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Town Manager's Corner

Honored to Serve the Town of Clinton

I am writing to introduce myself formally as your new Town Manager and to express what a privilege it has been to serve the Clinton community over these past few months.

Since joining as Town Manager, I have thoroughly enjoyed immersing myself in the vibrant fabric of Clinton. Meeting with our dedicated boards and commissions, engaging with local business owners, and connecting with fellow residents has been both insightful and rewarding. The warm welcome and support I have received from all corners of Clinton have truly touched me, and I am deeply honored to be entrusted with the responsibility of serving you.

As we find ourselves in the midst of the summer season, Clinton comes alive with the presence of seasonal residents and tourists. It is heartening

to witness the bustling energy and the sense of community that thrives during this time of year. The charm and beauty of Clinton are unmistakable, and I look forward to contributing to its continued growth and prosperity.

Moving forward, I am committed to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to address our community's needs and aspirations. Your input and involvement are invaluable as we shape the future of Clinton together. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my office with any questions, concerns, or ideas you may have.

Thank you once again for the warm welcome and for allowing me the opportunity to serve this remarkable town. I am excited about the journey ahead and the potential we have to make a positive difference in Clinton.



Michelle Benivegna, Town Manager

Michelle Benivegna
Town Manager

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Photo by Peggy Adler

Clinton's Historic District Commission

On May 9, 2024, Clinton, Connecticut's Commerce Street was officially designated a National Register District by the United States Department of the Interior's National Park Service. This designation added another fifty-nine historic structures to Clinton's National Register District Inventory — bringing Clinton's total number of contributing historic structures, in the town's three National Register Districts, to over 200. To commemorate, a sign depicting this designation has been hung on a granite post just south of the Clinton Post Office. Following is the official notification from the United States Department of the Interior's National Park Service. Listed are Commerce Street's fifty-nine historic addresses:

CONNECTICUT, MIDDLESEX COUNTY,
Commerce Street Historic District,
10-34, 38, 52, 58, odd #s 59-105, 109-125, 140-142 Commerce St,
7-9 Fisk Ave, Clinton, RS100009867, LISTED, 5/9/2024

Peggy Adler, Chairman

Clinton Land Conservation Trust...



The Clinton Land Trust is an all-volunteer nonprofit with a Board of Directors, some of which head up our different subcommittees. We often highlight our Outreach and Education Committee and the array of programs we provide. Currently, we are spotlighting our Land Management and Land Acquisition Teams.

Land Management has been identifying some of our properties that border well-traveled roads and posting them with small CLCT signs to increase our visibility. We think it is crucial to show the extent of land (800+acres) available in our town as open space for natural corridors and hiking trails.

Our Land Acquisition Committee is always in the lookout for properties that align with our Trust's goals. We prioritize land that borders existing Trust properties, remains in its natural state, protects watersheds or aquifers, hosts unique plant and animal species or contributes to a greenway or habitat corridor. These are

some of the stipulations the State requires in order to apply for grant monies. This process takes time, but we have been successful in the past, most notably the acquisition of the Weiss Loveday parcel on River Road.

If you know of any suitable properties, please keep CLCT in mind. Visit our website at Clintonlandtrust.org for more information.



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From the desk of Tax Collector Lisa Bibbiani

Taxes will be due again January 1, 2025

The second installment of town tax for real estate and personal property taxes will be **due on January 1, 2025**, last day to pay without penalty **February 3, 2025**. Of course you can pay anytime between now and Feb 3, 2025.

Supplemental motor vehicle taxes will be due January 1, 2025 by any person who owns a motor vehicle, which was registered after the first day of October 2023 and registered before the first day of August 2024 in the town where such vehicle is subject to property tax.

Interest accrues at 1.5% per month from the due date, 18% per annum.

Please take care in how you send us your tax payments. We have had many taxpayers who use the US Postal Service suffer from fraud. Please consider using your banks electronic banking to send payments, or use the online portal.

Pay by credit card, debit card or electronic check online OR in the office, we have a SELF SERVICE KIOSK for your use.

We do accept credit card, debit card and electronic check payments online. We cannot process credit or debits cards in the office at this time. Go to www.clintonct.org. Click on the Tax Payment Icon. There is a \$.95 processing fee when paying by electronic check and a 2.99% processing fee for using a debit or credit card.

Income Tax Information is available online at www.clintonct.org, click on the Tax Payment Icon.

****MOTOR VEHICLE ADJUSTMENTS****

**TWO FORMS OF PROOF ARE REQUIRED TO
MAKE ANY TYPE OF ADJUSTMENTS.**

**BOTH DOCUMENTS MUST BE DATED AND
INCLUDE THE VEHICLE'S IDENTIFICATION (VIN)**

REQUIRED: Plate receipt from the DMV indicating that the registration has been cancelled or lost or stolen.

SOLD, TRANSFER OF TITLE, OUT OF STATE REGISTRATION, STOLEN VEHICLE, TOTALED, CONFISCATED, JUNKED, DONATED OR TRADE IN. All paperwork must be sent to the Assessor's Office for credits to be issued.

QUESTIONS? CALL THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE – 860-669-2979

REMINDER!

Clinton Arbor Garden Club



Sweet Beginnings
Market Garden
Scarecrow from the
2023 Contest.

Photo courtesy
of Clinton Arbor
Garden Club -
Facebook.

Though the growing season drives most of the hands-on work for gardeners, we must also simultaneously plan what lies ahead for fall. In August the club began promoting its annual **Scarecrow Contest** and collecting early applications. The contest is open to anyone - businesses, organizations, and families - with generous prizes awarded to our winners. The Scarecrow Contest has become a much-anticipated fall event in our town, and we hope to once again increase participation in this our third year!

On **September 12, 2024**, the club will meet to create Cups of Cheer for our town's seniors. This workshop involves repurposing beautiful china cups as vessels for fresh-cut flowers. Each creation is unique just like their recipients. Upon completion, all cups will be personally delivered by garden club members to Ocean Meadow Senior Living and Memory Care.

On **October 10, 2024**, at 6:30 pm we are hosting a lecture open to the public at the Henry Carter Hull Library, located at 10 Killingworth Turnpike in Clinton. The topic - Unraveling the Mysteries of Pruning - is aptly named, as this subject tends to raise questions for gardeners of all experience levels. Our speaker, George A. Trecina, will share the basic rules for ensuring happy and healthy plants, as well as a beautifully maintained landscape. Event information can be found on the library website: hchlibrary.org. Follow the Clinton Arbor Garden Club on Facebook and Instagram or reach out to us at AGCofClinton@gmail.com.



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★ The Clinton Parks & Recreation Department

This summer has been a season of excitement as our camps have reached full capacity, providing endless fun and learning opportunities for kids.

The beach and splash pad have been busy hotspots, offering families a perfect way to beat the heat and enjoy the sun. From building sandcastles to splashing around, these spots have become favorite hangouts for children and parents alike.

For adults, **Zumba classes** take place weekly at Indian River Complex. Please check our online calendar for dates and times. It's just \$7 to drop in, so come and join the fun!

We are thrilled for the **upcoming completion of the pickleball courts** and the new recreational area at the Clinton Town Beach! As the projects near the finishing

stages, we can't wait to see the community come together to enjoy these fantastic new amenities.

Stay tuned for updates on our upcoming **Cooking Classes with Mary, Halloween Window Painting, Parks and Rec Travel Basketball**, and the **Holiday Trail of Lights**! These are just a few of the fantastic activities and events we have in store for our community, and we can't wait to share all the details with you.

Be sure to check out our Facebook page, Clinton CT Parks & Recreation, or visit our website parkrecclintonct.recdesk.com to stay up to date on all of our latest programs and events. We're thrilled to bring these exciting opportunities to our community and look forward to seeing you join in on the fun! Get ready for a season filled with culinary delights, spooky fun, friendly competition, and holiday magic - **it's going to be a blast!**



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From the Town Clerk's Office

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024

**WILLIAM STANTON ANDREW'S MEMORIAL TOWN HALL
54 EAST MAIN STREET, GREEN ROOM – LOWER LEVEL
HOURS: 6 AM to 8 PM**

November 5, 2024 Presidential Election

Absentee Ballot applications are available in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town Clerk's website, click on Elections. If you are leaving for college or elsewhere and will not be in Clinton for the election, you may apply for an absentee ballot which will be mailed to you on Friday, October 4, 2024. Applications can be downloaded from the Secretary of the State's website, www.sots.gov or on the town website at www.clintonct.org and then mail or drop off the completed application to Town Clerk, 54 East Main Street, Clinton, CT 06413.

AB ballots become available October 4, 2024.

14 DAYS OF EARLY VOTING!

**Monday, October 21st - Sunday, November 3rd
10:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

**Monday, October 21 – Monday October 28,
Wednesday, October 30 and Friday,
November 1 – Sunday, November 3.
8:00 AM – 8:00 PM**

Tuesday, October 29th and Thursday, October 31st

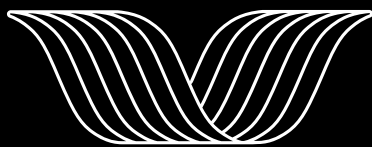
The State of Connecticut has a portal for requesting an absentee ballot. The website is www.myvote.ct.gov/getmyab. Anyone eligible to vote, with a Connecticut driver's license can go online and complete the application for an absentee ballot and click submit. We will receive the application the next day for processing.

Last day to register to vote is October 31, 2024. If you miss the deadline, you can appear at the polls for Election Day Registration.

Permanent absentee ballots: Public Act #11-173: An elector can file an Absentee Ballot application together with a doctor's certificate (presumably on letter head), stating that they have a permanent disability and are unable to appear in person at their polling place. This will allow an elector to be on our Permanent Absentee ballot list. AB ballots will then be automatically mailed to the elector for the election.

If you should have any questions, please call the Town Clerk's Office at 860-669-9101, Monday to Wednesday 9 am to 4 pm, Thursday 9 am to 7 pm and Friday 9 am to noon.

Sharon Uricchio, MCTC
Clinton Town Clerk



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Contact: askus@hchlibrary.org | (860)669-2342

* No Registration Required Unless Noted

** R.Reg. - Registration Required

*** R.Rec. - Registration Recommended

What's new at HCH Library?

Summer Reading is in full swing and if you find yourself at the Clinton Town Beach or downtown Clinton without anything to read, head over to Henry's Little Free Libraries in either location. Both boxes are curated by HCH Library staff and the inventory is rotated regularly. Grab your next great summer read today!

Whether you have a need for food or a need to give, **Henry's Little Free Pantry** helps feed our neighbors and nourish our neighborhood. If you would like to help contribute to the pantry, consider swinging by the library and donating non-perishable, unexpired food items to the green pantry box toward the end of our parking lot."—Henry Carter Hull Library Director Maribeth Breen

Visit www.hchlibrary.org or call (860)669-2342 for the most up-to-date hours, guidelines, event information, and details about our services. Subscribe to our email newsletter and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates. Need a library card? Have a question? We're here to help! Please call or email askus@hchlibrary.org for assistance.

For Children

Greetings from the Children's Room! What a fun and busy summer we are having at the library! The Children's Room has been transformed into an underwater wonderland with ocean-themed decorations and book displays matching our library summer reading theme, "It's a Shore Thing!" Over 250 school-age children participated in the library's Read & Bead and BINGO Summer Reading programs. Children receive a chain and earn beads and "brag tags" with fun designs by reading every day and doing fun activities. We thoroughly enjoy it when children come in to show off their progress, proudly displaying their colorful necklaces and completed BINGO cards. Tweens in Grades 5-8 earn raffle tickets for a weekly drawing. Prizes include gift cards to Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, and Dairy Queen. **Summer Reading runs until August 31st.** Children and Tweens have until August 31st to collect their supplies and raffle tickets.

We kicked off our summer programming with an exciting and interactive S.T.E.M. show with Science Heroes. This program was the perfect blend of storytelling and experiments which helped get the kids excited about science and reading. Clinton Land Conservation Trust (CLCT) sponsored several educational, hands-on programs including a Marine Life Storytime with touch tanks, a reptile program with Meigs Point Nature Center, and a squid dissection program for tweens. CLCT also sponsored our StoryWalk, "Who's At The Seashore?" located in front of the library, and a Story Hike, "Noisy Bug Sing-Along," at Peters Memorial Woods. Both picture books are by local author John Himmelman. Additional special summer programs included a live animal show with Xen's Critters, a book chat for Grades 2-4, book chats for Grades 5-8, S.T.E.A.M. Labs, Lego WeDo Coding Club, and art classes with local artist/educator Kristin Cafferty. All of our special programs are made possible by donations and proceeds from our book sale. Thank you to all who support our programs.

Our fall programs will run from September 9th through December 20th (see schedule). Online registration will begin on Monday, September 2nd at 10:00 am. We are always adding new programs to the calendar so be sure to follow Henry Carter Hull Library Facebook and Instagram. Visit our website for more information, program descriptions, and to register. Brochures are available at the children's desk.

We look forward to seeing you at the library. We have so much more than books!"—Henry Carter Hull Library Head of Children's Services Coralie Williams

More programs added regularly! Visit www.hchlibrary.org or call (860)669-2342 to learn more and sign up.



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Weekly Programs:

Read to Bee the Therapy Dog - Starting 9/9
Mondays, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
15-minute one-on-one reading session with
Bee the dog. Grades 1st - 6th. *R.Rec.*

LEGO Club

Mondays, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Try our weekly challenges or build your
own creation. All ages.

Baby & Me - AM Session

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Come sing, bounce, read, and play!
Birth - 24 Months. *R.Rec.*

Baby & Me - PM Session

Tuesdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Come sing, bounce, read, and play!
Birth - 24 Months. *R.Rec.*

Crafternoons in The Hub

Tuesdays, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Explore craft projects with Miss Lauren.
Grades Kindergarten - 4th. *R.Rec.*

Playdough Playdate

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Hands-on sensory play with a group.
Ages 2 - 5. *R.Rec.*

Sign Language - Starting 9/12

Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Learn ASL signs through songs and stories.
Birth - Age 6. *R.Rec.*

Imagination Station

Thursdays, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Drop-in to create with recycled materials at
the Craft Table. All ages.

Stories & More

Fridays, 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Stories, music, & movement with Miss
Coralie. Ages 2 - 6. *R.Rec.*

Friday Stay & Play

Fridays, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Open-ended free-play with sensory games
& crafts. All ages.

Saturday Stay & Play

Saturdays, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Open-ended free-play with sensory games
& crafts. All ages.

Special Programs:

**Live Animal Program with Meigs Point
Nature Center** | 8/15, 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM
Sponsored by Clinton Land Conservation
Trust. Grades Kindergarten - 8th. *R.Rec.*

Tween Time: Half-Day Hooray

9/19, 10/14, & 11/21, 12:15 PM - 1:30 PM
Pizza, crafts, and after-school activities.
Grades 5th - 8th. *R.Rec.*

Tween Time: Game On!

9/23, 10/21, & 11/18, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Video, card, and board games in the Hidek
Hub. Grades 5th - 8th. *R.Rec.*

Splash Into Art: TBD

9/26, 10/10, & 11/14, 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM
Create a new art project with Kristin
Cafferty. Grades 2nd - 8th. *R.Rec.*

S.T.E.A.M. Lab | 10/3, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Tinker, play, and create in the Hidek Hub.
Grades 1st - 5th. *R.Rec.*

LEGO WeDo & S.T.E.M. Club

11/7, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Sponsored by the Clinton Rotary Club.
Grades 2nd - 6th. *R.Rec.*

For Teens

More programs added regularly! Visit
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Continued on page 12

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Weekly Programs:

Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesdays, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Join our ongoing gothic fantasy horror D&D game! Ages 13 - 18. *R.Reg.*

Game Night | Thursdays, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Chill out in the Teen Room with videogames and snacks. Ages 13 - 18.

ACNH: Library Island

Fridays, 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Play Animal Crossing on our Nintendo Switch! Grades 9th - 12th.

Special Programs:

Nintendo Super Smash Bros: HCH

Library VS. Scranton Library

8/19, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Join us for a friendly competition on the Switch! Ages 13 - 18. *R.Reg.*

I'm With the Banned Book Club: TBD

8/20, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Read & discuss some lesser-known "banned" books. Ages 13 - 18. *R.Reg.*

Teen Advisory Board

8/28, 9/25, 10/30, & 11/27,

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Make decisions, suggest materials, and support the community. Grades 8th - 12th.

For Adults

More programs added regularly! Visit www.hchlibrary.org or call (860) 669-2342 to learn more and sign up.

Weekly Programs:

Virtual Meditation

Mondays, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Start your week with a live, virtual, guided meditation class. Ages 18+. *R.Reg.*

Afternoon Mahjong Meetups

Mondays, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Play a few friendly rounds of this classic and popular tile-based game. Ages 18+.

Clinton Senior Connection:

Connect with the Classics

Mondays, 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Read-aloud/Read-along. Explore great works of literary merit. Ages 18+.

Drop-in friendly.

Scrabble Club

Tuesdays, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Friendly, casual Scrabble playing with fellow word enthusiasts. Ages 18+.

Virtual Chair Yoga

Wednesdays, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Online class for guided exercises done from a seated position. Ages 18+. *R.Reg.*

In-Person Yoga & Mindfulness

Wednesdays, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Gentle yoga with guided instruction in the Community Room. Ages 18+. Weekly registration required.

Evening Mahjong Meetups

Wednesdays, 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

Play a few friendly rounds of this classic and popular tile-based game. Ages 18+.

Clinton Senior Connection: Bridge Meetup

Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Drop in to play this beloved classic card game. Ages 18+.

Sewing Circle | Fridays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Drop in to work on your sewing & fiber art projects. Ages 18+.

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In-Person Tai Chi

Fridays, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Improve stability and balance with exercises for wellness. Ages 18+. Weekly registration required.

Special Programs:

Creative Writing Group

9/9, 10/7, & 11/11, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Share your writing and get feedback. Hybrid program. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

Saturday Morning Movie: TBD

9/21, 10/19, & 11/16, @ 11:00 AM

Join us monthly on the 3rd Saturday. Call or see website for details. Ages 18+.

Clinton Senior Connection:

Morning Music Meetup

8/20, 9/17, 10/15, & 11/19,

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For music lovers, music makers, and everybody in between!

Movie Matinee: TBD

8/29, 9/12, 9/26, 10/10, 10/31,

11/14, & 11/28 @ 2:30 PM

Call or see website for details. Ages 18+.

Movie Night: TBD

9/3, 10/1, & 11/5 @ 5:30 PM

Call or see website for details. Ages 18+.

Clinton Senior Connection:

Afternoon Music Meetup

9/5, 10/3, & 11/7, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

For music lovers, music makers, and everybody in between!

Craft Night: Sea Glass Canvas Art

8/21, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Create artistic crafts and memories!

Ages 18+. *R Req.*

Clamming In Clinton

8/22, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Information and updates from the Clinton Shellfish Commission. *R.Rec.*

Coastal Resiliency In Clinton

9/5, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Local information and updates from Clinton's Town Planner. *R.Rec.*

Experiencing America Book Club: Looking For Alaska

9/9, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

A book discussion on contemporary

American experiences. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

Social Security Savvy

9/10, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Have your questions answered by a Social Security Administration Specialist. *R.Rec.*

Afternoon Fiction Book Club: The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek

9/12, @ 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Monthly fiction discussion. Call or see website for details. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

Craft Night: Nail & String Art

9/18, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Create artistic crafts and memories! Ages 18+. *R Req.*

Book Chat: Banned Books

9/19, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Discuss your favorite summer beach reads over refreshments. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

The Atlantic Discussion Group

9/25, 10/23, & 11/27, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Discuss the latest issue of The Atlantic magazine. Ages 18+. *R Req.*

Fall Craft Fair

10/5, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Browse indoor and outdoor vendors with locally-made handcrafts.

Experiencing America Book Club: TBD

10/7 & 11/4, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

A book discussion on contemporary American experiences. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

Afternoon Fiction Book Club: TBD

10/10 & 11/14, @ 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Monthly fiction discussion. Call or see website for details. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

Clinton Arbor Garden Club Pruning Workshop

10/10, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Learn tips and tricks for seasonal pruning in the garden.

Craft Night: Pumpkin Craft

10/16, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Create artistic crafts and memories!

Ages 18+. *R Req.*

Book Chat: Halloween Favorites

10/17, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Discuss your favorite summer beach reads over refreshments. Ages 18+. *R.Rec.*

Craft Night: Fall Craft

11/20, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Create artistic crafts and memories!

Ages 18+. *R Req.*

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 TOURNAMENT SPONSORS!

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Please also join us in thanking our incredible Silent Auction and Raffle Donors. With the participation of all of these community members, our Tournament has continued to grow, enabling CEF and the Lions to support many programs for our Clinton community.



Part of a group of 50 who traveled to Tanglewood on July 4th to see James Taylor and fireworks show.

Clinton Senior Connection

Clinton's mobile senior program, Clinton Senior Connection, continues to embrace community through senior connection and have fun doing it. Since its launch in the summer of 2022, newsletter subscribers have grown from zero to just over 700 and CSC-planned events continue to book up rapidly, especially with the addition of occasional bus transportation, a perk afforded to us through temporary federal funding.

Some motorcoach trips that we are currently looking forward to include: a brewery tour and beer tasting in Essex in **September**, a visit to Arthur Avenue and the New York Botanical Gardens on **October 15th** and getting in the holiday spirit with the Rockettes in Christmas Spectacular 2024 on **December 9th**.

Visit: www.clintonct.org/723/Senior-Program to become an active email subscriber! There, you will also find our monthly senior calendar chock full of local activities including walks for health and other group exercise, live music, line dancing, cardio drumming, cooking, crafts, educational seminars, painting, kayaking, trivia, group enrichment and a variety of seasonal events.

Town of Clinton Water Pollution Control Commission

WASTEWATER PLANNING AND PROGRESS!

Quick Quiz: What in the Town of Clinton involves more water than an Olympic swimming pool every day?!?!?

The Town of Clinton does not have any municipal sewer system and therefore there are over 4,000 private septic systems being utilized in Town! It has been estimated that upwards of 750,000 gallons of wastewater are sent to these septic systems EVERY DAY, which is well more than an Olympic swimming pool!

In many areas of Town, septic systems are functioning fine and are an appropriate solution for wastewater management. In certain locations with dense development, high groundwater, or poor soil conditions, septic systems may not function adequately and the potential for a community pollution problem exists. Clinton WPCC is continuing wastewater planning to identify solutions for various wastewater study areas in the Town. The long-term plan includes multiple projects and seeking and obtaining grants and funding to help the Town finally move forward with work that has been proposed for decades. See our website for more: <https://clintonct.org/205/Water-Pollution-Control>.

Recent WPCC projects included hydraulic
Clinton Events • Quarter 3 • 2024

load testing in the Downtown Center study area this year using funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), as well as survey work to improve mapping of the area. Prior phases of the projects obtained 55% reimbursement for qualified expenses through the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) Clean Water Fund (CWF).

This April, with unanimous support from the Town Council, Clinton WPCC and the Town Planner prepared and submitted a \$500,000 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) request to U.S. Senator Chris Murphy's Office for consideration in 2025. If granted, the requested "earmark" funds would be used to complete the design of a community wastewater collection system and treatment facility for the Downtown Center study area.

With the help of the Town Council, the Town Planner, and the new Town Manager, Clinton WPCC is also planning to reengage the State of Connecticut, the local public water utility, and residents in the Rocky Ledge study area regarding the water main extension project which had stalled during the pandemic. The current WPCC has bipartisan member support for the water main

extension project which will eliminate the threat to drinking water posed by septic systems in close proximity to drinking water wells and further protect public safety within and outside the study area by providing long sought after fire hydrant coverage in this area.

PUMPOUT ORDINANCE PROGRAM IS BACK UP AND RUNNING!

Fun Fact: While we all at times tend to take it for granted that you pull that handle and problems disappear down the drain... It is not magic, and it is not without cost. Routine maintenance is the best and most cost-effective way to maintain and extend the life of your septic system and possibly avoid very costly repairs! Great tips available: <https://clintonct.org/531/Saving-Your-Septic-System>.



Clinton's On-site Sewage Disposal System Maintenance Ordinance (Pumpout Ordinance) was developed with input from CT DEEP as a Town-wide good faith effort toward addressing known wastewater issues in Town. Routine inspection and maintenance helps to ensure best performance from existing septic systems, avoid costly repairs to the degree possible, and mitigate impacts to groundwater and surface water from chemical and biological pollution which occurs when improperly treated wastewater discharges directly to groundwater or to surface water via surface breakouts during heavy rains.

The Pumpout Ordinance (learn more: <https://clintonct.org/336/Pump-out-Ordinance>) requires septic tanks to be cleaned and inspected at least once every 5 years by a licensed septic service company that is currently registered with the Clinton WPCC and in compliance with the Pumpout Ordinance. To comply with this Ordinance, it is imperative that property owners: 1) select a registered septic service company, and 2) confirm at the time of your appointment that your septic pump out and inspection will be properly recorded in the Town's Carmody system. **Note:** Property owners who use pumpers that are not registered, or who do not properly record the pumpouts in the Town's Carmody system, may continue to receive letters from the Clinton WPCC and may be subject to fines as defined in the Ordinance! All property owners or septic service companies with questions are encouraged to contact the Clinton WPCC by calling Lori Pascarelli in the Town of Clinton Land Use Office at 860-669-9349.

In the past 10 months that the tracking and enforcement has been stepped up, the number of septic pump outs that are greater than

90 days overdue has been cut by more than half! The Town thanks everyone for doing their part at protecting our precious natural resources which we all enjoy.

PUMPOUT BOAT CONTINUES TO PROTECT OUR WATERS!

FACT: Did you know that the federal Clean Water Act prohibits discharge of untreated sewage into U.S. territorial waters? Long Island Sound (LIS) is within these territorial waters and therefore, no discharge of untreated sewage is permitted anywhere in LIS! <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/boating/clean-marina/sewage-disposal>.

According to CT DEEP, untreated sewage from boats "threatens the Sound with nutrients and pathogens, particularly in sheltered areas like harbors and mooring sites not highly flushed by tide or current. Poor water quality closes shellfish beds and swimming areas for the protection of public health."

Accidental and/or intentional discharges of raw sewage from boats docked or simply visiting local marinas is a common occurrence around the world. According to CT DEEP, the nitrogen and pathogen load of concentrated sewage from a discharge of untreated waste from one small private vessel is roughly equivalent to the pollutant load from a small city/town sewer treatment plant. That's how concentrated this waste is. The sensitive Hammonasset River estuary system (encompassing Cedar Island, the Town Beach, the Town Dock, the various private marinas, businesses, residences, and the tidal wetlands up the Hammonasset River, Indian River, and Hammock River) is not capable of handling these types of discharges without serious environmental and public health consequences.

There's good news! The CT DEEP, through the Federal Clean Vessel Act (CVA) grant program, provides federally funded grants covering up to 75% of the costs of running a pumpout boat program. The pumpouts must be available to all boaters within the service area and offered for free. A map with a directory of free pumpout locations across the State is available here: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/81120a54fded41e6afa16c572a85d409>.

The Clinton Harbor Pumpout Boat Program is operated by Cedar Island Marina and offers free boat sewage pumpouts to all boats in each of the six marinas in Clinton Harbor. In a typical year, the Clinton WPCC contributes \$7,000 toward the operation of the Clinton Harbor Pumpout Boat Program. The beauty of this pumpout boat program, and a testament to how well it is run by Cedar Island Marina, is the fact that the process makes it relatively painless to get a free pumpout while visiting Cedar Island's fueling dock, stopping for dinner, or by scheduling routine pumpout right from your slip.

In a typical season, between 20,000 and 30,000 gallons of raw sewage is pumped from vessels at the six marinas, stored temporarily in holding tanks, and appropriately disposed of off-site!

By making this process easy and free, this CT DEEP administered federal CVA grant program, operated well by Cedar Island Marina in partnership with the Clinton WPCC, has greatly decreased the instances and future likelihood of illicit sewage discharges from private vessels in Clinton Harbor. Boaters: please call VHF 68, or better yet, 860-391-1450 to schedule your pumpout.

Boaters, kayakers, swimmers, anglers, and clammers have noted to the Clinton WPCC the improved water quality in the Harbor over the last decade that this program has been active.

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Royal HANNEFORD CIRCUS

IS PLANNING ON COMING TO TOWN!

The Royal Hanneford Circus (<https://royalhannefordcircus.org/>) is planning on coming to town the first weekend in October, under the auspices of the Clinton, Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. This will be Royal Hanneford's first time performing in the State of Connecticut, thus they are currently going through the State's rigorous tent permitting process. There will be at least seven performances over three days, which will commence on **Friday, October 4th** – under the big top, in the parking lot overlooking Route 81, at the Premium Outlets. So very appropriate, as Clinton is the ancestral home of the Ringling/Barnum & Bailey Pallenberg Wonder Bears, formerly of North High Street. Ticket sales will begin once they are permitted.

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Clinton Land Use Office

Frequently Asked Land Use Questions

For this quarter's article, I thought it would be helpful to answer some frequently asked Land Use questions.

Do I need a permit for a fence?

Zoning Permits and Building Permits are required only for fences 7 feet high and taller. We always recommend that the homeowner install the fence on their property instead of right on the property line, so they have room to maintain the fence without going onto their neighbor's property.

Per Zoning Regulation 26.6: On any corner lot there shall be no building, structure, fence, wall or planting in excess of three feet (3') in height, as measured from curb line, located within a triangular space on the lot bounded by the two intersecting street lines and a straight line connecting a point fifty feet (50') from the intersection so as to obstruct a clear line of sight across the triangle.

Do I need a Zoning Permit for a driveway?

Zoning Permits are not required for driveways. However, if the driveway is asphalt or concrete or any other material water cannot filter through, it is considered "impervious coverage."

There are zoning regulations, 26.11.14 for residential zones, and 26.12.14 for non-residential zones, that regulate the percentage of impervious ground coverage allowed on a lot. There are ground coverage maximums in every zone.

For example, if a homeowner puts in a 1,000-foot long driveway, and then they apply to construct a shed or a barn, they may find their property is already at or over maximum ground coverage, and they cannot add anything more.

We recommend that you contact the Land Use Office before installing an impervious driveway to find out what the ground coverage percentage will be. Also, please check with the Department of Public Works before installing an asphalt driveway to be sure you apply for the proper permits.

Are Zoning Permits required for an Airbnb or VRBO?

There are no current regulations for Airbnb or VRBO short or long-term homestays. If you own a home that is part of a beach association or homeowners association, they may have their own regulations for Airbnb's or VRBO's, so be sure to check with them.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact the Land Use Office. We are always here to help.

If you would like to see a particular topic addressed in a future Events Magazine article, please contact me in the Land Use Office.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Kathy Savona, Certified Zoning Enforcement Officer and Wetlands Enforcement Officer



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A man and a young girl are walking a black dog in a grassy field. The man is wearing a blue sweater, a dark jacket, and a flat cap. The girl is wearing a purple dress and a denim jacket. They are walking towards the right. In the background, there are rolling hills and a fence.

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