- ☘ **RENTER REBATE APPLICATIONS:** At the time of this notice the State of Connecticut has not notified us regarding the future of the Renter Rebate Program. If the program continues, we will begin applications Tuesday April 2nd, 2019 until October 1st, 2019. 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 SSA1099 from Social Security for 2018 and proof of any other income, Federal Income Tax Return if you were required to file, rent receipt for the entire year and information from Eversource (CL&P). All information must be for 2018. Income cannot exceed \$43,900 for married or \$36,000 for single.

Please call for an appointment 860-779-3411, option 6.

- ☘ **ADDITIONAL VETERAN'S APPLICATIONS:** We are accepting applications until Monday October 1st, 2019.

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, 2019.



- ☘ If you no longer own a vehicle from the October 1, 2018 Grand List and have cancelled the registration, please provide any 2 proofs to the Assessor's office (plate receipt/bill of sale/insurance cancellation stating why the insurance was removed/copy of out of state registration, so we may adjust your July 2019 bill.

If you have questions or need help, please contact the Assessor's Office at 860-779-3411 option 6.

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

News from the Building Department

Building Official

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

Hours of the official:

Monday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 5pm-6pm

Hours of the office:

Monday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 8am-6pm

Spring has sprung!!

Please be advised that the following require a building permit:

- ✿ Additions
- ✿ Garages
- ✿ Barns
- ✿ Porches
- ✿ Handicap ramps
- ✿ Replacement windows
- ✿ Interior remodel
- ✿ Exterior remodel
- ✿ Siding
- ✿ In-ground and above ground swimming pools
- ✿ Basement renovations
- ✿ Attic renovations
- ✿ Storage sheds greater than 200 square feet
- ✿ Gas line installation
- ✿ AC/heat pumps
- ✿ Dismantle/removal of existing structure
- ✿ Central air conditioning
- ✿ Electric service repairs/upgrade
- ✿ Decks-new and replacement
- ✿ Strip and re-roof roof repair
- ✿ Roof repair
- ✿ New chimney
- ✿ Chimney repair
- ✿ Chimney liners



Expiration of Permits: Every permit issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is commenced within 180 days after its issuance. If project is incomplete after 180 days, the applicant must renew the permit.

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)

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

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

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.

From the Registrars of Voters

The Registrar's office is currently in the process of the annual mandated canvass of voter registration list. This process begins in January and must be completed this year by May 1st.

Two of the town of Brooklyn's registrars are working toward their ROV Certification. Once the classes are complete, each registrar will have a final exam, at which time they will be certified in the State of Connecticut.

Have questions about registering to vote or where you vote in Brooklyn? Check out our webpage at www.brooklynct.org.

Emergency Management and Homeland Security Committee

Spring into Safety and Preparedness

Federal agencies, such as *Ready.gov*, the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*, and the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* are valuable resources for Emergency Preparedness. When you face a natural or man-made emergency, try to stay informed through radio and other local means of communication. In some cases, services may become disabled making most means of communication impossible.

The National Safety Council recommends the following general precautions that apply to many disaster situations:

- Make sure to have a **Family Communication Plan** in place. All members of the family should review and practice the plan.
- Have all family members and important telephone numbers written down on paper or memorized.
- Have an **Emergency Kit** in your vehicle(s) and at least three days of food and water at home.
- Be sure to store all important documents (birth certificates, insurance policies, etc.) in a fire-proof safety box or a safe deposit box.
- You might want to have at least one family member trained in first aid and CPR.
- Know the locations and how to shut off utilities.
- **Make a Plan:** Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes making it important to know which types of disasters could affect the Brooklyn area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.



Put together your plan by discussing at least these four questions with family and friends:

How will I/We receive **Emergency Alerts and Warnings**?

What is my/our shelter plan?

What is my/our evacuation route?

What is my/our communication plan?

As you prepare your plan tailor plans and supplies specific to your family/ household daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss your needs and responsibilities and how your resources and networking can assist with communication, care of children/disabled/elderly adults, care of pets and specific needs like operation of medical equipment, storage of refrigerated medication, dietary needs, etc.



Fill out a **Family/Household Emergency Plan** and practice the plan.

The Brooklyn Emergency Management/Homeland Security Commission encourages all Brooklyn residents to have some “cash” set aside in the event of severe power outages. You might still be able to purchase goods locally, but the retailer may not have power to operate Debit/Credit Card purchases or ATM availability.



Parents! See how to get the whole family involved in preparing!



Get Your Kids On Your Team!

Preparing for emergencies shouldn't fall on your shoulders alone. Young children and teens alike need to be part of the process — for their own safety and sense of empowerment.

- Work together to build an emergency kit.
- Sit down as a family to talk about your communications plan.
- Role-play what you would do during a disaster.
- Hold fire drills in your house.



Print out an emergency kit checklist and prepare one today!

Learn how to help children cope during and after a disaster

For additional information:
Stephen Mylly, Director of Emergency Management/Homeland Security

860-779-3411 x2 (Town Hall Office)
860-908-4033 (cell phone)
Stephenmylly@att.net

CT DEMHS Region 4 (Colchester)
860-465-5460

FEMA
www.fema.gov

If you would like to get involved, please check out our website at www.brooklynct.org/emergency-management/homeland-security, follow us on Twitter at @BrooklynCT_EMHS or contact us at bemhs@brooklynct.org.

News From the Tax Collector's Office

The fourth 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/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).

Tax Collector

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

The due dates for this year's taxes are:

April 1st – May 2nd

Tax Bills are now Online!

- Go to www.brooklynct.org
- Click on "Online Payments."
- 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.

