

BROOKFIELD SPOTLIGHT



Message from your First Selectman

September 2019

Brookfield's Town Center Streetscape Phase 3 grant application has been approved by the state Department of Transportation. Design engineering has begun and we expect to receive the preliminary plans in October.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal informed us that Brookfield has earned the Tree City U.S.A. recognition for 2018 from the Arbor Day Foundation, National Association of State Foresters, and the USDA Forest Service. Healthy community forests help make our state a better place to live by increasing the amount of shade, improving air quality, and creating a natural setting. Moreover, commitment to forestry on a small scale helps further the nation's efforts to conserve energy.

Dispose of your household hazardous waste at the Walnut Hill Church, 156 Walnut Hill Road, in Bethel, from 9 - 1 p.m. on September 7. For directions and information on What to Bring and What NOT to Bring is on the town [website](#).

Yellow Pages Phone Book Fairfield County Directory – Residents have until September 19 to opt out of the upcoming directory, which will be delivered beginning in November. Please see additional information on the town [website](#).

Steve Dunn
First Selectman



Important Alerts

Assessor

If you are a veteran and have a DD-214 that you have never submitted, please submit it to the Town Clerk by September 30 for a tax exemption next year. If you have already submitted a DD-214, you do not need to do so again.

If you are totally disabled or blind and have never submitted an application to the Assessor's Office, please submit one by October 1. If you have submitted one in the



Mark Your Calendar

Coffee with the Community

Saturday, September 28, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at Bagelman, 14 Candlewood Lake Road. We encourage you to stop by with any questions or concerns for selectmen. This event is scheduled on the last Saturday of each month.



Library

past, you do not need to do so again.

If you have a retrofitted vehicle (maximum of 2), every year on or before October 1 you must complete a new application. If this is the first year you own the vehicle, you need to attach a copy of the bill of sale for the car and the retrofitting. All applications are on our [website](#)

If you would like to appeal your car taxes, the Board of Assessment Appeals will meet on September 14 from 9 - 11 a.m. at Town Hall. Please see the application and directions on our [website](#) to be sure you bring in all necessary documentation.

Health Department

Numerous questions have arisen concerning testing of water at the Town Beach. The town tests the water weekly for E. coli bacteria and for microcystins, the toxic product of some blue-green algae that shows up intermittently. Testing has confirmed that it is non-toxic, so is not detrimental to one's health. Testing also confirms that with extremely low levels of toxins, there appears to be no threat to pets or wildlife. If high levels of harmful bacteria or microtoxins are detected, the Parks and Recreation Department will post signs warning people to stay out of the water. We ask for cooperation from all residents.

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month, so if you don't have a library card, come in and get one! First-time new library card holders will get a quality tote. A library card gives you access to so much more than books: there are online resources, museum passes and digital materials to supplement the library's offerings of DVDs, audiobooks, and programs. This month, we will be concluding "One Town One Read" activities with a genealogy class, and an author visit by Dani Shapiro, who penned this year's selection: *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love*.

In September, the library will also be offering fall story times for children, teen gaming nights and movies, meditation classes, an employment workshop and an artist reception, along with our usual book clubs, adult coloring, sewing, computer and language classes, and matinee movies. Visit our [website](#) or better yet, stop by to see us!



Farmers Market

The Brookfield Farmer's Market is open every Friday from 3 - 6 p.m. through October 18 at the Town Hall Campus. It has been a wonderful season so far and it keeps getting better! Upcoming activities include a Harvest Fest on September 27 (rain date October 4). The Mom's club will have pumpkin painting, there will be a drum circle, and a chance to get a basket of goodies from our vendors. [Brookfield CT Farmer's Market Facebook page](#) will highlight vendors and update the status.



Public Works

The following is the remainder of our 2019 paving season projects:

- Beverly Drive and Obtuse Road North are under construction.
- Kimberly and Falls Drive will follow.

And then these roads, all dates to be determined:

- Cherry Lane
- Pasture Drive
- Old Grays Bridge

We added Obtuse Rocks Road to the schedule for 2019 using a process called Fiber Mat. If it successful, it will be a good alternative to the micro paves we have been doing.



The Town Clerk's Office has a new look. Stop by to see how we've updated our Public Search Station to be more user-friendly and comfortable for all Land Record searching, and expanded our recording stations to improve wait time. Please see our photo below! Keep in mind our Municipal Election is on November 5. If you plan to be out of town that day, it's never too early to request an Absentee Ballot Application or download it on our Town Clerk [website](#).

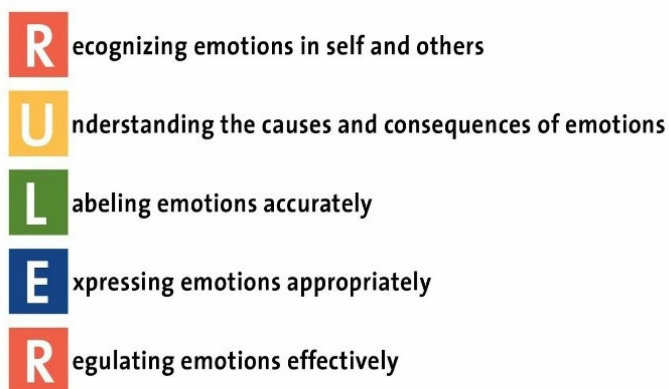


Social & Emotional Learning Approach

What is RULER?

RULER is an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning into schools. Developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, RULER applies "hard science" to teaching what have historically been called "soft skills." RULER teaches the skills of

emotional intelligence — those associated with recognizing, understanding, labeling, expressing, and regulating emotion. Decades of research shows that these skills are essential to effective teaching and learning, sound decision-making, physical and mental health, and success in school and beyond.



In Brookfield we prepare students beyond academics, athletics, and the arts. We have a responsibility to make sure our young people have the social and emotional life skills to navigate their world inside and outside of the classroom, so that they continue developing into healthy adults. District leadership is committed to helping students and educators incorporate social and emotional practices into the school experience throughout Brookfield Public Schools. To learn more about our initiatives, check out our video online at: www.tinyurl.com/y2f22mom.

Back to School Tips for Parents

Receive Texts to Stay Informed

You can now receive school alerts by registering your cell phone number in the PowerSchool parent portal at powerschool.brookfield.k12.ct.us/public/.

Additional Electronic Payment Option for Families

Parents are now able to make various payments online using MySchoolBucks, the same system that is used to make payments to children's school lunch accounts. Notifications will be sent from school when payments can be made for programs, items, and field trips through MySchoolBucks.

Enrollment is easy! If you are already using MySchoolBucks to pay for school meals, your account is ready to go. Just log in and click on School Store. If you don't have an account follow the steps below:

1. Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and register for a free account.
2. Add your students using their school name and student ID.
3. Make purchases with your credit/debit card or electronic check.

If you have any questions, contact MySchoolBucks directly by visiting myschoolbucks.com and clicking "Help", sending an email to support@myschoolbucks.com or calling 855-832-5226.

BHS US News & World Report National Ranking

Brookfield High School ranked among top high schools in the nation according to U.S. News and World Report. Over 23,000 high schools in the U.S. were ranked on a portfolio of six variables: College Readiness, Math and Reading Proficiency, Math and Reading Performance, Underserved Student

Performance, College Curriculum Breadth,
and Graduation Rate.

We are proud of Brookfield High School's administration, faculty, staff, and students for the prestigious honor of being identified by U. S. News and World Report, as a "Best" High School and are excited to display a U.S. News Best High Schools award badge.



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](#)