

Town of South Windsor

Town Manager's Report April 2021

*Michael Maniscalco
Town Manager*



The Town Manager's Report will be delivered to the Town Council via email and at the Town Council meeting.



Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

Monthly Statistics February 2021:

Each month we publish the totals of some of our more common calls for service. We have seen some minor fluctuations in activity levels as school schedules change and COVID trends shift. Patrol staff continue to proactively check businesses and facilities that remain closed due to the public health crisis. February's numbers are below:

Total Computer Aided Dispatch Entries:	2175
9-1-1 Calls Received:	525
Routine Calls Received/Outgoing:	3498
Directed Patrol/Premise Checks:	1032
Motor Vehicle Stops:	198
Medical Assists/Emot. Dist. Persons:	92
Suspicious:	66
Alarms:	75
Motor Vehicle Accidents:	22
Welfare Check:	24
Assist Outside Agency:	27
Animal Problem:	25
Citizen Assist:	10
Miscellaneous Service:	5
Collision Reports:	23
BOLO:	16
Disabled Motor Vehicle:	21
Larceny - Motor Vehicle:	2
Larceny:	25
Hazardous Conditions:	11
Pistol Permits:	15
Burglary - Motor Vehicle:	2
Civil Matter:	10
911 Check:	6
Fraud:	10
Domestic Dispute:	14
Narcotics Violation:	4
Violation of Town Ordinance:	9
Youth Problem:	9

COVID 19 Update:

COVID numbers continue to exist at a manageable level. With approximately 80% of police department staff vaccinated (the remaining 20% opted out of the vaccine) we cautiously feel insulated from any widespread outbreaks within our ranks. Different members of the community have different levels of apparent concern and, as an agency, we continue to respond to all complaints regardless of their nature and COVID status.

As a town we continue to enjoy large scale voluntary compliance from the public with regards to COVID precautions and restrictions.

Personnel and Recruiting Status:

The strength of the South Windsor Police Department always has been, and continues to be, the staff who keep things moving day in and day out. Officer Pierpont completed her field training and is now operating independently as a patrol officer. Officer Kyle Kolcharno's basic training has transitioned from a virtual setting to an in person commuter setting at the Academy facility in Meriden.

Dispatcher Ryan Fraley is well into his field training program and is progressing nicely. He was hired to fill a vacancy that was created when Dispatcher Tracy Bowman resigned in the Fall of 2020.

During the month of March, Officer Megan Casey resigned from her position as a police officer in South Windsor. This resignation creates a second vacancy within our sworn ranks. After a strong and concerted recruiting push this month, we will begin accepting applications in April. The latest

Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

recruiting push includes all of the traditional recruiting methods, however we have also added recruiting efforts aimed at attracting interest from some of the racial and ethnic groups that are underrepresented within our ranks.

Deputy Chief Eckblom's promotion in January created the need and opportunity for additional promotions. This month three separate competitive promotional processes were conducted and the following personnel have been chosen for promotion: Sergeant Christopher Duchesne will be promoted to Lieutenant; Corporal David Gesualdi will be promoted to Sergeant; and Officers Christopher Poehnert and Joseph Futtner will be promoted to the rank of Corporal. The outside assessors who assisted with this promotional process all commended the very high quality and caliber of the candidates who tested.

Local and National Protests and Social Movements:

The South Windsor Police Department remains strongly opposed to racism and biased policing. It continues to serve the public with the element of its mission to "Respect the Rights of Individuals" in mind.

Although the dominant national narrative speaks to equality between the black and the white community, the South Windsor Police Department continues to respect the rights of all individuals who are victimized and/or marginalized within society. This includes our relatively high population of Asian citizens as well as those with different religious and gender/sexual identities.

As an agency, and as a profession, we continue to stand ready to engage in crucial conversations to make meaningful change that enhances the world that we live in.

Community Activities and Support from our Citizens:

As has been the case in previous months, the public health crisis continues to impact our ability to host and be involved in various community policing events. Despite this impact, we continue to seek out ways to engage the community both in person and virtually.

Chief Lindstrom was able to be a virtual guest reader to the students from Pleasant Valley Elementary School and Officer Kevin Geraci (currently assigned to the Center for Digital Investigations) continues to provide virtual internet safety presentations for parents in South Windsor.

Traffic Safety:

As the COVID environment has reduced the number of daily travelers, we continue to see some high risk behaviors from the motoring public. Our Traffic Unit continues to exercise the "3 E's" of Engineering, Enforcement, and Education as we address complaints ranging from speed to Commercial Vehicle travel. We continue to work in partnership with the Office of the State Traffic Authority to address traffic proposals, and projects.

Distracted driving and driving under the influence continue to be issues that put the motoring public at risk. We continue to employ the belief that high visibility patrols and frequent motor vehicle stops serve to encourage safe and legal motor vehicle

Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

practices. Agency personnel remain busy trying to enforce motor vehicle laws while the police department works with Town Highway and Engineering to make sure the roads are well designed, appropriately marked, and optimal for motorist safety.

Police Activity and Significant Events:

The South Windsor Police Department remains active and dedicated to the traditional law enforcement function by responding to the Public's Needs despite our staff having approximately 200 contacts with known COVID positive individuals.

As COVID and social justice issues continue to dominate our landscape, we must be vigilant to not turn our backs on other important issues. The opioid crisis continues to rage on and in March police personnel saved two lives by using Narcan to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

During the month of March, Chief Lindstrom had the pleasure of issuing over 30 awards to members of the police department. These awards ranged from Letters of Commendation for Narcan saves, to lifesaving awards for actions involving the rapid deployment of a tourniquet used to stop a life threatening bleed.

As we watched our own Officer Edmund Klein get deployed overseas, our Dispatchers Union moved to begin the R.E.D. Friday Initiative. This initiative serves to Remember Everyone Deployed (R.E.D.) by wearing a red t-shirt beneath their uniform shirt every Friday until Ofc. Klein returns from deployment.

The police department's written operational

directives continue to be reviewed and revised where necessary. This past month language was added to our Customer Complaint policy that further defines what being placed on Administrative Leave entails. Such instances are luckily very few and far between, however this topic is serious in nature and the time to revisit it is not during the actual event. Revising this policy aligns with the "Policy and Oversight" that is called for in President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and what is expected in Connecticut's Police Accountability Act.

Along the same lines, in an effort to increase the number of non-confrontational contacts between police and local youth, Officer. Korchari (the SRO at SWHS) continues his Rewards Program. To date he has issued over 80 personally written notes of recognition for positive gestures, acts of kindness, and personal improvements. This program continues to solidify the SRO's role in school and improve the community.

We also began the process of cross-training several civilian staff members in order to maintain continuous operations in the event of staff absences. These adjustments will better allow for anticipated and unexpected absences without an interruption to our services.

In mid-March a referendum passed that approved money for a renovation and expansion of the women's locker room at police headquarters. We are thankful for the community support and look forward to the planning and construction of this project.

In the pre-dawn hours of March 22, 2021, police personnel responded to an industrial accident on

Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

Talbot Lane. This incident turned out to be a great example of teamwork and cooperation between several different departments and entities. Personnel from the police department, fire department, public works, Ambulance Service of Manchester, Life Star, and Environmental Services Inc., all worked together over several hours to extricate and provide lifesaving medical care to a man trapped in a piece of machinery.

Unlocked Car Burglaries & Car Thefts (cont. from last month):

This has become a constant reminder over the past couple years, everyone needs to lock their cars. Despite what you may read on social media, these are not “break-ins” or “hotwired” cars. Historically, the frequency of these incidents increases as the weather improves. In most cases these cars are left unlocked with a key or key fob in it. Often people forget that new cars come with a spare key/keyfob and leave it in the glove compartment.

Most of Connecticut continues to experience car burglaries and car thefts. The towns of Vernon, Tolland and Stafford have been the latest target for these groups of car burglars.

This is not a new problem; however with the increase in “push button start” cars, people have a tendency to leave the fob in the car. This makes it very easy for the youths to find a car to take. Locking the car is the answer; none of the stolen cars had windows smashed or were jimmied open. The crimes are generally being committed by groups of juveniles who arrive in a neighborhood in a stolen car overnight, try door handles and enter unlocked cars. If an unlocked car is found they look for keys or key fobs to take the car, or

steal valuables located inside the vehicle. The stolen cars are generally used to “joyride” and are frequently recovered in Hartford or nearby once they run out of gas.

The activity seems to be increasing due to several recent factors: Current legislation aimed at not stigmatizing juveniles for crimes they have committed offers few, if any, consequences if they are caught. Moreover, the law was changed prohibiting police from chasing cars except in extremely serious, physical injury crimes. These factors taken together embolden the would-be car thieves and they have very little, if any, concern about the consequences of being caught.

We can eliminate the issue locally by “hardening the target”; if we all lock up our vehicles, they will move to other areas to find easy targets. As always, we urge citizens to report suspicious activity immediately.

Never too early to prepare for an emergency (cont. from last month):

The message below has been a frequent post on Facebook and in this monthly report. As we look to recover from COVID-19 as a community and prepare for the “second wave” in the fall, I hope that our citizens will think about all-hazard preparations.

The Ready.gov webpage has great information pages on preparation for natural disasters, severe weather, and active shooters. Please share with friends and family that may rely on you in a severe weather event, or have questions about how to react to an active shooter event.

We have had our share of severe weather in

Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

Connecticut and now is a good time to review your plan to protect yourself and your family.

<https://www.ready.gov/>

Follow us on Social Media:

We continue to have a strong presence on Social Media and update our citizens on all kinds of activity. Our Facebook page and Twitter feed are also displayed on our webpage <https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/police>. We encourage everyone to follow us and share information with friends and family.

Facebook: South Windsor Police Department

Twitter: @SWPD_PIO

Public Works Department

Street Services

Drainage work continues in preparation for upcoming road resurfacing projects. The weather has been on our side for the most part and the department has taken advantage of the mild temperatures to get a significant head start on this work.

Maintainers have been working in the salt barn cleaning the concrete walls in preparation for re-sealing. When the facility was built in 2004, the walls were seal coated to protect them from constant contact with salt. Concrete doesn't like salt, but salt loves concrete. Taking these measures now, should ensure the longevity of this critical facility.

The pothole crew assisted Water Pollution Control several days with their by-pass pumping project on Chapel and Long Hill Rds. Crews built ramps over temporary pipes to facilitate traffic flow throughout the project, this in addition to working on potholes throughout town.

Maintainers continue to prep and repair curb damage from the winter storm plowing operations.



Vibert Road

Vibert Road is in the process of being regraded. Our crews are delivering process to the site so the contractor can rebuild a smooth surface on this unimproved road. This is a well-traveled road year-round as residents take in the view of the CT river or launch their boats for a day of fishing. In addition, crews worked to remove debris from the boat ramp to make it more accessible.

The annual street sweeping program is under way in District #1 on the east side of town. Crews will be out daily, weather permitting, to complete this important project which is mandated by our Municipal Storm Water Permit.

The Fleet Service Department assisted Streets with a railing replacement on the Clark St bridge.

Litter continues to be problematic with people dumping trash, mattresses, furniture and the like in some remote areas of town. It's unfortunate that this happens and certainly requires us to divert from essential projects to clean up the mess.

There were several tree removals undertaken during the month. Streets crews assisted the Parks crews on several trees projects as well.

The sign shop continues to be busy with mailbox repairs and emergency replacement of various signs throughout town. The shop also replaced 21 regulatory and warning signs throughout the month. The shop also set up signage and lighting for the March referendum.

Residents are encouraged to use Connect South Windsor to report hazards. Visit www.southwindsor-ct.gov/connect or look for the app for iPhones and Androids.

Finance Department

Mary Huda
Assessor

Patricia Perry
Director of Finance

Jennifer Hilinski-Shirley
Collector of Revenue

Collector of Revenue

Commercial sewer bills were mailed March 19, 2021, they are due April 1, 2021 and the last day to pay without penalty is May 3, 2021.

Tax time is upon us if you need 2020 tax information to complete your income tax return information is available on line at: <https://www.mytaxbill.org/inet/bill/home.do?town=southwindsor> or send an email to taxcollector@southwindsor-ct.gov, please allow 48 business hours for a response. To schedule an appointment to purchase receipts at the cost of fifty cents per page, call 860-644-2511 ext. 321.

Our office encourages social distancing through the use of secure drop boxes, which are located in the front drive way of Town Hall and mounted to the outside of the front entrance of Town Hall. Please note that the boxes are secure, emptied twice daily by staff and monitored by video. Our office is available to answer questions or schedule an appointment at Town Hall by calling 860-644-2511 extension 321 or emailing taxcollector@southwindsor-ct.gov.

Health Department

Heather Oatis
Environmental Health Officer

The South Windsor Health Department (SW HD) continues to be very busy with the COVID-19 response. The SW HD is working with the Windsor Health Department through our Mass Dispensing Area 31 agreement to continue vaccinating the priority groups as identified by the State of Connecticut. Clinics continue to be held weekly in Windsor on Tuesday and in South Windsor on Thursday. SW Human Services has been helping get the 75+ age group residents registered for their vaccines, and filling empty vaccine time slots due to no-shows with eligible seniors to eliminate vaccine waste. To date, we have assisted with the administration of over 4,000 vaccines. The vaccination site will be moved out of Wapping School in the coming weeks to allow for Parks and Recreation to start their reopening process as the sector rules allow.

All three of the new staff hired under the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Enhancing Detection Cooperative Agreement are diligently working on contact tracing and compliance monitoring at local businesses.

In addition to all the activities for COVID-19 response, the SWHD also performed the routine septic inspections required, followed up on many complaints and other requests for service, continued relicensure of food service establishments and cosmetology establishments for 2021, licensed food trucks for small temporary events, and has assisted with other Emergency Management tasks as needed.

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services



Adult & Senior Services Reopening Plans

Plans are underway to reopen programs for seniors beginning in May. While certain appointment based services have already restarted (foot care, hearing clinic, therapeutic massages, fitness center, income tax assistance), social programs will be restarting on May 3. All recommended safety guidelines will be in effect. Many of our exercise classes and educational programs will be offered in a hybrid model. This will accommodate those who wish to stay out of public places, while those who are comfortable coming out or who can't access virtual programs will have in person options. We are excited!

Vaccine Appointment Assistance

Since last month's update, we have been able to provide vaccine appointments to 70 people by partnering with Intercommunity Health Center on Sullivan Ave, in addition to providing eight individuals who are considered homebound, with a vaccine in their home! Intercommunity has been amazing to work with and they provided relief to South Windsor residents!!!! We are thrilled to have made this connection! Staff in the Adult and Senior Services Division of Human Services has helped a total of 248 people from the beginning

with appointments and this does not include the number of calls staff has fielded with general questions or the number of emails received!

A note from a happy customer to Victoria for her assistance:

Thank you so much for all the time you spent to get me an appointment. It is very much appreciated. The world needs more kind and thoughtful people like you. God Bless. Claudette and Doreen.

Postcard

Over 3,000 residents over the age of 55 received a postcard from the Adult and Senior Services Division showcasing the services offered. People

See below for a variety of local and statewide organizations that can help you. We are here to help! Call us for services and support at 860-648-6361

Sharon - Call Manager
Susan - Program Coordinator
Cathy - Transportation Coordinator

♥ We can help you with:

- Mental Health Service Referrals
- Wellness Check-ins
- Food and financial assistance, information and referrals
- Covid-19 information and non-emergency assistance

Call 860-648-6361

♥ Stay connected!
www.facebook.com/swseniorcenter
www.southwindsor-ct.gov/humanservices
or email swseniors@southwindsor.org

♥ 211
Connects callers, at no cost, to critical health and human services. You can get help with food, mental health services, housing, substance abuse, basic needs, crisis, taxes, Covid-19 information and much more. Call 211 or go to www.211ct.org.

Adult and Senior Services Division
Human Services Department
150 Newer Road
South Windsor, CT 06074

South Windsor
Human Services

South Windsor Adult & Senior Services CARES About YOU and Your Wellbeing!
We know that your lives have changed a lot these last few months and we are here to support you. If you have mental health concerns or are worried about your basic needs, do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Please call us for help with any of the following at 860-648-6361:

- ♥ Interested in receiving our monthly newsletter?
Our recent newsletter can be mailed to residents 55+ or it can be found on our website: www.southwindsor-ct.gov/adult-senior-services/pages/senior-newsletters
- ♥ Would you like to receive telephone reassurance from us or a volunteer friendly caller?
- ♥ We are still offering transportation!
Transportation is available to medical appointments, Stop and Shop, Geissler's, pharmacies, and local errands including the library and hair appointments.
- ♥ Are you in need of food? We can help you with these resources:
 - South Windsor Food & Fuel Bank
 - Senior Center Grab and Go Meals
 - Meals on Wheels
 - SNAP
 - Mobile Food Share: Wapping Community Church, every other Thursday 11:30 am - 12:00 noon
- ♥ Have questions about Medicare, home care services, financial assistance or mental health referrals?
- ♥ Need help scheduling an appointment for your Covid-19 vaccine?

The Adult and Senior Services Division responds to the economic, social and emotional needs of the adult and older citizens of South Windsor. This is accomplished through social service delivery, senior center programming, outreach and other supportive services.

Victoria - Program Coordinator
Susan - Coordinator
Sharon - Coordinator
Cathy - Coordinator
Lisa - Administrative Secretary

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services

are struggling with a year of social isolation and often times do not know where to turn. As a result, we received well over 100 phone calls for assistance! Funding for the postage was provided through a CARES Act grant administered through the State Unit on Aging.

A note sent to Steve, thanking him for his caring and service:

I wanted to bring to your attention the outstanding work that Stephen Clapp has done for our long time "90" year old friend "Mary." Stephen has helped walk "Mary" through the services that South Windsor offers their less fortunate senior citizens. He has shown an amazing amount of caring, patience and fore thought in his contact with Mary. He has helped her pay her bills, brought her food and essentials during these difficult times and shared holiday greetings with her and was even able to locate and secure a COVID vaccine for her – and that was not an easy task. We live in Boston and it has been reassuring to have Stephen working with Mary through some tough issues. I felt that it was important to share with you the wonderful connection Stephen has made with Mary and I know that she is grateful for the interest that he has taken in her. He is definitely an asset to your team. Yours truly, Jane S.

Farm to Food Boxes

For a second time, the town of East Windsor reached out to provide boxes of fresh produce, meat and dairy items for us to distribute through the Farm to Food Program. The first month they dropped off 100 boxes and most recently they dropped off 195 boxes! We were able to give out all of the boxes on a moments notice to those who are low income as well as to older adults.

Plants for Seniors

A college student recently arranged to have indoor houseplants donated to us once a month to give out to older adults. Plants were delivered to homebound seniors on meals on wheels.



Youth & Family Services

On Sunday, March 14th, we held a panel discussion on Depression & Anxiety in Youth. It was informative! We really appreciate the time and effort each panelist put in to this presentation. Each panelist speaks for about 10-15 minutes

1. Dr. Ramesh Hemnani discusses signs and symptoms.
2. Dr. Chad McDonald busts some myths.
3. Dr. Salma Malik educates on how assessment looks.
4. Dr. Gurender Sahani breaks down what treatment can look like.
5. Robin Lagasse, LCSW shares a case and how the youth presents.
6. Q&A answered by ALL panelists.

<https://southwindsorct.swagit.com/play/03142021-520/2/>

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services



Teen Center

Beginning in March, the Youth & Family Services Director, Liz, along with the Teen Center Coordinator, Danielle, started their Strides for Positive Vibes program for our middle school students. This walking group

takes place on the first and third Wednesday of each month to encourage spending time outdoors and enjoy nature. We have about 15 students who are registered and it has been a huge hit so far!

We have been planning for our Rising Stars Summer Program and are excited to be able to offer it for another year. Sessions have begun to fill up quickly, with only a few open slots available. This program is for middle school and high school students who are interested in performing volunteer work, learning leadership skills, and partaking in team-building activities.

Our Youth Council members participated in our Mental Wellness Day Drive-Thru event where they gave out the supplies needed to make stress balls, and coloring pages to promote mindfulness and relaxation.

The Teen Center hosted a Dot Mandala Paint Night with Lindsey's Craft Studio that was very successful, and the students did a great job at creating their masterpieces!

Beginning on April 5th, the Teen Center will change their drop-in hours to accommodate to the new school schedule. For high school students we are open on Monday and Thursdays from 2-4pm, and Tuesday and Fridays from 2:45-5pm for middle school students.

Youth Counseling, Parent Education and Support

Our counseling staff has been able to continue to provide mental health services seamlessly despite the large number of students who have been quarantined and the school's transition to full time distance learning. This seamless transition is due to the flexibility of our staff, i.e. sessions in the community and via telehealth.

We have around 50 active cases with weekly or bi-weekly sessions. Counselors are working with their clients on a variety of struggles, including youth that are impacted by parental substance use, impacted by trauma, struggling with anxiety, struggling with emotion regulation, struggling with the impact of divorce, or struggling with the death or serious illness of a parent.

The biggest challenge facing YFS counseling staff is navigating the "new normal" of distance learning days in place of snow days. Our students want to continue to meet with their counselors, as is their routine. It has meant a lot of juggling and re-arranging schedules.

School Outreach & Prevention

The SADD Club focused on providing healthy ways to relieve stress during the month of March. Students were invited to participate in 2 virtual after school activities. The first was a Zentangle lesson with a professional artist. She led us through the calming art of Zentangles, and it definitely proved to be relaxing and fun! The second virtual class was a "Healthy Bites" cooking class with teacher and nutrition guru, Laura Nelson. Together we made 3 no-bake energy bite recipes and talked about the nutritional benefits of the ingredients. It was a great activity to connect

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services

with each other and relieve some stress.

We are working on our annual SADD Scholarship fundraiser, which is lawn signs for graduating seniors. We have had a lot of interest, which is amazing.

Hard to believe it but we are already working on our summer plans. We are coming up with programming to help support students as they make their transition back to in person learning, as well as some great opportunities for social skill building!

We have a lot of great events and programs coming next month! Check out our newly designed newsletter here:

https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf3831/f/uploads/march-april_newsletter_yfs.pdf



Parks & Recreation Department

Molly Keays
Director of Parks & Recreation

“Discover the Benefits!”

John Caldwell, Jr.
Parks Superintendent

MONTHLY REPORT - April 2021

TBD
Asst. Director of Parks & Recreation

Park & Recreation Commission (PARC) – Commission will meet next on Wed., April 14th at 7:30 pm virtually via WebEx.

The South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways (SWW&WW) – We are meeting with the hired engineering firm ANCHOR the week of April 5th to discuss the design phase for the cross-town trail project. I will be having an introductory meeting with SWW&WW members on April 7th to meet the members and discuss their upcoming events for the spring and summer.

RECREATION DIVISION

“Feel great – recreate!”

Egg Scramble – Six hundred eggs filled with QR codes were hidden from March 25th-April 4th in South Windsor's Parks. One in every four eggs were winning ones! When families found the eggs, they scan the QR codes and bring the winning codes to the SWPRD's main office. We had several fun prizes for families to take home!

4th “R” - This month, many 4th “R” friends have been perfecting their “house of cards” building skills! The more they practice, the higher their houses become! We also celebrated and supported a member of our 4th “R” community this month by wearing red to raise awareness for the rare disease: PKAN.

Preschool Programs – We've been having lots of fun with friends, exploring our senses, creating art projects, and playing outside in the beautiful spring weather! Keep your eye on our website, as we will

announce details for our spring preschool session soon!

“Parks & Rec April Happenings” – Please see our mini-brochure attached to this report for details on some ideas to keep families active and healthy in April!

“Summer Happenings” – We are preparing our summer happenings brochure to be mailed out to residents in mid-April with an early May registration date for summer programs.

We have had conversations with the BOE for potential increased facility access for summer programs as regulations have been evolving. We are working on plans to run more indoor and outdoor programming as safely permitted. In the meantime, we will continue to develop, promote and deliver safe alternative activities and programs that can be held outdoors following current health protocol and favorable weather, on a limited basis indoors at Wapping or provide them virtually. We will continue to keep our constituents informed via website, Facebook, and mass email blasts as the situation warrants. Our summer and camp brochure will be out shortly.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

“Caring for South Windsor's Growing Needs”

March Activity Highlights:

◆ Athletic Fields & Grounds:

- As the song goes, “Spring is in the air everywhere you look around”. We are almost

done with spring renovation for baseball, and now we are marking out both Lacrosse and Soccer fields for spring use. We have also installed all batting cage nets, and have put out and anchored the soccer goals down.

◆ Parks & Open Space:

- Extensive tree work was performed at several open spaces where town-owned trees were a potential hazard to abutting residents. There has also been much-needed detention basin tree work, also performed by the Parks crew.

◆ Projects:

- The Pepin Baseball Field and Field "C" at the Little League Complex is complete. We do have a little tree work left in that area.
- With the removal of the house at 1355 Ellington Road, the empty lot allows for a new parking lot and access to enter Wapping Park from Ellington Rd. We are working with the Planning and Engineering Department on the new lot and wood trail that will be slightly larger than the Clark Street lot but will look very similar.
- We will continue to stain and repair picnic tables and put them back out into the parks.
- We are using chips from town projects and adding new wood chips to the ropes course.
- A new Mountain bike trail has been completed at Rye Street Park. The name of the trail is Super Squirrel and is about 500 feet long, and is designed for the experienced rider.

◆ Other:

- Due to high demand, we are going to expand Deming Gardens to seventy-two plots to help accommodate the waitlist.
- We are hoping to get approval to move the farmers market to 220 Nevers Road. We will develop a defined entrance and exit from Nevers Rd. to accommodate the market.

- After approval from Planning and Zoning, we're going to develop some of John J. Mitchell at Rye Street for the Tobacco Valley Flyers club. We're also going to make a major improvement to the entrance and exit from Troy Road to help accommodate some of the larger vehicles for Town events.
- The Parks crew will install a pipe and add a ground cover to an existing swale to prevent any issues of young children from going down into the swale.

Recreation Photos:



600 hidden eggs with QR codes in our town parks!



Some happy egg hunters!
They found a few winning eggs outside of Wapping.



Getting messy with art!!



Building and playing with new friends!



Enjoying the spring weather!



Celebrating
St. Patrick's Day!



"House of cards" building skills.



Creating spring themed drawings!



Wearing red to support a fellow 4th R member to raise awareness for the rare disease PKAN.

Parks Projects:



Getting ready for a new patio style base for the new flag poles at the South Windsor Four Corners



New 6-foot fencing, warning track, and bull pen areas installed by SW parks crew.



Alec Arnold, Mike Samsel and Ben Bedard work to get baseball fields ready.



Mike Hanrahan sandblasting our new prototype signs out of sign foam. He is adding a wood grain texture by having a wire frame in front of the foam. We will be making more for our new Park Property as seen here - Deming gardens.



The Parks Tree Crew, along with help from Ian McGregor from Street Services, removed 22 overgrown hazardous pines on Krawski drive.



We replaced the old rotted and damaged Frank Neiderwerfer Bird Sanctuary sign. We relocated the boulder and sign, and also did extensive work to the parking lot.

April 2021 Town Council Meetings and Events

Meetings

Monday, April 5, 2021

7:00 pm Regular Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Monday, April 12, 2021

7:00 pm Special Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Monday, April 19 2021

7:00 pm Regular Meeting

8:00 pm Public Hearing: General Government Budget

Virtual Meeting

Monday, April 26, 2021

7:00 pm Special Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Holidays

Friday, April 2, 2021

Town Offices will be closed in observance of Good Friday.

Layout by Samara Haddock, Confidential Secretary

