

BROOKFIELD SPOTLIGHT



Message from your First Selectman

April 2020

Please know I am thinking of all of you at this challenging time. We have sent regular updates via Spotlight and will continue to through a number of sources. Town Hall is closed to the public, but you can find a list of town department telephone numbers here. Please see my Update #12 as of March 31 for continuing social distancing reminders, information on upcoming board meetings, and access to town hall resources here.

Town Hall staff is working from home this week, and is scheduled to return to their offices on April 6.

Here are the important links to keep up to date on the coronavirus:

[State of Connecticut's Coronavirus Information](#)

[Centers for Disease Control & Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

[Small Business Owners who need assistance in paying workers who hours have been cut](#)

Steve Dunn
First Selectman



Mark Your Calendar

The Board of Finance Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 town budget is scheduled Tuesday, April 7 at 7 p.m. You can watch the meeting live on the town website. If you want to participate in Public Comment, dial-in instructions will be posted on the agenda on the town [website](#).

Town Clerk

The presidential Preference Primary is now scheduled Tuesday, June 2. Visit [website](#) to learn more.



Public Works

The Residential Brush Yard is scheduled to open on Saturday, April 4. We do not anticipate that the virus will affect its



Important Alerts

Assessor

Our department is closed to the public but property cards and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping are available on our [website](#) under "Assessor".

Note to all commercial building owners: You should have received an income and expense form for the 2019 grand list in the mail. If you have not, please print one from our website. Income and expense forms are due in our office no later than June 1, or there will be a 10% penalty. Please note that if you own an apartment building, you must include a list of all residents and their apartment numbers.

If you are 65 or older as of December 31, 2019, you may be eligible for a state or town tax benefit. Please remember that when

operation as long as users maintain a safe working distance. A detailed schedule is on the town [website](#).

We plan to start our paving program as planned with work beginning in mid-April, if the virus does not affect the work crews. A road paving list has been posted to the town [website](#).



Library

The staff at the Brookfield Library has been working diligently to provide accurate informational sites as well as digital library content (audiobooks, e-books, movies, TV shows, and even story hours and book clubs!). Please consult the Library's [website](#) often for updates.



Schools

Rosa Fernandes, Board of Education Chair, has posted a letter to all Administrators, Faculty, and Staff of Brookfield Public Schools is on the town and school [website](#).



Social Services

We are maintaining a Resource Guide for residents on our [website](#) with information regarding Unemployment, Food Banks, Housing, the Stimulus package and Mental Health Resources. The guide is updated as new information becomes available.

Health Department

You can find our health director's daily updates on the town [website](#).



Parks & Rec

We encourage you to get outside and into nature for a walk: your backyard or neighborhood, one of the town's open spaces or a state park. Be sure to follow guidance on social distancing in public parks and trails.

applying you need to submit a copy of your tax return and proof of income including Social Security. Because of the virus, the state is not requiring an original signature, so you can fax or scan all paperwork. Our fax number is 203-740-3871, or scan to Assessor@brookfieldct.gov. If you choose to mail the forms you can use copies, or send us the originals, we will make copies and mail back your originals. You can mail them to the Town Hall, PO BOX 5106, attention Assessor. Please be sure all forms are signed, including your tax return.

All applications for additional veterans, disability, and blind are due by October 1. Because Town Hall is closed to the public, please call our office at 203-775-7302 before dropping off paperwork. We are checking phone messages throughout the day, so feel free to leave your name and number and we will contact you.

Fire Marshal

Open Burning Permits are suspended until the public health emergency is no longer in effect. Information on open burning is on the town [website](#).

Still River Greenway

Too many people were using the Greenway to practice safe social distancing, so we have closed it until further notice. We encourage you, in small family groups, to hike Gurski Farm, Happy Landings, Burr Farm and the Brookfield Open Spaces Legacy properties.

Senior Center

We are communicating timely information and activities to seniors through our online newsletter. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please email senior@brookfieldct.gov. We are currently providing "grab and go" meals for seniors who are registered with us. To find out more about this program, please call 203-775-5308. We have limited numbers available currently.

From the state parks: The trails and grounds of parks and forests are open for solitary outdoor enjoyment, but not groups. You should plan carefully, because many amenities and indoor facilities are closed, and visitors must practice social distancing. Please consult the COVID-19 Updates CT State Parks and Forests [website](#) for more information.



Police Department

The health of our employees, and of the public we serve, is of the highest concern, so we have revised the way we conduct business and temporarily suspended some non-emergency services.

As always - In an Emergency – Please Call 911

Until further notice, the following modifications to service delivery are in effect:

Until further notice, the following modifications to service delivery are in effect:

Non-Emergency Police Complaints

- Officers will maintain social distancing
- Meet officers outside if possible
- Report incidents by telephone when appropriate

Police Records Requests

- Call or email if possible

Non-Emergency Police Inquiries

- Dispatchers will take phone numbers and have an officer call

Police Medical Assistance

- EMS Personnel in proper gear will be primary responders
- Police will remain outside until cleared to enter by EMS

Until further notice, we have suspended:

- Public fingerprinting
- Child car seat Installations
- Police Building tours

Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and understanding.

Congresswoman Hayes Casework on Your Corner

In light of the Governor's Declaration of Public Emergency, we are converting all live meetings to conference calls and rescheduling event appearances and Casework on Your Corners (COYC) through May 5. This includes the COYC at Town Hall on Thursday, April 9, from 1- 4 p.m. We are following guidelines to help contain this public health emergency and

limit exposure to the community. We continue casework services and you can call our office at 860-223-8412. Please continue to follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance by frequently washing your hands and practicing social distancing. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during this time. Contact information for our office, and information regarding COVID19, is available on our [website](#) and the Congresswoman's social media pages.

Brookfield Recovers Together

“Brookfield Recovers” is a special fund created to assist residents affected by the Covid19 emergency. This is how you can help Brookfield residents. Donations will be administered by the town's Department of Social Services with **100%** of all contributions directly benefiting residents in need.

Funds will be used to purchase items to resupply our food pantry and to assist clients with basic needs to help them stay in their homes. Your gift will have a measurable and immediate impact on friends and neighbors. Please consider a donation to **Brookfield Recovers**.

All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

You may send a donation via check, payable to:
Town of Brookfield
(note **Brookfield Recovers** on the memo line)
Brookfield Social Services
100 Pocono Road
Brookfield CT 06804

Stay in the know!



Town Boards and Commissions

Visit our website regularly for updates and schedule of upcoming meetings.

[Visit our website](#)

Town Events and Activities

Follow town department social media pages for all that is going on around town!

[Click to Connect](#)