

Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut
October - December 2022; Issue 28

What building do you need?

Department phone numbers start with 860-779-3411, followed by the option number.

4 Wolf Den Rd

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Selectman's Office - option 2

Town Clerk - option 4

Registrar of Voters - option 4

Tax Office - option 5

Assessor's Office - option 6

69 South Main St.

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Parks and Recreation - option 7

Financial Department - option 8

Building Official - option 9

Fire Marshall - option 9

Land Use Department - option 9

Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday:
8:00am - 5:00pm

Thursdays: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: Closed

Highway Department, option 3

95 Rukstela Rd

Hours: Monday - Thursday:

7:00am - 4:00pm

Friday: 7:00am - 11:00am

Brooklyn Town Library

10 Canterbury Rd 860-774-0649

Mon, Fri, & Sat: 9:30-3pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, &

Thursday: 12pm-5:30pm

Town Offices Will be Closed On:

October 10: Columbus Day

November 23: Closing at 12:15pm

November 24: Thanksgiving

December 26: Observe Christmas

January 2: Observe New Year's Day

Veteran's Day



Please join the Town to honor our veterans on Friday, November 11, 2022 at 1pm at the monuments across from Mortlake Fire Department. A short ceremony will be held to honor our veterans.

Please come show your support!

From the Desk of the First Selectman

I would like to welcome to Renee Sangermano as the new Parks and Recreation Director! Renee previously worked as the Recreation Director in Jaffrey, New Hampshire and has a wealth of experience and energy! Her first day is October 5th. Welcome!

WELCOME!

I would like to introduce the new resident trooper, Kyle Ambrose! He is a Brooklyn resident and is stationed at the Town Hall with a new satellite office at the Brooklyn Middle School.

With winter around the corner, it may bring worries about paying for fuel. If you need help, please contact the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) at 211 between November 1 and April 30th. Another program that may help is Access Community Action Agency (CAA) (Danielson—860-412-1600) (Willimantic—860-450-7400).

Please notice the new painting of our Town Hall! We can now all be proud of the building.

The Transfer Station has had many updates in the last few months. A new sign at the gate has been added and an additional container to recycle cardboard has been added. A new scale that was purchased with town Capital funds, will be installed soon. See pages 8 thru 11 for more information about the Transfer Station.

The committee reviewing the American Rescue Plan Act funds allocated to Brooklyn has been reviewing the many requests received from nonprofits, Town agencies, and others. After making decisions on how to spend the funds it will be brought to a public forum. Please stay tuned for more information and enjoy this edition of the newsletter!

Austin Tanner, First Selectman

News From the Tax Collector's Office

The second installment of real estate and personal property taxes are due this month. Also the first installment of sewer is due; please see note below. You can pay your bills three different ways:

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

-  You can mail in a check to PO Box 253, Brooklyn, CT 06234.
-  You can pay online with a credit card (2.50% fees for a credit/debit card, \$3.95 fee for a Visa Debit Card ONLY, and \$2.00 for an electronic check).
-  You can also come into the office and pay in person with check, cash, or card (fees still apply if you pay in the office).
-  You can drop off your check payment in the drop box located at the top of the stairs at the Town Hall.

The due dates for this year's taxes are:
 October 1st - November 1st  January 1st - February 1st  April 1st - May 1st

Please Note: The 2021 Grand List Sewer Usage bills are due between October 1, 2022 and November 1, 2022. The sewer usage bills were delayed due to the Water Pollution Control Authority not passing their budget until September 19, 2022.

The mill rate for the 2021 Grand List tax bills is 27.48.

Tax Bills are Online!

- Go to www.brooklynct.org
- Click on "Online Payments."
- You will be brought to the search page. Type in your last name space first initial (ex. John Doe would type in Doe J).
- You will be able to see your tax bills, date(s) of payment, and how much you paid to the Town of Brooklyn during a calendar year. You can also print out your tax bills for your records.



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News from the Assessor's Office

Please visit our website at www.brooklynct.org for any forms that may pertain to you.

Assessor

860-779-3411

Option 6

Fax: 860-779-7853

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

 **PLEASE NOTE:** During the month of October our staff will be conducting Building Permits and Sales Inspections and we may at times be out of the office. Please call 860-779-3411 option 6 to insure someone will be able to assist you.

 **PA 490 Applications for Open Space, Farm Land & Forest Land** are being accepted September 1st until October 31st 2022. Applications are available on our website.



 **Annual Farm Building Exemption** forms need to be **notarized** and **filed** by November 1, 2022.



 **Personal Property Declarations** deadline is November 1, 2022. If you are mailing your declaration, it must be postmarked by November 1, 2022. **Failure to file or filing late will result in a 25% Penalty assessment.** Note: Real property or Connecticut registered motor vehicles **do not** need to be declared. Taxable personal property includes: **Unregistered motor vehicles, vehicles located in Connecticut but registered in another state, horses, ponies manufacturing machinery and equipment, business furniture and fixtures, farm machinery, farming tools, mechanics tools, electronic data processing equipment, telecommunication equipment, cable conduits, pipes, poles, business expended supplies and other property such as billboards, video games, vending machines, leasehold improvements, etc.**

 **New Commercial Truck** applications must be completed and filed by November 1, 2022.



 **New Totally Disabled/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption** forms must be filed by November 1, 2022. The form can be found on our website under Ambulance/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption.



 **Armed Service Members:** Connecticut Resident in Military Service or Exemption for Federal Soldiers & Sailors Civil Relief Act, as well as In-Service Veteran's Exemption forms are available on our website and must be filed with the Assessor by **December 31, 2022** for your **July 2022** bill.

 **New Totally & Permanently Disabled (under the age of 65)** must be filed by January 31, 2023. Proof of award is required.

As always, we welcome any questions or comments.

You may contact us at 860-779-3411 option 6.

Best wishes for the Holiday Season!

Stephanie M. Kosoff CCMA I, Assessor

Maryann E. Szela Assistant Assessor

Registrars of Voters

New Districting Information & Election Information
Effective November 8, 2022 Election

Registrars of Voters

860-779-3411

Option 4

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

Office Hours:

Tuesdays:

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Questions can be referred to the Town Clerk all other times.

As a result of the population shift from the 2020 U.S. Federal Census, the Connecticut Reapportionment Commission enacted new state assembly district boundaries on February 10, 2022. As a result, there are now **TWO** voting districts in the Town of Brooklyn. All voters will continue to vote at the Brooklyn Middle School, 119 Gorman Road, Brooklyn, CT. Please visit our website where there is more information about redistricting including a street list and a sample ballot lookup tool. Our website address is www.brooklynct.org/registrar-of-voters. If you have any questions, please contact us at 860-779-3411 ext 19 for Nancy Ives and ext 29 for Jo Ann Gerardi-Voccio.

In addition, we will be holding an election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 for State positions and Brooklyn's Registrar of Voters. Make sure you are registered to vote so you have a voice in what matters to you. The election will be held at the Brooklyn Middle School, 119 Gorman Road, Brooklyn CT from 6:00am-8:00pm. If you are interested in working the election, please contact the Registrars at the number above or complete the online application on our website. You will be paid for training, setting up the night before and the entire election day. All meals are provided!!

Nancy Ives and Jo Ann Gerardi-Voccio
Town of Brooklyn Registrars of Voters



From the Desk of the Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

As fall approaches and we think of **turning our clocks back on Sunday, November 6th**, I would like to remind everyone that it is also time to change and test the batteries in our smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Additionally, it's the perfect time to make a fire escape plan or have a fire drill to make sure everyone remembers the plan.

For all you wood burning folks, it is a great time to have your stoves and chimneys cleaned and get them ready for the season ahead. Also, please remember to burn only seasoned wood and to put ashes into a metal container. Put the ashes outside, away from your house or other structures. If you have a pellet stove, remember to keep it clean to prevent build up and increase heat output.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 860-779-3411, Option 9.

Douglas P. Kramer, Sr.
Fire Marshal



Parks & Recreation

860-779-3411

option 7

Fax: 860-779-9372

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

Parks & Recreation Fall Update

Autumn Greetings from the Parks & Recreation Department!



We have had quite a lot of changes and a flurry of activity here at the department this summer and fall. With a change of directors, we wish our departing Director – Bucky Lohbusch – good luck in his new venture and welcome our new Director – Renee Sangermano - a warm hello!



Over the next few months, we will be hosting our holiday programs and events, such as our Toy Drive, Letters to Santa, Coloring and Lighting Contests. We will also be looking forward to insights and ideas from our new department leader.



We look forward to seeing what our spring lineup will look like and are excited to offer the programs, trips and events that our new director will create and oversee.



Our Halloween event will be held on Oct 14th & 15th at the fairgrounds again this year. FEARgrounds consists of two haunted houses, bonfire with family friendly entertainment such as face painting, DJ and other fun things to do or watch.

As the fall proceeds, look for our newest member of the team as they settle in at our South Main St office!

Be sure to check out all our offerings at our webpage or like us on Facebook – Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation!



Check out pages 6 and 7 for the press release about Renee Sangermano as the new director!



Town of Brooklyn Hires Renee Sangermano as New Parks and Recreation Director

The Town of Brooklyn officially welcomed Renee Sangermano of Jaffrey, NH as their new Director of Parks and Recreation on October 5th. Sangermano fills the vacant position left in June by longtime Director Matthew “Bucky” Lohbusch, now of Killingly Parks and Recreation Department. Brooklyn’s First Selectman Austin Tanner said, “The people of Brooklyn value the benefits a good rec department brings to the town. Renee is a dynamic director who comes highly recommended. I am excited to have her on board. Her experience and skills will bring Brooklyn Rec to higher levels.”

Mike Gaudreau, chairman of Brooklyn’s Parks and Recreation Commission shared, “As chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, I am excited to welcome our new director, Renee. I look forward to working with her to continue existing programs, as well as developing new ones under her direction. Bucky left a great legacy for the town, but a new era will be starting, and we hope all the towns people will welcome Renee to Brooklyn.”

Before joining the Brooklyn Recreation Department, Sangermano had taken an 18-month hiatus from the parks and recreation field. During this time, she completed her bachelor’s degree in Human Services at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, NH, and served as the Advancement Assistant for Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC). CVTC is a regional non-profit organization in southwestern New Hampshire serving 34 towns (total pop. 109,000) through a Volunteer Driver Program. Her role aided the organization in acquiring resources: volunteers and funding, through community outreach, marketing, and assisting the executive director with grant writing and fundraising appeals. “I have enjoyed my time working with CVTC. The organization makes such a positive impact on the lives of so many. It really has filled my heart to be part of it for the past year. I have also learned a great deal about the social determinants of health and using data to show impact. All skills I can transfer back into my work in parks and recreation,” says Sangermano.

Sangermano has eight years of experience in the parks and recreation field. She served as the Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Jaffrey, N.H. (pop. 5,200) for six years. Here she used the management of recreational programs and facilities to improve public health and wellness, better the environment, and build a sense of community. Sangermano explained, “In Jaffrey, I was the only full-time employee in the recreation department for most of my time there. This required me to fulfill the responsibilities of what would traditionally be a program coordinator or manager position in addition to my director duties. I focused much of the department’s efforts on expanding programs for our older adult residents and teenagers as both groups were previously underserved. I also focused on facility development to increase safety and playability at all recreational facilities in town. I was really trying to develop programs and facilities that showcased that recreation is more than youth sports. We are here to serve all members of the community in a variety of health and wellness pursuits.”

She twice served as the Interim Recreation Director for the Town of Rindge, N.H. (pop. 6,000) where she also served two years as the town’s Recreation Program Coordinator. Sangermano said both Jaffrey and Rindge Recreation Departments are small, rural departments, which required her to “wear many hats” within the organizations and learn the many factors that go into a good, professional department.

Sangermano was a presenter at the 2018 Northern New England’s Recreation and Park Conference on the topic of creating a Youth Advisory Committee to provide youth input and volunteer service within municipal government. She was selected to be a presenter at the 2020 National Recreation and Park Association’s Annual conference for the same topic, although could not attend due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Sangermano is the recipient of the New Hampshire Recreation and Park Association's Don Heyliger Young Professional Award ('19). This award is presented to recognize a member of NHRPA, under the age of 40, who demonstrates leadership, professionalism, and innovation throughout their career, both within the organization and their community. This award is not presented annually.

Sangermano is excited to get started in Brooklyn. She says, “Parks and recreation departments build better quality of life for the community by focusing on health and wellness of the mind, body, spirit, and surroundings. Brooklyn is blessed to have a wealth of park space, trail systems, and a strong foundation in its recreational programming. I feel very fortunate to have been selected to be Brooklyn’s next director and work with the department’s dedicated staff. Bucky built a solid foundation here on which to grow the department. I look forward to spending the next few months getting to know the residents, learning more about the community, and building partnerships so I may best serve in my role.”

Sangermano has earned the Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) and Certified Youth Sports Administrator (CYSA) distinctions. She is a member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). She is a Leadership New Hampshire alumna ('21), a program for selected community leaders to connect and learn about complex statewide concerns. Sangermano is a 2019 recipient of *The Keene Sentinel* and *The Business Journal of Greater Keene, Brattleboro, and Peterborough*’s Trendsetter Award. This annual award is presented to residents of New Hampshire’s Monadnock Region, under the age of 40, who are committed to making meaningful contributions and adding value within their workplace and community. Sangermano is the mother of three teenagers, a life-long volunteer and has over ten years of experience as a homeschooling parent. In her free time, she enjoys biking rail-trails, hiking mountains, and road-tripping to national parks. She recently purchased a nearly 100-year-old home in Norwich, CT. She is currently working on her “fixer-upper” while she temporarily lives in Voluntown, CT.



Recycling



The Town of Brooklyn offers curbside recycling to our residents. Currently, WILLIWASTE is the provider. Please review the list for acceptable recyclable items.

Recycle These Items Only

- ✓ Cardboard
- ✓ Newspaper
- ✓ Magazines & Junk Mail
- ✓ Glass & Plastic Bottles
- ✓ Aluminum Cans & Foil
- ✓ Metal & Tin Cans

Items Not Allowed

- ✗ No Trash
- ✗ No Plastic Bags
- ✗ No Foods
- ✗ Styrofoam
- ✗ Electronics
- ✗ No Yard or Bulky Waste

When it comes to recycling, WILLIWASTE wants to keep it simple; when in doubt, throw it out! There are a lot of items out there that are recyclable, but not necessarily considered acceptable in our curbside recycling collection program. Please visit our website to learn more www.williwaste.com/recycling.

Further information is also available on the Town's website or call the First Selectman's Office at 860-779-3411. Thank you for your part in cleaning the environment!



Transfer Station Hours

Hours of Business:

Winter hours beginning November 9th

Wednesday & Friday: 10am – 4pm

Saturday: 8am – 4pm

Holiday Hours:

Friday, November 11th - Closed

Friday, November 25th - Closed

Saturday, December 24th - Closed

Saturday, December 31st - Closed

BROOKLYN TRANSFER STATION

77 RUKSTELA RD. BROOKLYN, CT 06234

860-779-1105

Hours of Operation:

Winter Hours (November – March)

Wednesday & Friday 10am-4pm & Saturday 8am-4pm

Holiday Hours:

Closing at 12:15pm on Wednesday, Nov. 23rd and Saturday, Dec. 24th

Closed on Friday, November 25th

 **Municipal Solid Waste:** This is household garbage and should be placed in Green Town of Brooklyn bags and disposed of in the compactor. Bag cost is \$7.00 per box of five 13-gallon bags; \$10.00 per roll of five 33 gallon bags. Bags can be purchased individually for \$2.00 each.

 **Bulky Waste:** Any debris such as construction, demolition, or land clearing waste. This should be weighed at the scale house and disposed of in bulky waste containers at 0.12 cents per pound. There is a \$3.00 minimum for any bulky waste.

 **Tires:** Tires are accepted and have their own container. Car tires \$2.00 off the rim, \$5.00 on the rim. Truck tires \$5.00 off the rim, \$10.00 on the rim.

 **Propane Tanks:** \$5.00

 **Refrigerators and Freezers:** Cost is \$15.00 to dump and the doors must be removed.

 **Couches & Chairs:** Cost is \$20.00 to dump in bulky waste container. Convertible couches must be weighed at the scale house.

 **Metals:** Scrap metals, wires, fencing, etc. are free to dump. Washers and dryers also fall into this category.

 **Brush:** Christmas trees and brush are accepted and put in the brush pile. No limbs over 4" in diameter will be accepted. No other wood products, i.e., such as decking, fences, scrap lumber.

 **Leaves:** Leaves are accepted into the compost pile but should not be left in bags.

 **Paint:** Oil and latex paints can be collected. Please see Transfer Station Attendant.

 **Electronic Waste:** Please place in the POD at the Transfer Station.

There is no longer a fee for mattresses and box springs.

Yearly Calendar

January 2022 - December 2022

PLEASE HAVE YOUR WASTE & RECYCLE OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE. THANK YOU

January 2022 1

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February 2022 2

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March 2022 3

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April 2022 4

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May 2022 5

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June 2022 6

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July 2022 7

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August 2022 8

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September 2022 9

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November 2022 11

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December 2022 12

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YOUR WEEK OF SERVICE IS HIGHLIGHTED IN DARK SHADE
YOUR PICKUP DAY IS _____

If you happen to currently pay WWP for weekly trash service, your new collection day will be on the same day as the recycling -but- on a weekly schedule.

If you would like to sign up for trash service, please contact WWP at 860-423-4527 or at Williwaste.com

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ALLEN HILL RD	B & B RD	APPELL RD	BAILEY ST	ALMADA DR
BARBERRY DR	BARRETT HILL RD	BUSH HILL RD	COTE DR	ANDERSON RD
BLUEBERRY LN	BRICK YARD RD	CHERRY HILL RD	CUNDALL ST	AUGUST DR
BRENN RD	BROWN RD	COSTELLO RD	ELM ST	BAILEY WOODS
CEDAR DR	BUNNY LN	ELLIOT RD	ERIN DR	BASS LN
CHRISTIAN HILL RD	CHURCH ST	FITZGERALD RD	FORTIN DR	BEECHER RD
CLEARVIEW DR	CLAUDIA ST	GRANT HILL RD	FRONT ST	BLACKWELLS LANDING
CREAMERY BROOK RD	CLIFF ST	HARTFORD RD (RTE 6)	HAMILTON AVE	CANTERBURY RD
DAWN RD	COMMON WAY DR	HERRICK RD	HILLSIDE DR	CREASEY RD
ENNIS RD	DARBY RD	LASALLETTE DR	JUNIPER WAY	CRICKETT LN
FRANKLIN DR	DAY ST	LAUREL HILL RD	KATHLEEN DR	EASY ST
GORMAN RD	FAIRWAY DR	OLD KIMBALL RD	LOCKWOOD AVE	EINO DR
GRANDVIEW TER	FRANCIS LN	POMFRET RD	MIDDLE ST	FAIRGROUNDS RD
MAPLE CIR	GREENWAY DR	PRESTON RD	NELSON ST	GRASS RD
MAYNARD RD	HENRY RD	PUTNAM PL	PLEASANT VIEW DR	GUNNAR DR
OAKRIDGE DR	HICKORY LN	ROBBINS RD	PROULX ST	GREEN DR
PHEASANT LN	HUGH DR	SPAUDING RD	QUEBEC SQ	HAPPY LN
PRINCE HILL RD	HYDE RD	STETSON RD	ROBERT ST	HARRIS AVE
PURVIS RD	MALBONE LN	WOLF DEN RD	RONALD ST	KARA RD
RIVERWALK DR	MEADOWBROOK DR	WOODLAND DR	RUSSELL AVE	MASON HILL RD
RUKSTELA RD	PAULA ST	WOODWARD OLDHOUSE RD	SALMON DR	MASON RD
SCHOOL ST	PAULINE ST	WOODWARD RD	SOUTH MAIN ST	NORTH SOCIETY RD
SUNSET TER	PINE TREE TER		SOUTH ST	PARADISE DR
SUZANNE LN	PLAZA ST		ST REGIS DR.	PIERCE AVE
WAUREGAN RD	POMFRET LANDING RD		TIFFANY ST	SUNSET DR
	PROVIDENCE RD (RTE 6)		VENTURA DR	SUNSET DR EXT
	RIVER FARM DR			TATNIC HILL RD
	ROBIN WAY			TATNIC RD
	WESTVIEW DR			TRIPP HOLLOW RD
	WHITE BROOK DR			VINA LN
				WINDHAM RD
				WINDING RD