

COLUMBIA



UPDATE MARCH 2021



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON COVID-19 VACCINES: At the time of this publication Governor Lamont announced Connecticut will continue age-based approach to COVID-19 vaccine eligibility; educators and childcare providers to have dedicated clinics in March.

The planned schedule is as follows:

- March 1, 2021: Expands to age group 55 to 64
- March 22, 2021: Expands to age group 45 to 54
- April 12, 2021: Expands to age group 35 to 44
- May 3, 2021: Expands to age group 16 to 34

Need Help? Call the Beckish Senior Center (860-228-0759) or Columbia Social Services (860-228-1008) if you don't have an email account. We can help you get registered online!

COVID-19 VACCINATION SCHEDULING OPTIONS:

Schedule by Phone: COVID Vaccine Appointment Assistance line at 877-918-2224 or Hartford Healthcare Vaccine Hotline at 860-972-4993

Schedule through the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS): Local health clinics, health districts, and some providers schedule through [VAMS](#). This system requires an email account.

Schedule directly with the below providers:

- [CVS Pharmacy](#)
- [Hartford Healthcare](#)
- [Walgreens](#)
- [Walmart](#)
- [Yale New Haven Health](#)

Search ALL vaccine providers by location on [211ct.org](#)

Veterans can schedule directly with the VA! How will VA contact me when I can get a COVID-19 vaccine?

If you're already receiving care at VA, your local VA health facility may contact you by phone, email, or text message. If you're eligible and want to get a vaccine, we encourage you to respond.

But before you provide any personal information or click on any links, be sure the call, email, or text is really from VA.

- Text messages will always come from 53079.
- Emails will always come from a va.gov email address.
- If someone calls you from VA and you don't recognize the phone number, ask for a number to call them back. Then call your local VA health facility to verify.
- Your facility may invite you to get a vaccine in different ways:
 - They may invite you to a large vaccination event, like a drive-thru clinic.
 - They may offer you a specific date and time to get a vaccine.
 - They may ask you to schedule an appointment.

COVID-19 TESTING SITES: On the following pages you will find important information on COVID Testing sites. You can also get the most up-to-date information from the State of Connecticut on COVID-19, residents are encouraged to visit ct.gov/coronavirus. Residents can also subscribe to text message alerts from the state by texting the keyword **COVIDCT** to **888-777**.

Thank you and please be safe.

Steven M. Everett, First Selectman
severett@columbiact.org
860-228-0110



COVID-19 TESTING: Testing is done both on-site and inside CVS locations. When you arrive at your testing site, please follow all instructions about where to go for your test.

Important: Availability in some states is limited due to extreme demand. Check daily for available times.

More than 4,500 testing locations. No cost to you.²

\$0 out-of-pocket cost with insurance or federal program for uninsured²

Lab testing (drive-thru)

Results typically take 2-3 days.³
Must be 10 years of age or older.

Rapid-result testing

Get results within hours.⁴
Availability is limited.
Must be 5 years of age or older.

[Hartford HealthCare's](#) COVID-19 testing capabilities.

- Drive-up testing centers at nine convenient locations throughout the state.
- Online appointment scheduling which reduces wait times at our testing locations.
- Same-day, on-site evaluation and testing at our urgent care centers throughout Connecticut.
- Tests for adults and children of all ages, when accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- Mobile testing at areas around the state.

NOTE: COVID testing sites are NOT administering vaccines. Click [here for vaccine location](#)



Generations is here to help whether you have symptoms or NOT. Generations offer safe curbside COVID-19 testing for anyone. You DO NOT need to be a Generations patient. Testing

available in a vehicle or on foot at our: Willimantic Site, Danielson Site, and Putnam Site

For current updates, please call our COVID-19 Info Line (860) 450-5508.

TESTING HOURS: The below schedules are subject to change depending on weather and other impacting factors. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause and we appreciate your understanding as we remain committed to making testing accessible in the communities we serve.

ADDRESSES:

Willimantic – 40 Mansfield Avenue

Putnam – 202 Pomfret Street

Danielson – 42 Reynolds Street

For more information please go to the [Generations website](#).

COVID-19 TESTING - GRIFFIN HEALTH: Avoid the lines! Come to Griffin for your. Our appointment-only site at Griffin Hospital gives you minimal on-site waiting - and receive your COVID-19 test results within 24-48 hours!

Location: 130 Division Street, Derby, CT

Hours: 7:00AM-3:30PM daily, with extended hours Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday 7:00AM-6:00PM

Call ahead and make your appointment at 203-437-6815 (Call Center hours: 8AM-3PM)

*Please have your insurance information and number ready to expedite your appointment.

Community Test Site locations:

- Quassy Amusement Park - 2132 Middlebury Rd, Middlebury, CT - Open Fridays 9:30AM-1PM
- Tunxis Community College - 271 Scott Swamp Rd, Farmington, CT - Open Thursdays 9:30AM-1PM
- Naugatuck Ion Bank - 1430 New Haven Rd, Naugatuck, CT - Open Wednesdays 9:30AM-3PM
- Unity Park - Unity Park Road, Trumbull, CT - Open Tuesdays 9:30AM-3PM

Please bring a valid ID to the Community Test Sites.



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Columbia's departments are open by appointment only; however, we continue to encourage residents to use on-line services. Online services include [Tax Payments](#), [Transfer Station Stickers](#), and obtaining [Building Permits](#). We also encourage residents to use the drop-boxes at Yeoman's Hall and Town Hall for tax payments, correspondence, permits, Transfer Station stickers, Dog License, etc. For a staff directory to schedule an appointment please go to the [Town of Columbia's website](#). Please respect our safety guidelines by wearing a mask when entering the building, use hand sanitizer at the entrance, and observe social distancing guidelines.

THE TOWN OF COLUMBIA IS ACCEPTING ONLINE DONATIONS: The Town of Columbia is accepting donations to assist those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Donations may be used for food supply, fuel assistance, protective equipment and other social services that will benefit those affected by COVID-19. Donations can be made by check, payable to the Town of Columbia or [online](#).

The Beckish Senior Center provides a local MOBILE Foodshare EVERY OTHER THURSDAY from 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM. The dates for March are the 11th and 25th.

FOODSHARE'S FOOD DISTRIBUTION IS LOCAL and AT RENTSCHLER FIELD: The Local MOBILE Foodshare location will be at the Beckish Senior Center EVERY OTHER THURSDAY from 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM. For more information call 860-286-999 or visit the [FoodShare website](#). Please see the flyer on Page 12 for more information.

Anyone and Everyone can participate no questions asked. Simply drive up with your car and they will put the food in your trunk.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION AT RENTSCHLER FIELD, 615 SILVER LANE, EAST HARTFORD, CT.

Rentschler Field Food Distribution Schedule

Rentschler Field - Silver Lane Entrance: 615 Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

OPEN: Tuesdays & Thursdays

CLOSED: Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Important information:

- More Food Resources: www.foodshare.org/coronavirus
- One allocation of food per car to ensure that there is enough food for everyone.

EVERBRIDGE NOTIFICATIONS: We will from time to time issue an Everbridge Notification with a message from the First Selectman, Steven M. Everett to help keep you informed. If you would like to sign up for Everbridge Notifications please go to the Town's website and on the [Everbridge Notifications](#) tab.

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS: To receive Town news please go to the Town's website and click on the [Email Notifications](#) tab.

If you need assistance please do not hesitate to call the Town Administrative Office or the First Selectman at 860-228-0110 or email us at townadministrator@columbiact.org.

Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator
323 Route 87
Columbia, CT 06237
860-228-0110

Find us on 



COLUMBIA'S

MOBILE FOODSHARE

Beckish Senior Center
188 Route 66, Columbia

EVERY OTHER THURSDAY

Mar 11th, Mar 25th

1:00PM TO 1:30 PM

**DRIVE THROUGH ONLY—NO CONTACT
OPEN TRUNK OR CAR DOOR AND WE WILL PLACE
ITEMS IN YOUR CAR AND YOU CAN DRIVE AWAY
SAFELY. MUST WEAR A MASK IF FOOD IS NOT
GOING IN TRUNK OF VEHICLE**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME—NO PERSONAL INFO REQUIRED FOR
PARTICIPATION –**

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Due to the current COVID-19 Emergency, meetings will be held by utilizing remote access. Each board or committee will provide the information needed to join using an on-line conferencing platform. Please check the Town of Columbia's [website](#) for updates.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

- 3/1/21 Mon: Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00 PM
- 3/1/21 Mon: Board of Education, 7:30 PM
- 3/2/21 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 3/3/21 Wed: Lake Management Advisory Committee, 7:00 PM
- 3/4/21 Thur: Board of Assessment Appeals, 7:00 PM
- 3/4/21 Thur: Columbia Conservation and Agriculture Commission, 7:00 PM
- 3/4/21 Thur: Szegda Farm Management Committee, 6:00 PM
- 3/4/21 Thur: Recreation Commission, 6:00 PM
- 3/8/21 Mon: Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM
- 3/9/21 Tue: Charter Revision Commission, 7:00 PM
- 3/10/21 Wed: Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30 AM
- 3/10/21 Wed: Youth Service Committee, 5:30 PM
- 3/16/21 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 3/17/21 Wed: Financial Planning and Allocation Commission, 7:00 PM
- 3/18/21 Thurs: Columbia Open Space Committee, 8:00 AM
- 3/22/21 Mon: Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM
- 3/24/21 Wed: Commission on Aging, 9:00 AM
- 3/25/21 Thur: Zoning Board of Appeals

In accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7B and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, meetings are physically closed to the public. We encourage residents to join via Zoom and to provide your comments and input during the meetings utilizing the "Chat" feature in Zoom, or providing comment during the Audience of Citizens/Public Comment portion of the meeting. Public Comment will be accepted by our dedicated email at PublicInput@columbiact.org or by USPS mail to 323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting).

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

ASSESSORS OFFICE: 2021 ASSESSMENT & REVALUATION: Connecticut law requires all real estate to be revalued for assessment purposes every five years. Towns and cities that do not adhere to the revaluation requirements will be penalized 10% of their state grants. Revaluations are required to ensure uniformity in property valuations. A complete revaluation program includes modernizing the assessment system, taking a complete description of all inventory of all property, and setting new assessed values on a current basis. Because regular assessment work must be carried on along with the revaluation program, most assessors find it necessary to seek the assistance of a private appraisal company in conducting a complete revaluation. Responsibility for final determination of value, however, remains with the assessor. For information on the assessment and revaluation please click [here](#).

BECKISH SENIOR CENTER: The Beckish Senior Center is closed to the public until further notice due to the Corona Virus. We ask that you please stay home and stay safe.

WE ARE AVAILABLE BY PHONE AND EMAIL:

Monday—Friday 8am-3pm

Bernadette Derring—Director of Senior Services

Beckish@columbiact.org

860-228-0759 ext. 1

The Beckish Senior Center have been very busy the past month working on the vaccine process. We have called everyone 75 years of age and older and we are now currently working on ages 65 to 74. The vaccine process is very slow; however, we are reaching out and making sure everyone is getting their vaccines and transporting them to and from their appointments. We ask everyone to just be patient; we will get through this together!

We are working with AARP and H&R Block for tax preparation. If you need your taxes done, please call us to make an appointment. All taxes are being done virtually with limited contact.

Our transportation program is running very smoothly. We are operating Monday - Friday 8-3pm. We are taking seniors to their Covid-19 vaccine appointments, Tax Preparation appointments, doctors, shopping, etc.... If you would like to use our transportation program do not hesitate to contact us at 860-228-0759 ext. 2.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

I know the big question is when are we opening the senior center again? I would like to open my senior center to the public once seniors 65 and older receive their 2nd vaccine. A tentative reopening date is May 1st. If this date needs to be pushed back to April 15th, I will do that! I want to make sure my seniors are safe before bringing them into our public building. I am very excited to reopen the senior center and have a place for everyone to visit. Please stay tuned for more information.

Thank you

Bernadette Derring

Director Senior Services & Transportation

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

BUILDING/LAND USE DEPARTMENT: To make an appointment with the Building Department please call (860) 228-0440 or by email LandUse@columbiact.org. Permits or applications for land use can be safely dropped off in the lock box located by the front entrance to Yeoman's Hall. The box is checked every morning. Please make sure that the envelope is clearly marked with the town department name and include your contact information on your envelope placed in the lock-box.

Please click [here](#) for all permit paperwork. Please call or email ahead to verify permit fees (by check only, made out to Town of Columbia), or to address other questions. Work that is to be done by a contractor must include a copy of their State license, and certificate of insurance with workman's comp, and should include a signed authorization from the property owner. Inspections will be carried out by appointment only for exterior inspections as well as inspections of non-occupied structures (new construction/additions) will continue.

Building Department

Terri Lasota, Building Department Administrative Assistant

(860) 228-0440

email LandUse@columbiact.org.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE NEW

SCHEDULE. Hazardous materials must be taken to the MidNEROC Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility located on Hancock Road in Willington. There is no charge for the use of this facility by Willington residents, with proof of residency. Business will be charged based on the material type and quantity. Call (684) 3163 to make arrangements.

The facility is open 9:00am to 2:00pm the first and third Saturday of each month from mid-April to early November. For further information, call them at (860) 684-3163. Please see the next page for the new schedule.

Items not accepted: Crew will leave in your vehicle

- Loads in excess of 100 lbs. solids or 10 gallons liquids
- Oil and Antifreeze (including diesel fuel, brake, transmission, power steering fluids)
- Take to your transfer station (Coventry D.P.W.)
- Tolland residents: take to Bill's or Anderson Automotive
- Any Latex based products not taken by paint program
- Latex caulk and sealers
- Latex adhesive
- Latex driveway sealers
- Drywall, Joint compound, etc.
- Spray Paints (aerosols)
- Propane Tanks (your town will take these at the transfer station)
- Smoke Detectors
- Fertilizers (without pesticides and herbicides)
- Pesticides in sprayers (bring pesticides in original containers)
- Asbestos
- Fire Extinguishers
- Cooking materials (oil, etc.)
- Medicines, skin care
- Fluorescent Bulbs & Batteries (if your transfer station takes)
- Lead Acid Batteries
- Unlabeled materials, unknowns
- Types of materials not expected from a home

If you have any questions please contact DPW Director, Beth Lunt at 860-228-4270, or elunt@columbiact.org.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

MID-NEROC HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE NEW SCHEDULE

860-684-3163
57 Hancock Road

**MID-NORTHEAST CHEMICAL WASTE DROP-OFF FACILITY
HAZARDOUS WASTE CENTER 2021 SCHEDULE**

Open 12 Days

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
APRIL	12	13	14	15	16	17 OPEN	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
MAY	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15 OPEN	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
JUNE	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19 OPEN	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
JULY	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17 OPEN	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
AUGUST	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21 OPEN	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
SEPTEMBER	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18 OPEN	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
OCTOBER	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16 OPEN	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SOCIAL SERVICES: We have collected an A-Z sampling of support resources that can be accessed on our website at [here](#). You may find something helpful for you, a family member, or a neighbor. Knowledge is power!

This is a not an exhaustive list. For further information on a topic or for information on a topic not listed, visit or call 211, United Way <https://www.211ct.org/> 24/7.

HEALTH: *Uninsured-special Enrollment Opportunity:*

[Access Health CT announces a Special Enrollment](#)

[Period](#) for Uninsured Residents from February 15 – March

15, 2021. This Special Enrollment Period is for consumers who are not currently enrolled in coverage through Access Health CT.

New to Medicare? Virtual Info Session: [Free Virtual Welcome to Medicare Fair on April 7, 2021 from 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET.](#) You will learn about Medicare – eligibility, enrollment,

and coverage options from the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) national network. SHIPs can help you make Medicare choices that best meet your needs.

COVID-19 - Get the Facts on the Vax!

[Facts about the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine: Facts You Need to Know](#)

[How Did the COVID-19 Vaccine Get Developed So Quickly?](#)

[How Does the COVID-19 Vaccine Work?](#)

[Is the COVID-19 Vaccine Safe?](#)

[What ingredients are in the COVID-19 Vaccine?](#)

NOTE: The COVID-19 Vaccine is FREE whether you have insurance or not.

Important Deadlines: 3/31/21 Deadline for fuel authorizations

5/3/21 Last day that a household can apply to establish eligibility for benefits unless the household is utility heated and has a shutoff notice for its primary source of heat.

5/14/21 Last day that utility heated household with a shut-off notice for its primary heat can apply to establish its eligibility for benefits.



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED:

Are you a deliverable fuel customer and already applied and have been approved?

Contact ACCESS to ensure you have received the full award you are eligible for. Households can potentially qualify for a basic, crisis, and sometimes safety net awards. Contact Katie Wilt if you need help finding out! (kwilt@columbiact.org, or 860-228-1008)

Operation Fuel- Fuel, Utility, and System Repair Grants

Operation Fuel provides emergency energy and utility assistance to households in CT that are facing financial crisis. Other programs include home system repair and replacement. To check eligibility and how to apply online or in person click [here](#).

If you'd like more information on the above-mentioned programs or if they are not meeting immediate needs, or you are experiencing difficulty in receiving approval for the above-mentioned programs, please contact me to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Katie Wilt, Town of Columbia Community Social Services Coordinator, at 860.228.1008 or kwilt@columbiact.org. (Typical office hours: Monday & Tuesday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm)

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

ACHM Hunger Action Team's Emergency Rental Assistance Program

One-time emergency rental assistance (up to \$250) for Andover, Hebron, Columbia, & Marlborough residents whose employment income has been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Program starts on February 1, 2021

Applications will be accepted and last until available funds are allocated.



Eligibility:

- Resident of Andover, Hebron, Columbia, or Marlborough
- Must provide supporting documentation of hardship.

Payments will be made directly to the property owner.

Contact your local social services provider:

Andover Social Services: 860-742-7305 ext. 5

Hebron Social Services: 860-228-1700 or HIHS: 860-228-1681

Columbia Senior Center: 860-228-0759

Marlborough Food Bank: 860-295-6008

Caseworkers at the social services providers will screen applicants for eligibility. Applicant must show that future payment can be made without assistance.

The ACHM Hunger Action Team (HAT) is a group of community members and service providers that develop and implement local solutions to empower our neighbors to be food secure.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Please note that the Parks and Recreation Department is now located at the Murphy House at Columbia Lake. Follow us on [FaceBook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

UPCOMING EVENTS: REGISTRATION FOR PROGRAMS [ONLINE AT RECDESK](#).

EXERCISE PROGRAMS held at Yeoman's Hall.

Fit Fusion: Mon/Weds 4:30-5:30pm, Yeomans Hall

Yoga: Thursday 6pm to 7pm, Yeomans Hall

For all exercise classes we have a max capacity of 12 people per a class. Due to this we are asking those who wish to attend to email ahead to reserve a spot recdirector@columbiact.org. Walk-ins will be accepted if the class is not already at capacity.

[BOAT LICENSING COURSE](#): The course will be held on Saturday, 4/17/21 (enrollment end date is 4/15/21). The students successfully completing the class can purchase their license from the DEEP for \$50 and leave the class with their boating license in-hand. The classroom-based presentation is PowerPoint and video format including student interaction with hands on demonstrations of common boating equipment and supplies. This class will be remote via zoom. The test will be given through google documents, once registered you will be sent the appropriate links.

[COMMUNITY GARDEN](#): The Columbia Community Garden is located on Szegda Road offering a secure, sun filled, fenced area with water on-site for each plot. With the 2019 expansion of the fenced area, there are now new plots of varying sizes for rent through the Columbia Recreation Dept. Contact the Rec. Department at (860) 228-8513 or email to recreation@columbiact.org for more information or use sign-up through [Rec Desk](#).

Standard Fee/Plot Size	Residency Restriction	Amount
10 x 20	None	\$15.00
15 x 20	None	\$20.00
20 x 20	None	\$25.00
25 x 20	None	\$30.00

Make new friends, swap gardening stories, advice and plants with gardeners who have had plots since the garden was created in 2008. Gardening help and advice is never in short supply at the Columbia Community Garden.

Join a team of gardeners who, this past season, planted and donated crops to the Columbia Food Pantry and the Covenant Soup Kitchen.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION



HOP AROUND BECAUSE
YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

FREE EASTER EGG HUNT!

Come and join the fun
with the whole family!

FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH
AT 10:00AM

60 Hennequin Road,
Columbia CT 06237

RAIN DATE: MARCH 28th at
10:00am



COLUMBIA
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION

Boat Safe Connecticut, LLC

BOATING LICENSE CLASS

**\$98
PER PERSON**

Yeoman's Hall
Columbia, CT

8 HOUR CLASS, SUPPLIES INCLUDED!



There will be breaks

**April 17th
In person and
virtual available**

**8:30AM-
4:30PM**

Students successfully completing the class can purchase their license from the DEEP for \$50 and leave the class with their boating license in hand. The classroom-based presentation is PowerPoint and video format including student interaction with hands on demonstrations of common boating equipment and supplies.

<https://columbia.recdesk.com>

860-228-8513

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TAX OFFICE: Due to COVID-19 the Town Hall is currently open by appointment only. Please call the tax office to schedule an appointment at 860-228-0230.

TAX SALE PROPERTIES

March 16, 2021 -10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Town of Columbia Yeomans Hall

323 Route 87, Columbia, CT.

Public information on the tax sale properties and procedures can be obtained at www.cttaxsales.com.

Pay Taxes Online



Important change to tax deadlines:

December 16, 2020, Governor Lamont signed Executive Order (EO) No. 9R. Section 1, Suspension and Modification of Tax Deadlines and Collection Efforts for Tax Bills That Become Due and Payable on January 1, 2021. EO No. 9R extends the grace period for the real estate, personal property and supplemental motor vehicle taxes that become due on January 1, 2021 only. What is "deferred" is not a tax but rather the last day to pay without interest. The deadline is deferred, not the tax. All taxpayers except for Landlords and escrowed accounts are eligible and are entitled to defer their payment deadline until April 1, 2021, instead of the usual 30 days.

Please call the tax office at 860-228-0230 with questions.

Carol Price, Tax Collector

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE: Admittance to the Town Clerk's office is by appointment only. Please call our office at 860-228-3284 to set up an appointment.

It continues to be business as usual for those services that you might need – Recording and Searching of Land Records, Fishing and Hunting licenses, Notary Services, Certified copies of Vital Records, Marriage Licenses, Dog Licenses, Transfer Station stickers, etc.

For your convenience, a large white drop box has been installed outside the doors to Yeoman's Hall. This box can be used to drop off items for the Town Clerk and is shared with other offices in Town Hall. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us or reach out to us by email – Robin (townclerk@columbiact.org) or Gail (atownclerk@columbiact.org).

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY: Curbside service only will continue through the month of March. As we remain responsive to current conditions, we are optimistic that browsing will return soon. In the meanwhile, please remember that materials are available for pick up 6 days a week during this time.

Curbside pick up hours are as follows:

Monday 2-4

Tuesday 1-3 / 5-7

Wednesday 11-2 / 4-7

Thursday 12-2/2-4/6-7

Friday 10-2

Saturday 11-4

If you cannot make these times, please contact the Library for alternative timing arrangements. Electronic materials are available 24/7.

Upcoming Zoom programming from March includes:

3/4 11 am Picture This: Illustrations with Collage – picture book discussion group for adults

3/8 2:30 pm Columbia Writer's group

3/9 7 pm Adult Fiction Book group: On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous – Vuong

3/15 10:30 am Chat with Library Staff

3/16 3 pm Bake with Us: 30 minute Biscuits (first 10 people get free whisk)

3/23 7 pm Adult Non-Fiction Book group: Humankind: A Hopeful History – Bregman

3/25 1 pm Beckish Book group: The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna –Grimes

The author will be joining us for this book group. ALL WELCOME.

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY CONTINUED:

3/29 11 am Discover Pop Up Book Group: Hillbilly Elegy – Vance

3/30 6:30 pm Tea Tasting with Harney and Sons (first 50 people get free tea sample)

3/31 1:30 pm Sip and Stitch book group: The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo -Reid Visit

6:30 pm Columbia Writer's Group

These programs are in addition to our regularly scheduled programs: Baby Bees meets via Zoom every Friday. Story times are available virtually online any time. Stitcher group meets weekly at 2:30 on Wednesdays.

Call the Library (860.228.0350) or email us for Zoom codes and remember, you can also call in via your telephone to listen and participate!

Don't forget, we also offer grab bags, Tailored Titles (a selection chosen with your likes/dislikes in mind), and Personal Selection via Zoom. Instructions for searching the catalog, how to browse library shelves from home, and more are available on our website under [catalog tutorials](#).

Visit our website at: www.columbiactlibrary.org. Call us: (860) 228-0350 or email: SBL@columbiactlibrary.org

Stay safe, we look forward to seeing you!

Sue Epstein, Library Director

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: Community members can help the volunteers who respond to calls by clearly marking your house number in a visible manner on the street. The CVFD makes and sells reflective house number signs that help us quickly and easily identify your house; this often saves precious time. To order the Reflective Address Markers please go to the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department's web-page at www.columbiafire5.org and download the printable form or you can fill out the electronic form online. The price is \$10.00 per sign or \$12.00 with mounting brackets.

2021 FRED GIFFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: The Scholarship consists of four (4) individual awards of \$1,000.00, given to two (2) young men and two (2) young women. All applicants must be legal residents of Columbia, CT, seniors attending secondary school or homeschooled, with plans to continue their education at an accredited postsecondary school or institution. The Scholarship Committee will be looking for students with a good balance of strong grades, involvement in school activities and outside of school activities, community service and family values.

Applications must be submitted to the address above or email (mlester@columbiafire5.org) **no later than April 2, 2021.**

[Click Here to Download 2021 Application](#)

Print "Attention Mike Lester" on all correspondence. Winners may be asked to attend a membership meeting of the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT MIKE LESTER @ 860-465-6162 OR MLESTER@COLUMBIAFIRE5.ORG

These Scholarships are made possible by the generosity of the people and businesses throughout our area.

This Scholarship is administered by the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INC.

167 ROUTE 66/P.O. BOX 26, COLUMBIA, CT 06237

860-228-9602

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED: The CVFD encourages everyone to complete and post personal medical information on a File of Life card. We carry extra cards with us, but one is printed below for you to cut out, complete and post on your refrigerator. The information should be updated as any medical information changes (i.e., illness or medication). In the case of an emergency, the information is readily accessible for first responders.

KEEP INFORMATION UP TO DATE !!
Review At Least Every Six Months !

MEDICAL DATA REVIEWED AS OF MO. YR. Sex: M F

Name: _____

Address: _____

Doctor: _____ Phone #: _____

Preferred Hospital: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

MEDICAL DATA

Use pencil for ease in making changes.

Special Conditions/Remarks: _____

Medication	Dosage	Frequency

Pharmacy: _____ Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Blood Type: _____ Religion: _____

Health Care Proxy on file at: _____

Use pencil for ease in making changes

Recent Surgery: _____ Date: _____

Do you have an EMS-NO CPR Directive or a DNR form ?
YES NO Where is it located ? _____

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Check all that exist

<input type="checkbox"/> No known medical conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> Hemodialysis
<input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal EKG	<input type="checkbox"/> Hemolytic Anemia
<input type="checkbox"/> Adrenal Insufficiency	<input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis-Type []
<input type="checkbox"/> Angina	<input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension
<input type="checkbox"/> Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> Hypoglycemia
<input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding Disorder	<input type="checkbox"/> Laryngectomy
<input type="checkbox"/> Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> Leukemia
<input type="checkbox"/> Cardiac Dysrhythmia	<input type="checkbox"/> Lymphomas
<input type="checkbox"/> Cataracts	<input type="checkbox"/> Memory Impaired
<input type="checkbox"/> Clotting Disorder	<input type="checkbox"/> Myasthenia Gravis
<input type="checkbox"/> Coronary Bypass Graft	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacemaker
<input type="checkbox"/> Dementia <input type="checkbox"/> Alzheimer's <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Renal Failure
<input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes/Insulin Dependent	<input type="checkbox"/> Seizure Disorder
<input type="checkbox"/> Eye Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Sickle Cell Anemia
<input type="checkbox"/> Glaucoma	<input type="checkbox"/> Stroke
<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impaired	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Heart Valve Prosthesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Vision Impaired
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

ALLERGIES

<input type="checkbox"/> Aspirin	<input type="checkbox"/> Insect Stings	<input type="checkbox"/> Penicillin
<input type="checkbox"/> Barbiturate	<input type="checkbox"/> Latex	<input type="checkbox"/> Sulfa
<input type="checkbox"/> Codeine	<input type="checkbox"/> Lidocaine	<input type="checkbox"/> Tetracycline
<input type="checkbox"/> Demerol	<input type="checkbox"/> Morphine	<input type="checkbox"/> X-Rays Dyes
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Serum	<input type="checkbox"/> Novocaine	<input type="checkbox"/> No Known Allergies
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		

MEDICAL INSURANCE

Med Ins Co: _____

Policy #: _____

Other Med Ins Co: _____

Policy #: _____

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

PORTER PALS PRESCHOOL LOTTERY REGISTRATION: If you have a child that will be turning 3 or 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2021 and would like them to be considered for the lottery, please click [here](#). To Complete the Preschool Lottery Applications for the 2021 - 2022 School Year please click [here](#). Your child needs to be 3 or 4 years old by Dec. 31, 2021. If your child turns 5 prior to Dec. 31, 2021, then your child is eligible for Kindergarten and not eligible for the preschool program.



We will be holding the Lottery on Tuesday, March 31, 2021. You do not need to attend for your child to be considered for the Lottery. All families will be contacted on March 31st. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Deborah Dupuis at (860) 228-0585.

AHM YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES: Please remember AHM staff are just a phone call away at 860-228-9488, whether you need help finding a family resource, are a young adult or family member interested in SMART recovery groups or family counseling, or are a senior looking for help through the TASKs program and many other activities. These services and more can be found on the [AHM website](#).

AHM Youth and Family Services is a 501C-3 public charity serving Andover, Columbia, Hebron and Marlborough.

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA LITTLE LEAGUE: Columbia Little League registration is now open.



The 2021 baseball/softball season is upon us! Registration opens on February 1st. There are a few exciting changes this year. First, we will be combining with Lebanon Little League to have combined teams. This will help our teams be more age-appropriate (more fun for the kids) and will ensure players are competing at the correct skill level (safer for our players). It will allow us to play more games as well. Second, there will be COVID guidelines that all parents, players, and coaches will have to follow. The guidelines will be sent at a later date. Third, this year all parents will be required to volunteer in some capacity. Volunteering will assist in providing a wonderful experience for all players. Some examples of volunteer jobs are raking a field between games, helping to organize a fundraiser or special event, or volunteering an hour or two in the snack shack. There will be a list of opportunities available shortly for sign up. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out.

We look forward to seeing you all on the field again! Play Ball!! Please visit www.columbialittleleague.org for more information and to register.

COLUMBIA LITTLE LEAGUE

P.O. Box 93

Columbia, Connecticut 06237

Phone: 860-391-3219

Email: ColumbiaLLPresident@gmail.com

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND
NON-PROFIT
NEWS AND INFORMATION

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

UConn Extension - Tolland County Office Local Farm Guide: Check out the recent [guide](#) put together by the UConn Extension – Tolland County office promoting local small family farm businesses that are important to our communities and economies.

The guide is intended to be used as a gift guide, but is also a place where people can reference where to get local food throughout the winter months.

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA LIONS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: Are you eager to serve the Columbia community?

- Would you like to help support the Columbia Food Pantry, the Town of Columbia's fuel fund, the Saxton B. Little Library, our scouting programs, and our neighbors in need?
- Would you like to experience the pride and satisfaction of community involvement that comes from hosting the annual 4th of July Parade, the Christmas Gazebo Lighting on the Town Green, and the annual Chicken Barbeque and Pancake Breakfast?
- Would you like to work with the Columbia Lions to respond to the urgent needs of others and build a community that is spirited, tolerant, and kind?

If so, you can realize your potential to make a difference by becoming a Columbia Lion.

Men and women over 18 years of age can become Lions by contacting Membership Chairman Brendan Keenan at 860-228-1854 or at columbia.Lions.Membership@gmail.com. Call today!

The Columbia Lions, in compliance with COVID protocols, currently meet by Zoom. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month starting in late September and going through the first week in June. Ask our Membership Chairman, Brendan Keenan, about how you can attend one of our meetings and study up close just what we do.

BOARDS & COMMISSION NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS: In accordance with Section 12-110 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Columbia Board of Assessment Appeals will hold a public meeting on Thursday, March 4, 2021 starting at 7:00 p.m. by appointment only via Zoom virtual platform for the purpose of hearing appeals related to the assessment of real estate, personal property and motor vehicles on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 and the Supplemental Grand List of October 1, 2019 in the Town of Columbia.

Appellants are encouraged to provide any documentation they believe support their appeal. Examples include, but are not limited to, real estate appraisal, bill of sale for real estate purchase, vehicle bill of sale and/or repair bills, photos showing condition of vehicle, and photo of odometer reading.

Complete applications and supporting documentation must be filed in writing and received no later than February 20, 2021.

The meeting agenda with appointment confirmation will be emailed prior to the meeting to applicants who have filed applications in a timely manner. Please contact the Assessor at 860-228-9555 or email the Board Clerk at boardclerk@columbiact.org prior to the meeting for the link to join the virtual zoom meeting.

Applications are available in the Tax Assessor's Office or at www.columbiact.org. Completed applications may be put in the Town Hall drop box (write "BAA application" on application envelope) or mailed to: Board of Assessment Appeals, Assessor's Office, 323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237.

Dated at Columbia, Connecticut this 4th day of January 2021.

Linda McDonald, Chairman