

SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Middlebury Senior Center
1172 Whittemore Road, Middlebury, CT
203-577-4166—Phone
203-577-4173—Fax

E-mail: jcappelletti@middlebury-ct.org
Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00am—1:00pm



Department of Social & Elderly Services

Mission Statement

The Department of Social Services and Elderly Services is a focal point for all town residents who seek public services. We provide aid in time of crisis, both financial as well as service oriented. We furnish state-administered programs through referrals in order to see that each resident is provided with a standard in conducting their lives.

To the elderly community we are constantly seeking to improve their quality of life by educating them in new concepts of living. We keep our elderly active in the community through volunteerism as well as educational and recreational programs. We continue to keep them up to date through informative group sessions which enhance their personal development.

As changes occur in our world, our goal is to re-adapt programs so that our citizens can keep in step with the rest of the community.

May 2021

Department Staff

JoAnn Cappelletti	Director
	Dispatcher
Angela Leveille	Publications &
Terri Markie	Bus Driver
Sean Howard	Computer Lab

Commission on Aging

Judy Mirrer, Chairperson
Barbara DeRiu
Jean Hansen
Noa Miller
Ann Spierto
Nancy Pun
Ralph Barra
Nancy Mastroianni
JoAnn Cappelletti

From the Director's desk

Dear Friends:

While our doors may have been physically closed for a period of time, they are now partially open to the public from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. You must sign in, wear a mask, social distance and hand sanitize. The Main door to the building will be locked after 12:00 noon and you must call in advance if you need to make an appointment or come into the office. I understand your frustration through these trying times and I too am looking forward to normality. If and when the Senior Center reopens, the Center for Disease Control recommends that we still practice health and safety standards. I am anxious to reopen the Senior Center and once again fill our rooms with activity, fun and laughter.

If you need help with acquiring meals, masks or medication, help with linking into virtual technology support, e-mail, fax or zoom meetings, please feel free to reach out to us.

Our new senior bus was delivered to the Senior Center in February. It is a 20-passenger vehicle with a lift. It looks much like the old bus with more frills and buttons. The bus was obtained from a grant made possible through the Department of transportation and the Town of Middlebury.

The Senior Center restrooms are in the process of being upgraded and remodeled. The restrooms have been fully gutted and restored with all new furnishings. I know you're going to miss the sign as you entered the restroom. Completion is expected by the end of April.

The time has expired for those of you that were receiving meals on wheels because of the pandemic. We have partnered with New Opportunities of Waterbury and Annoula's Restaurant of Woodbury to provide a lunch program called Grab & Go. More information is provided in our newsletter. If interested, please call us as you need to be registered in the program. Everyone is welcome to participate.

The Town is now using a new telephone system. Our telephone number has not changed and hopefully it will be easier for you to contact us.

The saying April showers bring May flowers represents the change and hope I feel as I look back on the past year and where we are now. Our community came together in amazing ways, volunteering their services whenever needed.

As I continue to receive information, I will keep you updated on any new changes regarding the reopening of the Senior Center, schedules and programs.

Thank you for your patience and understanding through these difficult times.

JoAnn

Town of Middlebury
Department of Social & Elderly Services
Shepardson Community Building
1172 Whittemore Road
Middlebury, CT 06762
Phone 203-577-4166 Fax 203-577-4173
jcappelletti@middlebury-ct.org



Notifying the Public Under Title VI

The Town of Middlebury operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with the Town of Middlebury.

For more information on the Town of Middlebury's civil rights program, and the procedures to file a complaint, contact JoAnn Cappelletti 203-577-4166 ext. 707; email jcappelletti@middlebury-ct.org; or visit our administrative office at 1172 Whittemore Road. For more information, visit www.middlebury-ct.org.

A complainant may file a complaint directly with the Federal Transit Administration by filing a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights Attention; Title VI Program Coordinator, Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Public Transportation, Complaint Department, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111.

If information is needed in another language, contact 203-577-4166 ext. 707

Si se necesita informacion en otro idioma, comuniquese al 203-577-4166 ext. 707



May is Older Americans Month

Older adults have built resilience and strength over their lives through successes, failures, joys and difficulties. Their stories and contributions help support and inspire others. This Older Americans Month, we will celebrate the strength of older adults and the Aging Network, with special emphasis on the power of connection and engagement in building strong communities.

There are things we all can do to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive. Connecting with others is one of the most important---it plays a vital role in our health and wellbeing and in that of our communities; from finding joy in small things and sharing our stories, to looking at the big picture and giving to others.

Middlebury
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203.758.2471

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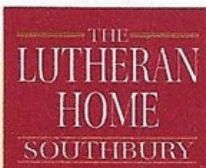
778 Middlebury Road, Middlebury | 203-758-2471 

Get **READY FOR HOME** at Lutheran Home

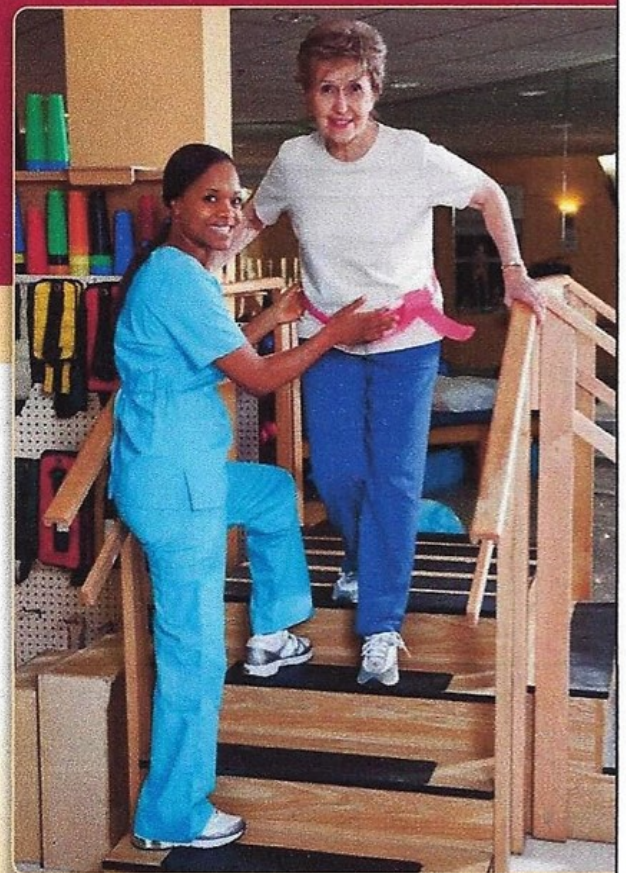
2016 5-STAR MEDICARE RATING

Welcome to the first rehab program personalized for you. From your own Resident Service Liaison checking in each day, to a CNA Companion program for a smooth transition, and therapies offered 7 days a week, our Center for Short-term Rehabilitation is your place to get ready for home.

Call 203-264-9135 to Pre-book your stay or learn more.



990 Main Street, North
Southbury, CT 06488
203.264.9135
www.lhsouthbury.org



Town of Middlebury

Department of Social and Elderly Services
Shepardson Community Building
1172 Whittemore Road
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GUIDELINES FOR MINI-BUS PASSENGERS

Passengers must be Middlebury residents 60 years or older or handicapped. Driver will assist passengers on and off bus if necessary. The driver is neither a chauffeur nor servant and should not be expected to:

Do any tasks or errands for you

Do any shopping of any kind

Handle money for banking, postage or bill paying

Reservation for rides must be made at least one day in advance by calling the Senior Center at 203-577-4166, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9am and 1pm. Messages left after 1pm are not considered one day advance reservations. Your itinerary must be stated as well as name, address and telephone number. Reservations cannot be made with the driver while on the bus.

The following must be observed:

Due to scheduling, the bus may arrive from 15 minutes before to 15 minutes after your scheduled reservation.

You must be ready within these times.

Use seat belts at all times – no exceptions will be permitted.

Upon arrival, vacate the bus immediately and clear the doorway to avoid accidents.

Have your donation ready when entering the bus.

Medical appointments are given priority. It is advisable to check with the office prior to making doctors' appointments to determine the best date and time that the bus can provide you with the best service.

In the event of inclement weather, and the mini bus is cancelled, there will be an announcement over radio station WATR and TV channels 3 & 8 after 7am.

The mini bus operates 8:30am to 2:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Suggested donation for this service is .50 cents, one way, within the Town of Middlebury and \$1.50 one way, to surrounding towns.

If there are any changes to your advance reservation, you must let the office know in advance.

Passengers not complying with these regulations may have to find alternate methods of transportation

After 3 no shows, passengers will be suspended from using the mini bus for 30 days.

Have our Newsletter Mailed to Your Home Every Month

Cut out and mail this Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Please enclose a check for \$9.00 made payable to
The Middlebury Senior Center and mail to:

Department of Social Services
1172 Whittemore Road
Middlebury, CT 06762

TRANSPORTION SERVICES

<p style="text-align: center;">Middlebury Transportation Program</p> <p>Phone: 203-577-4166 ext. #1</p> <p>Days & Hours of Service: Monday – Friday 8:30am – 2:30pm</p> <p>Fares: Suggested donation of \$.50 one way in town in town and \$1.50 one way out of town.</p>	<p>Who Can ride? Age 60 or people with disabilities</p> <p>Reservations: 2 days in advance Curb to curb services</p> <p>Wheelchair Access: Yes</p>	<p>Where can riders travel? Middlebury, Naugatuck, Southbury, Waterbury, Watertown.</p> <p>Trip Types: Medical, shopping, personal, etc.</p> <p>Service Provider: Town of Middlebury</p> <p>Website: www.middlebury-ct.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Greater Waterbury Paratransit-ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) And Non-ADA</p> <p>Phone: 203-756-5550</p> <p>Days & Hours of Service: Monday-Saturday 6:00am-12:00pm Midnight; Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm</p> <p>Fares: \$6.00 round trip</p>	<p>Who Can ride? ADA Certifies: disability prevents use of public bus service – certification by application and interview. Can receive application at the Middlebury Senior Center.</p> <p>Reservations: 2 weeks in advance and up to day before Door to door service upon request.</p> <p>Wheelchair Access: Yes</p>	<p>Where can riders travel? Cheshire, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Prospect, Thomaston, Waterbury, Watertown. In addition travels Southbury and Gaylord Hospital are available on a more limited schedule-Monday-Friday.</p> <p>Trip Types: All types</p> <p>Service Provider: North East Transportation, Greater Waterbury Transit District.</p> <p>Website www.gwtd.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Greater Waterbury Transit Dial-a-Ride</p> <p>Phone 203-756-5550</p> <p>Days & Hours of Services: Thursday, 9:00am – 3:45pm</p> <p>Fares: Free, if ride is available</p>	<p>Who Can ride? Age 60+ or people with disabilities</p> <p>Reservations: 2 weeks in advance, but will accept 1 week or last minute depending on availability. Curb to curb service.</p> <p>Wheelchair Access: Yes</p>	<p>Where can riders travel? Cheshire, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Prospect, Thomaston, Waterbury, Watertown, Wolcott.</p> <p>Trip Types: Medical, shopping, personal, etc.</p> <p>Service Provider: Greater Waterbury Transit District. North East Transit</p> <p>Website www.northeastbus.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Be Well Bus</p> <p>Phone: 203-573-7711</p> <p>The Be Well Bus runs on Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Who Can ride? Patients of doctors affiliated with Waterbury Hospital; participating doctors pay a fee so their patients can use this service.</p> <p>Reservations: Call for information</p>	<p>Where can riders travel? Call for information</p> <p>Trip Types: Call for information</p> <p>Service Provider: Waterbury Hospital</p>

Commission on Aging



The next Commission on Aging meeting will be held (date to be announced). All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Contacting our office is easy!

Dial (203) 577-4166 and enter the extension for the person you wish to speak with:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EXTENSION</u>
JoAnn Cappelletti	3
Angela Leveille	2
Transportation	1
Sean Howard	4



Free Blood Pressure Screening



Free Blood Pressure screenings will resume at a date to be announced.

CodeRED™

Keeping citizens informed.

The Town of Middlebury has adopted Code Red which is a public notification system for emergency information. It notifies the public of road closures, fires, floods, missing children and other emergencies.

Code Red is a geographically based system. This means that anyone with a code Red app can get notifications anywhere they travel.

To be included in Code Red, you must enroll: go to the town's website www.middlebury-ct.org and click on the "Community" tab. Then click on the Code-RED logo. Please provide your phone number(s) and text and email information. The town was provided a database of some numbers for residents, but no one should assume their numbers are among those the town already has. Those without computers can go to the assessor's office or the Middlebury Public Library and get help registering for Code-RED.



Jeanne Generali has retired from the Middlebury Senior Center. She has been dispatcher for the mini bus for 22 years. She will be missed.

We wish her well!



COMPUTER HELP

Sean is available for one on one help if you need help with your computer.

Call 203-577-4166 ext. #4 for an appointment

Sean is available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays 9am to 1pm

FITNESS



Susan from Fitness Fury is available to do virtual Adult Strengthening

Monday: Rise and Shine Stretch with Susan

Tuesday and Friday: Flex, Tone and Strength with Susan
(Ball, Weights, Tube/Band and paper plates)

A chair and WATER!!

All classes will begin at 10

Call 203-577-4166 for instructions and provide your e-mail address.



Offices at the Town Hall, Shepardson Community Center and Public Works reopened from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This started Monday, March 15, 2021 until further notice. Visitors will be permitted in the buildings during this time on a first come first served basis with possible wait times. We are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters at the door to ensure individuals are wearing their masks when entering the building and are adhering to social distancing requirements.

Doors to these facilities will be locked at 12:00 p.m. daily and services will be available by appointment only until 4:00 p.m.

A **free** account that's only **\$10 to open**, has **no minimum balance**, and **no overdraft fees?**

Now that's **Uncommon.**

Whether you're just getting started or looking to give your money management habits a reboot, Thomaston Savings Bank is here to help you establish a strong financial foundation.

The Uncommon Account

- \$10 minimum opening deposit, and no minimum balance requirement
- No monthly maintenance service fees¹
- Have an overdraft or non-sufficient funds history with another institution? We can work with that.
- Visa® Debit Card with Apple Pay®, Google Pay™, and Samsung Pay®, and surcharge-free access to cash at over 32,000 MoneyPass® ATMs nationwide.
- Online Banking with Bill Pay.
- Mobile Banking with Mobile Check Deposit.
- Think green! This account doesn't offer checks, but it does have all the convenience of digital payments, like direct deposit and Zelle® for paying friends and family.
- Set spending budgets and savings goals all in one place with iFi, available at no cost through our Online and Mobile Banking.
- No overdraft or non-sufficient funds fees².
- Free money orders.



OPEN YOUR UNCOMMON ACCOUNT

**ThomastonSB.com | 855.344.1874
Or Visit Your Local Branch**

¹ Other fees may apply, including a \$2 monthly fee for mailed paper statements if you do not enroll in eStatements. Please read our Fee Schedule for details.

² Although we will never charge an overdraft or non-sufficient funds fee, it is possible for the account to have a negative balance, for example if a check you cash or deposit is returned unpaid.

Member FDIC

Tax Relief Programs



Per executive order # 10 by the Governor's office, Homeowners tax relief and Veterans relief programs recipients do not need apply this year unless circumstances have changed.

New applicants can apply by calling the Middlebury Social Service office at 203-577-4166.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Recipient or spouse must be 65 years of age or older, or be 50 years of age or older and the surviving spouse of a homeowner who at the time his death had qualified and was entitled to tax relief provided such spouse was domiciled with such homeowner at the time of his death.

Or 18 years of age or older and permanently and totally disabled and receiving benefits under a federal, state, or local retirement program which contains requirements comparable to those of the Social Security Administration.

Must meet residency of at least 6 months and one day for the program year requirement.

Grants are based upon income. If applying in Year 2020, single person's total 2019 income must be less than \$37,000; married person's total 2019 income must be less than \$45,100.

There is no asset limit.

Eversource's Matching Payment Program:

Allows you to maintain year-round electric and gas service and possible elimination of back balances, if you qualify and pay an agreed-upon amount on time each month.

Here's how it works.

Eversource, through the Matching Payment Program, will match your payments once you are approved for and receive energy assistance from [Connecticut Energy Assistance Program \(CEAP\)](#). For every dollar you pay toward your bill, a dollar will be credited to your past-due amount.

So, you pay a portion, energy assistance pays a portion, and Eversource pays a portion. Making all required payments in the Matching Payment Program protects your household from shut-off, in addition to getting the payment match.

To be eligible:

- You must be a current Eversource residential customer and heat your home with electricity or natural gas.

Your household income must be at or below 60 percent of the estimated state median income:

Household Size – includes homeowners and renters that pay separately for heat, and renters whose heat is included in the rent, as long as more than 30% of gross income is paid towards rent.

1 person \$37,645	2 person \$49,228
3 person \$60,811	4 person \$72,394
5 person \$83,977	6 person \$95,560
7 person \$93,905	8 person \$99,904

- You must have CEAP energy assistance funds applied directly to your Eversource account.

You must continue to pay your payment arrangement amount on time each month.

If you cannot afford your required monthly payment, please call us at 800-286-2828 to see if you qualify for a reduced payment (Below Budget Payment). If you're eligible, we will refer you to your local Community Action Agency to help you process an application (Below Budget Worksheet).

CELL PHONES FREE TO QUALIFYING LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

Enrollment in this government benefit program is available to individuals who qualify based on federal or state-specific eligibility criteria. You may qualify for Assurance Wireless if you participate in any of the following governments' programs:

Food Stamps/SNAP

Supplemental security Income (SSI)

Veterans Pension benefit or Survivors Pension

Medicaid

Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8

You may also qualify based on household income:

Household Size	Yearly Income
1	\$0 - \$17,388
2	\$0 - \$23,517
3	\$0 - \$29,646
4	\$0 - \$35,775
5	\$0 - \$41,904
6	\$0 - \$48,033
7	\$0 - \$54,162
8	\$0 - \$60,291

If there are more than eight (8) people in your household, THEN add \$6,129 for each additional person.

Example: For household of nine (9) the Yearly Income allowed = \$0 - \$66,420 (\$60,291 & \$6,129).



Get **FREE** Lifeline Service including:

PLUS A **FREE** ANDROID™ SMARTPHONE*

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Date each month (High Speed)

FREE

Unlimited texts each month

FREE

Voice minutes each month

Connecticut Statewide Respite Care program



Offering daytime or overnight relief for care givers of individuals with Alzheimer's or related dementias

The Need for Respite:

Respite care provides a break, or a time of caregiver relief, from the constant dementia. The task of caring for a person with dementia is overwhelming. Family caregivers often develop stress-related illnesses such as heart disease, hypertension, or ulcers. An occasional break allows an exhausted caregiver to regroup, both physically and emotionally, and to find the strength to carry on. Respite truly saves caregiver's lives. With financial assistance, many family caregivers who would not otherwise use this service will have the opportunity to obtain temporary relief for themselves. As a result, the individual with dementia may remain at home for much longer than would otherwise be possible.

Description of the Program:

The Connecticut Statewide Respite Care Program is funded by the State Department on Aging and is operated in partnership with the Connecticut Area Agencies on Aging and the Connecticut Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

The program offers families the opportunity to receive an assessment of services needed and have a care plan developed that includes the provision of services for the individual with dementia. Eligible families may apply for daytime or overnight. Respite care services may include: Adult day care, cognitive fitness training, home health aide, homemaker, companion, personal care assistants, skilled nursing care or short-term nursing care.

For more Information:

Statewide Toll-free Phone: (800) 994-9422

Senior Resources: (860) 887-3561

North Central Area Agency on Aging: (860) 724-6443

Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut (203) 785-8533

Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging: (203) 333-9288

Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging: (203) 757-5449

Connecticut Chapter
Alzheimer's Association
(800) 272-3900

CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP)

Effective Date: March 22, 2021

In response to the ongoing Public Health Emergency, COVID-19, changes have been made to the 2021 CEAP program.

If you already applied for CEAP and have been denied, you may be approved by these changes.

The following documentation needs to be submitted:

Some form of income documentation for the household., including rent, alimony and/or child support, pensions, social security etc..

If you are self-employed, notarized Self-Employment worksheet for the last six or twelve months and your most recently filed 1040 IRS form, including all schedules.

If unemployed, the printout of Unemployment compensation Benefits

Workman's comp or Disability Insurance; statement showing benefits and period covered.

Statements indicating the amount and frequency of payments from friends or relatives who area contributing to your household's support signed by them.

Current utility bill if you heat with gas or electricity.

If you receive SNAP, DSS, or TFA your will automatically be eligible for CEAP.

The liquid asset component has been suspended for the remainder of the 2020-2021 year.

Program Date Changes:

The following changes are being updated from previously approved program dates:

Deliverable fuel deliveries extended the **Thursday, May 20, 2021**

That will be the last day for deliverable fuel authorizations requests

A week will be added in the system to ensure all authorized deliveries are made

Last day to pay for deliveries **not** authorized by the CAA

Last day for application intake for **all** households extended to **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**

Information regarding the Energy Assistance Program is available by calling the Social Services Director at 203-577-4166 ext. 3.

UNITED WAY of Connecticut



Every day,, thousands of people find themselves in circumstances where, often for the first time, they need resources that can't be easily found on the internet or in any phone book: low cost burial services, employment resources, a free or low-cost health clinic, free eyeglasses replacement for the elderly, affordable parenting classes or other counseling services, legitimate help overcoming temporary financial difficulties, and many more such scenarios. 211 has answers. 211 is available 24/7 and is multilingual. They can be reached by simply calling 211 or visit them at 211ct.org.

OPERATION FUEL



Beginning December 1, 2020, Operation Fuel will administer an energy assistance program for applicant's who need aid with meeting their home heating or utility needs. This program will be for households living up to 75% of state median income. There will not be an asset test. The maximum grant amount will be up to \$700. **All final approvals**

will be made by Operation Fuel Staff.

To qualify for oil, propane, pellets, gas/electric utility or wood, applicants that qualify for Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) must exhaust those benefits before applying for Operation Fuel funding. For applicant's that are eligible for safety nets (vulnerable and non-vulnerable), they will not qualify for Operation Fuel. Also applicants must provide the name and contact information of their fuel vendor to complete their application.

To qualify for electric utility, applicants must have a shut-off notice or have no utility service or must need assistance with making a required payment in order to maintain a payment arrangement, or have a past due balance of 30 days or more. House will be eligible for this program even if they received a grant for their primary heat through the CEAP program.

The applicant must not have applied for Operation Fuel within the last 12 months.

The program will start Tuesday, December 2, 2020 and end Friday, May 14, 2021 or when funding runs out (**whichever comes first**). Closing date for deliverables is Friday, May 28, 2021.

Documentation:

1. Applicant must provide shut off notice or utility bill that is 30 days past due & payment history.
2. Documentation of all household members with income (last 4 weeks of income).

RENTER'S REBATE PROGRAM



Effective April 1, 2021 Through September 15, 2021

Elderly residents of Middlebury or totally disabled persons who rent may apply for the Renter Rebate program at the Department of Social Services office located in the Shepardson Community Building, Room #20 between the hours of 9:00am and 12:30 pm.

You must also be a resident of Middlebury and provide proof of income and rent expense for the year 2020.

If utilities are not included in your rent, you must provide proof of your utilities expense. If you filed a tax return you must bring a copy.

Further questions regarding this program must be directed to JoAnn Cappelletti at

203-577-4166 ext. #3.

Due to COVID-19 applications will be processed by appointment only.

The Rose And the Tree

*On a hill I stand - fully grown,
Surrounded by grass and weeds...
Where are the flowers - am I alone?
Little vegetation - are there no seeds?
I am a tree - tall and mighty,
But what is my purpose...my identity?*

*With my long-flowing branches
And bright green leaves,
I have survived man-made trenches
And bird-nesting sleeves.
I am a tree - strong and sound,
But reasons for existence must be found.*

*Ah - such a lovely scent I sense
Coming from a nearby former garden,
Where within a barren plot immense
Stands a yellow rose...perhaps a friend?
"Hello" - I call out to the rose...
"Hello" - she replies...her interest shows.*

*So beautiful is the rose,
So magnificently does she stand..
Blessed by sunshine as she glows -
My admiration is in demand.
I am a tree - tall and mighty,
She is a rose of divine beauty.*

*"Why do you stand alone?" - she asks me...
I reply to her - "I wish I knew".
She says- "Please befriend and protect me"...
I gratefully answer - "I shall...for you."
I am a tree - with a purpose and identity,
And she - a lovely rose...now in unity.*

T.E.

Thank you Ted Ellis



The Rotary Club of Woodbury-Southbury-Middlebury (a/k/a the Tribury Rotary) remains diligent in its efforts to bring about positive change within the communities of Woodbury, Southbury, Middlebury and beyond. The Tribury Rotary is a 501(c) (3) organization. As you may know, 100% of all fundraising is used to further our Seven Areas of Focus: Supporting the Environment; Basic Education; Maternal & Child Health; Peace and Conflict Resolution; Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene; Economic & Community Development, and Disease Prevention & Treatment.

The Tribury Rotary does much to help others; most recently, we have supplied beds to our local area veterans; provided scholarships to local area graduating high school students; donated personal hygiene items to abused women and children; supported animal shelters with food and funding; assisted seniors whose homes have fallen into disrepair; offered support to grieving children through relevant kits and online resources to aide them with managing their grief and provided non-perishable items to our communities in support of each town's respective food pantry/food bank.

We want to do more, and we need your help. To learn more about the Tribury Rotary Club, see www.triburyrotaryclub.org or by calling 203.263.7523 or emailing us at

Tribury.Rotary.7980@gmail.com

The Department of Elderly & Social Services recognizes the good work the Tribury Rotary does for the Community. We would like to thank the Rotary for their support for both the Middlebury Community Emergency Fund and the Food Bank collections they sponsor.

Those experiencing homelessness can get Economic Impact Payments and other tax benefits; permanent address not required.

Permanent address not required:

People can claim an Economic Impact payment or other credits even if they don't have a permanent address. For example, someone experiencing homelessness may list the address of a friend, relative or trusted service provider, such as a shelter, drop in day center or transitional housing program, on the return filed with the IRS. If they are unable to choose direct deposit, a check or debit card for the tax refund and the third Economic Impact Payment can then be mailed to this address.

Individuals experiencing homelessness can receive the EITC:

A worker experiencing homelessness can receive the Earned Income Tax credit (EITC). To get the credit, federal law requires that a worker live in the US for more than half of the year and meet other requirements. This means living in a home in any of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Therefore, individuals experiencing homelessness, including those who reside at one or more homeless shelters, can meet that requirement.

No bank account? No problem:

Many financial institutions will help a person lacking an account to open a low-cost or no-cost bank account. Individuals who open accounts will then have an account and routing number available when they file and claim a direct deposit of the Economic Impact Payment.



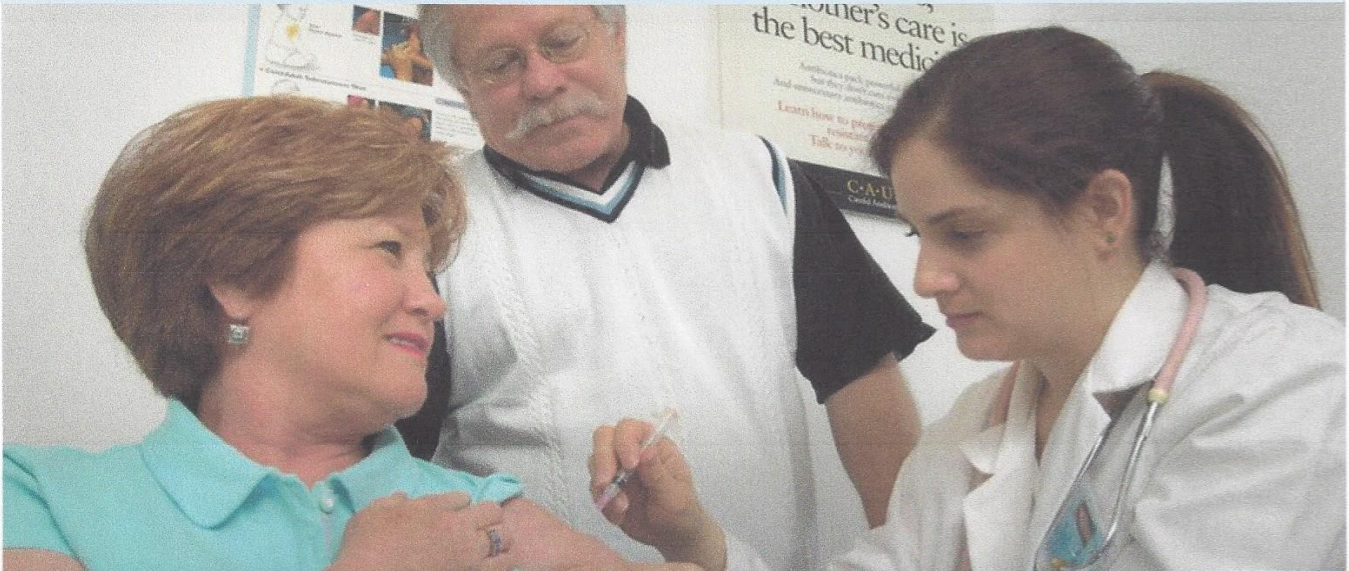
If you are not aware, **UniteCT** has programs that can be helpful.

- Emergency Rental /Utility assistance being offered to clients who have high arrearages.
- Operation Fuel clients would be eligible for the utility assistance without any concerns about federal subsidy duplication, with possible support for renters.
- The program requires landlord/tenant joint applications, with money going to the landlords directly.
- There is a call center to handle incoming questions or concerns.

Please go to the website to learn more <https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/UniteCT>

IRB Review
 IRB NUMBER: 21-149J-1
 IRB APPROVAL DATE: 04/07/2021

**Have you signed up for the COVID-19 Vaccine or planning to sign up?
 HELP US IN THE FIGHT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IF YOU:

- Are a healthy adult age 21 or older
- Ages 60 and over urgently needed
- Have an appointment for COVID-19 vaccine
- Weigh 110 pounds or more
- Have not had COVID-19
- Have no history of heart disease, kidney failure, uncontrolled diabetes, autoimmune disorders

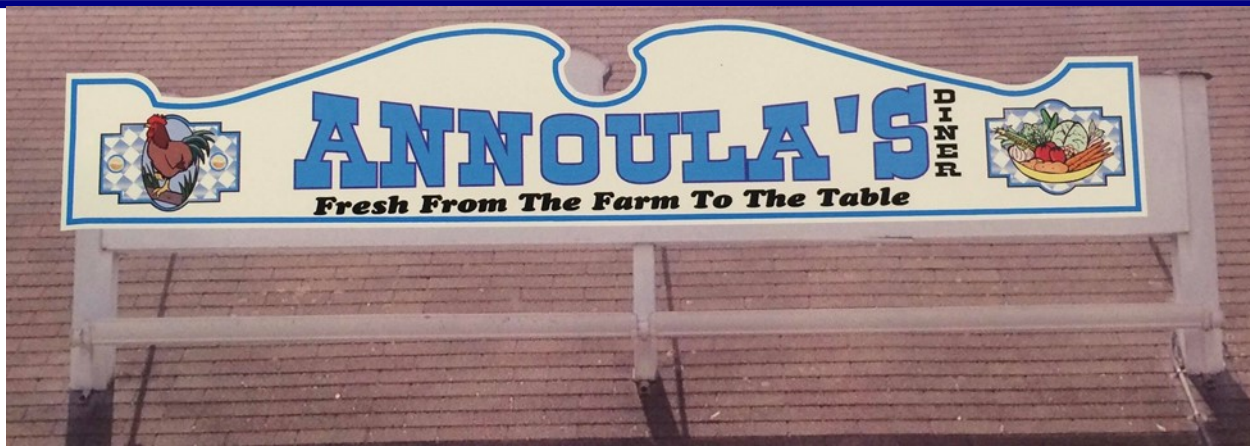
Participation involves attending up to 9 study visits over one year at UConn Health, Farmington CT. Each visit will be about 15-30 minutes. Provide demographics, health history, blood samples at each study visit and nostril swabs at three study visits.

Participation is voluntary. You will receive \$50 compensation for the completion of each study visit.

For More Information Contact

Call (860) 837-2404 or (860) 679-3043 / Email Megan Wing wing@uchc.edu

Study IRB#	UCONN HEALTH		CENTER ON AGING	
Site Principal Investigator: Dr. George Kuchel, MD	COVID study	860-837-2404	COVID study	860-837-2404
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**MIDDLEBURY SENIOR CENTER presents:
GRAB-N-GO Lunches from Annoula's Restaurant**

We are pleased to partner with Annoula's Restaurant of Woodbury and New Opportunities of Waterbury to provide Grab-n-Go lunches for the month of May. There will be a different menu for each month.

Please call the senior center to order your meal. All meals served with multigrain bread, fruit and low fat milk.

(Every Wednesday in May at 11:30am)

For the month of May:

May 5 – Shepherd's Pie, with vegetables **or** Chicken Francaise with roasted potato, & vegetables.

May 12 – Chicken Gyro, roasted potato, vegetable **or** Baked Macaroni and cheese with salad.

May 19 – Hamburger, roasted potato, vegetable **or** Chicken Marsala, mashed potato and vegetable.

May 26 – Baked Macaroni and cheese, small salad **or** Shepherd's Pie, and vegetables.

PLEASE NOTE:

Your reservation must be made by **MONDAY, BEFORE THE WEEK OF THE GRAB-N-GO LUNCH BEFORE 12PM.....NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.** The meals must be reserved with the restaurant on a timely fashion to ensure availability.

Please call the Senior Center to put in your order: **203-577-4166 ext. 2 or 3**



NEW OPPORTUNITIES
Building Relationships to End PovertySM

KEEPING HEALTHY VIRTUALLY

Follow us on Facebook @ Middlebury CT Senior Center



Below are links to virtual exercises that may help you keep healthy; just click on the link below:

Tai Chi For Beginner's with Gary Welton

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnseZDuT4gw>



For Chair Yoga

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Ts01MC2mlo>

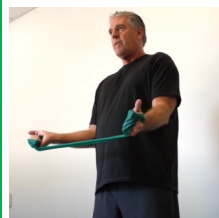
Chair Yoga Dance Recital

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7hrDkbXHxk>



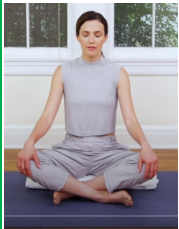
Senior's Standing Pilates

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3PYS_jsA1c



Morning Stretches for Seniors with Arthritis.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKObkQ5TikQ>



Yoga for Seniors:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFhG-ZzLNN4>



Senior Fitness by Tona

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEk8bZbeZao>

6 ways to observe animals and nature

1. Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

[5 nature cams](#) allow you to observe a cheetah and her new cubs, giant pandas Tian Tian and Mei Xiang, 6 Asian elephants, the lion habitat, and a colony of naked mole rats.

2. San Diego Zoo

[11 live cam options](#) show a wide variety of animals, including koalas, polar bears, condors, and tigers.

3. The Cincinnati Zoo

Around 3 pm Eastern time, the Zoo holds a daily Home Safari on its [Facebook Live Feed](#) and dozens of previous live videos are available to watch any time.

4. Animal Adventure Park's April the Giraffe

[April is a reticulated giraffe at the Animal Adventure Park](#) in New York and she has a calf named Tajiri. You might also see a few other giraffes too.

5. Live nature cameras across the world

We found a wonderful website that has [dozens of live camera feeds](#) from all around the world.

From the comfort and safety of home, watch horses in Kentucky, a tropical reef aquarium in California, the Northern Lights in Canada, pandas in China, beautiful sunsets in Hawaii, and more.

6. Visit aquariums across the U.S.

Aquariums have had to close their doors, but staff are still working to care for the animals.

They're also using this time to create special video content to share virtual presentations and behind-the-scenes access to various animals and ocean life.

Here are three of our favorites:

New England Aquarium

On the main [Virtual Visit page](#), you'll see featured videos and an overview of the virtual visit program. Click the links to see all presentations on Facebook and [all available videos on YouTube](#) (32 and counting!)

Monterey Bay Aquarium

See dozens of videos on their [Facebook page](#) or [YouTube channel](#)

[10 live webcams](#) including [birds in the aviary](#), [coral reefs](#), [open-ocean animals](#), [moon jellies](#), the [Monterey Bay](#) itself (listen/watch soothing ocean waves), and more

Georgia Aquarium

9 live cams, including the [Indo-Pacific barrier reef](#), [jellyfish](#), [African penguins](#), and [Beluga whales](#) (see all available cams under the video player area)

[Deep sea learning](#) (scroll to mid-page) – learn about the sea and its many creatures, 11 episodes available now and new episodes twice a week

[Field trip Friday](#) (scroll to the 6th topic section in the page) – fun and educational videos like alligator feeding, whale shark feeding, and sea lions and seals

(CLICK ON UNDERLINED HYPERLINKS TO OBSERVE)

COVID Vaccination Videos **for residents 55+**, sponsored by the Aging and Disability Services State Unit on Aging, have been posted. They can be found linked to the [ADS Covid Page](#) (the videos themselves are hosted on YouTube, direct video links below):

Information for those over 55

(Please watch the videos below for more information)

[Spanish 30 second YouTube video](#)

[Spanish 15 Second YouTube Video](#)

[English 30 Second YouTube Video](#)

[English 15 Second YouTube Video](#)

Additionally, The COVID Vaccination Video for **residents who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing** has been posted In American Sign Language. It can be found linked to the [ADS Covid Page](#) (the video itself is hosted on YouTube, direct video link below):

Vaccination Information In American Sign Language

AAA's FREE Driving Improvement Classes

Beginning on Tuesdays in March through July, AAA will be offering its **FREE** 4-hour classes **VIRTUALLY** to drivers 60 years of age and older, who need to obtain a certificate for up to 5% off on a portion of their insurance premiums. These classes are open to members and non-members of AAA.

To register, participants must visit www.aaa.com/defensivedriving, follow the links and then choose "Connecticut Virtual" under your home state.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays via Zoom on the following dates and times:

From 10am —2pm:

May 11 and 25

June 8

July 13 and 27

From 12 noon — 4pm:

May 4 and 18

June 1, 15 and 29

July 6 and 20

To participate in these virtual classes, registrants will need:

A PC, laptop or iPad with an integrated or portable webcam (camera). A smartphone will not work because the class is video based. An Email and Zoom account. To download the Zoom app, visit www.zoom.us. The free version is sufficient.

Upon registration, participants will receive a confirmation letter with a Zoom link for the class.



Upcoming Events – Please Join us! Registration is free and open to people of all ages.

Unless otherwise noted, please go to www.AARP.org/CTEvents to register.

Virtual U Lecture: Asian Studies 3-Part Series Dr. Nita Verma Prasad, Associate Professor of History and Director of Asian Studies at Quinnipiac University shares her expertise in the social history of British colonial India. Prasad has published on women in the British colonial courts, diasporic communities in the Indian Ocean region, and Hindu-Muslim relations on the subcontinent.

5/12/2021 @ 1PM: "Mother of the Nation": Gender and Nationalism in the Colonial World

Bristol Public Library hosts AARP CT Virtual Workshops: Join AARP CT and the Bristol Public Library as they offer a virtual series featuring topics that offer information and conversation. Featured sessions offer attendees a 45 min presentation followed by a live moderated Q & A on the topic.

5/11/2021 @ 6:30 PM Road to Livability

Tech Check with The NEAT Center at Oak Hill 3-Part Series: Join us as we welcome Steve Famiglietti and Kris Thompspon for a series on technology – for those with vision concerns, for your home and family, and of course keeping your devices safe and protected.

6/2/2021 @ 7PM Smart Technology 101: The Basics and Solutions for Safety & Independence

Virtual U Latin American Studies 3-Part Series by AARP CT Webinar Wednesdays: Join us as we welcome Dr. Mark Overmyer-Velazquez inaugural University Campus Director of the University of Connecticut at Hartford as he offers to us a 3-part series on Latin American Studies from his lens as a Professor of History and Latinx Studies. Dr. Overmyer-Velázquez works with colleagues and Hartford partners to build bridges between academic and city communities to support collaborative, engaged learning and research. The son of a Mexican immigrant and a scholar of Chinese religion and philosophy, Dr. Overmyer-Velázquez received his Ph.D. at Yale University in Latin America and U.S. Latino history and has dedicated his book publishing, teaching, and community activism to those intersecting fields.

Wed 5/5 @7PM ET - Cinco de Mayo: The Origin Story

Wed 9/15 @7PM ET - Hispanic Heritage Month: Celebration of the People

Wed 10/20 @7PM ET - Beyond Borders

Virtual Monday's with Mark Twain in May: Join us each Monday in May at 12PM Noon ET to discover and explore the history and adventure through these virtual sessions with the Mark Twain House & Museum. Each week offers a new page of history to uncover and discover. Live virtual event. Registration required for each at www.aarp.org/ctevents

Mon 5/3 @12PM ET - Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: An American Story

Mon 5/10 @12PM ET - The Character of the Place

Mon 5/17 @12PM ET - Seventeen Summers in a Garden

Mon 5/24 @12PM ET - Mark Twain, World Traveler

Visit www.aarp.org/ct for a variety of offerings, news & to sign up for event email announcements.

To request a free AARP CT conversation in your community, contact Erica Michalowski at emichalowski@aarp.org or (860) 548-3163.

What you need to know about



Why we count on vaccines:

The purpose of any COVID vaccine is to change the coronavirus from a deadly disease that may result in hospitalizations and deaths, into a normal illness instead of a deadly global pandemic.

Stopping severe illness and death”

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine has been shown to be **100% effective in preventing COVID– related hospitalizations and deaths.** It is equally as effective in preventing severe illness and death as vaccines made by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna.

One and done:

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is delivered in one shot, and does not require the same sub-zero refrigeration and storage as the other two mRNA vaccines. This makes it easier to vaccinate more people faster.

About those variants:

The Food and Drug Administration says that clinical trials showed the Johnson & Johnson;s vaccine provided **“protection against several emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern,”** including the ones from South Africa and Brazil.

Stop the spread, stop the mutations:

When more of the population is vaccinated, it decreases the cycle of transmission which will reduce the likelihood of further mutations developing, which is another reason why people should get vaccinated as soon as possible—with the vaccine that is available to them.

Which is the best COVID vaccine for you?

You’ve heard the Johnson & Johnson news, so lets test your COVID-19 vaccine knowledge:

Which is the best vaccine fo you?

- A. Pfizer-BioNTech
- B. Moderna
- C. Johnson & Johnson
- D. Any of the above

Answer: D

That’s right, the best vaccine is the one in front of you on vaccination day.

“Our clinical team has reviewed the submission (to the FDA) for the J&J vaccine,” says Erica Arlia, Hartford HealthCare’s Senior Director of Pharmacy. “Their vaccine is equally effective as other vaccines at preventing serious illness and death. No patients in their study, post-28 days, were hospitalized or had passed away, So we have tremendous faith in their vaccine. And as a one-dose vaccine, it offers certain advantages in ease of administration.”

Don’t dismiss Johnson & Johnson’s vaccine because it’s one dose instead of two or might have appeared slightly less effective in trials than either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines.

In clinical trials, the low –dose Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines were about 95% effective at lowering the risk of getting COVID-19. These trials were performed last year, before more contagious variants were identified around the world.

The FDA reported the J&J vaccine 72% effective at preventing all COVID-19 and 86% effective at preventing severe cases, which often require hospitalization. Notably, the J&J vaccine proved almost as effective in a trial in South Africa, where a new, more virulent strain has been identified. Though slightly less effective overall at preventing all COVID-related illness, at 64%, it was still 82% effective at preventing severe disease.

The FDA report also revealed the vaccine effectively protects against United Kingdom and Brazil variants. It’s possible neither the Pfizer=BioBTech nor the Moderna vaccine is as effective against the new variants.

Some vaccine perspective: the seasonal flu vaccine ranges from 40 to 60% effectiveness.

What Vaccines are Recommended for You -- (CDC)

All adults need immunizations to help them prevent getting and spreading serious diseases that could result in poor health, missed work, medical bills, and not being able to care for family.

All adults need a [seasonal flu \(influenza\)](#) vaccine every year. Flu vaccine is especially important for people with chronic health conditions, pregnant women, and older adults.

Every adult should get the [Tdap](#) vaccine once if they did not receive it as an adolescent to protect against pertussis (whooping cough), and then a [Td](#) (tetanus, diphtheria) booster shot every 10 years. In addition, women should get the Tdap vaccine each time they are pregnant, preferably at 27 through 36 weeks.

Almost 1 out of every 3 people in the United States will develop shingles in their lifetime. Your risk of shingles increases as you grow older. Additionally, over 60 percent of seasonal flu-related hospitalizations occur in people 65 years and older.

As we get older, our immune systems tend to weaken over time, putting us at higher risk for certain diseases. This is why, in addition to seasonal flu (influenza) vaccine and Td or Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis), you should also get:

- Shingles vaccine, which protects against shingles and the complications from the disease (recommended for healthy adults 50 years and older)
 - Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23), which protects against serious pneumococcal disease, including meningitis and bloodstream infections (recommended for all adults 65 years or older, and for adults younger than 65 years who have certain health conditions)
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13), which protects against serious pneumococcal disease and pneumonia (recommended for all adults with a condition that weakens the immune system, cerebrospinal fluid leak, or cochlear implant)

Adults 65 years or older who have never received a dose of PCV13 and do not have one of the conditions described above may also discuss vaccination with their vaccine provider to decide if PCV13 is appropriate for them.

Talk with your doctor or other healthcare professional to find out which vaccines are recommended for you at your next medical appointment.

Who Should NOT Be Vaccinated:

Some adults with specific health conditions should not get certain vaccines or should wait to get them. [Read more about who should not get each vaccine.](#)

Talk with your doctor to make sure you get the vaccines that are right for you.

To learn more about these diseases and the benefits and potential risks associated with the vaccines, read the [Vaccine Information Statements \(VIS\)](#).



RESOURCES

Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake among Members of Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities: A Guide for Developing, Implementing, and Monitoring Community-Driven Strategies

This guide supports establishing a community-driven approach for developing and implementing strategies to increase vaccination among racial and ethnic minority communities due to the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 among these groups. It is however also applicable to other communities that are hard to reach, experience marginalization or discrimination, and/or demonstrate vaccine hesitancy.

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DCF/Agency/JIC-Resources/Guide-For-Awardees-for-Community-Driven-Strategies.pdf>

Building COVID-19 Vaccination Confidence

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine prepared these resources for communicators because building confidence in COVID-19 vaccinations is crucial for us to stay healthy and return to normal:

<https://www.nap.edu/resource/26068/interactive/index.html>

<https://www.nap.edu/read/26068/chapter/1>

Dept. of Public Health: COVID-19 Vaccine Facts You Need To Know

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DCF/Agency/JIC-Resources/DPH_VaccineFacts_2-3-21.pdf

Battling COVID-19 Vaccination Misinformation

[Misinformation about COVID-19: evidence for differential latent profiles and a strong association with trust in science](#)

[The Anti-Vaxx Playbook](#)

[Governmental actions to address COVID-19 misinformation](#)

[Weaponized Health Communication: Twitter Bots and Russian Trolls Amplify the Vaccine Debate](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine: Answers for Healthy Aging

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/4TkloaK7-0gCLxUqQjVjWSsMx9QZV1hQ6PG32LTYAHkQm-B40VBsMohTG0ywuZywksZRNnteYpPKcXxH.rkqHyLou9rx6tbqZ?](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/4TkloaK7-0gCLxUqQjVjWSsMx9QZV1hQ6PG32LTYAHkQm-B40VBsMohTG0ywuZywksZRNnteYpPKcXxH.rkqHyLou9rx6tbqZ?continue-)

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Center for Disease Control Hosting a National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccination

The National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine is a virtual event that will unite representatives from across the US government, with tribal, state, local, and territorial leaders and representatives from public health, healthcare systems, national and community-based non-governmental organizations, education, private industry, unions, and faith-based organizations. All have a role in supporting COVID-19 vaccination.

The Forum aims to promote the most effective strategies to build trust and confidence in COVID-19 vaccines, use data to optimize vaccine implementation, and provide participants with practical information for increasing vaccine access in communities nationwide, especially for persons at increased risk of COVID-19 disease and those who may face barriers to vaccination.

[National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

DPH Releases Available Race/Ethnicity COVID Vaccination Data

While warning of limitations of the data, DPH says it points to need to do more to vaccinate Black and other high risk populations.

<https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Press-Room/Press-Releases---2021/DPH-Releases-Available-Race-Ethnicity-Covid-Vaccination-Data>

Governor Lamont Announces Partnership For COVID-19 Vaccine Community Outreach

[Governor Lamont Announces Partnership With Health Equity Solutions on COVID-19 Vaccine Community Outreach](#)



The State Unit on Aging is sharing some information about the process regarding vaccinations for individuals who are homebound.

If you or someone you care for is physically or medically unable to leave their home to get the COVID-19 vaccine, please fill out this online homebound vaccination intake form: <https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/homebound>. This form includes the criteria for homebound eligibility.

Once submitted online, the intake forms are sent to each town on a weekly basis. With this weekly schedule, it means that a call back from the town contact person may take a week or two and a scheduled appointment could be an additional two to three weeks or more. Each town is setting up or has already set up the homebound vaccination process.



Q & A's with your local Senior Medicare Patrol

Question: A beneficiary recently asked, "Can I be charged for the COVID-19 vaccine"?

Answer: NO—Here's helpful information for Medicare Beneficiaries as well as the American public on the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services shared:

- Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. However, vaccination providers will be able to charge an administration fee for giving the shot to someone. Vaccine providers can get this fee reimbursed by the patient's public or private insurance company or, for uninsured patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund. Source: [CDC website](#)
- Insurance plans, medical facilities and other providers **cannot** charge recipients of the vaccine for the administration fee.
- The administration fee for the vaccine in the first year is being covered by original Medicare regardless of a beneficiary having an Advantage Plan. So beneficiaries should show their original Medicare card when getting the vaccine.

Read [CMS Press Release](#) for more information on how COVID-19 costs are covered.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
GOVERNOR NED LAMONT

(HARTFORD, CT) – Governor Ned Lamont and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Commissioner Katie Dykes today announced that Connecticut’s State Parks system and boat launches are planning to return to providing full services to visitors during the 2021 season, with some state campgrounds opening to campers with reservations today.

DEEP’s operation plan for this season was developed consistent with current guidance for the prevention of SARS-CoV-2 transmission (the virus that causes COVID-19) and based in consultation with the Connecticut Department of Public Health. It was also informed by guidance on state parks and recreation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The plan will be updated as new information and operational conditions require.

“Connecticut has some of the best parks of any state in the country, and the State Parks system provides numerous opportunities across the state to explore the outdoors,” **Governor Lamont said**. “Enjoying outdoor recreation is not only good for physical health, but also for improving mental health, and I encourage everyone to explore some of the beautiful opportunities our state has to offer, particularly at those smaller, less explored state parks. Connecticut has 110 state parks and 32 state forests, offering plenty of opportunities for recreation.”

For a list of every state park in Connecticut, visit portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Listing-of-State-Parks.

“Last year, DEEP’s dedicated staff worked through uncertain and dynamic conditions to support more than 10 million visitors, a record number despite reduced capacity limits at many of our parks, forests, and beaches,” **Commissioner Dykes said**. “We have applied many lessons learned from last year, and with careful adherence to evolving guidance and a cautious eye on daily indicators, we optimistically, but cautiously, plan to ease limitations and restore access and amenities at many of our valuable outdoor recreation and education locations to provide as much opportunity for outdoor recreation as we safely can.”

Personal and group compliance with COVID-19 precautions, mask wearing, and maintaining social distance practices will be essential to the safety of park visitors and staff, and DEEP’s ability to ensure maximum safe access to these valuable resources.

There is a current 200-person limit for outdoor group activities in Connecticut, which may be further adjusted throughout the recreation season. Most park buildings, museums, nature centers, and other enclosed structures, including restrooms, will be opened on Memorial Day weekend. Six feet of social distancing must be maintained at all times while inside park buildings, along with adhering to mask wearing requirements. Visitors who do not abide by these rules may be asked to leave state park property.

DEEP encourages all visitors to take personal responsibility and make sure they comply with current public safety guidance. DEEP will always try to educate first. However, if people are blatantly ignoring the rules they may be asked to leave the park and/or face further enforcement action as required if actions and behavior are not corrected. If the parks experience too many visitors who are not following current safety guidance or adhering to recommended group sizes, DEEP may be forced to temporarily close some facilities.

DEEP’s operational plan is subject to change and daily observations and reporting of visitation at facilities will continue. Evaluation of that information may result in additional changes to allowed capacity, and perhaps other visitor management techniques, including consideration of limitation of hours of operation, and closure of specific facilities, as required.