BLOOMFIELD
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY

November 2021
Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center Mural
We Build Community

In 2020, Reader’s Digest honored Bloomfield as one of the “nicest places in America because its residents do heroic things every day to make their hometown an even better place to live.” Bloomfield’s neighbors have modeled their high expectations for quality and responsive services.

Regardless of function, title, or task, our common mission is to build a better community. Nurturing positive relationships conscious of equity and inclusion, working strategically as a team, caring for neighbors, and simply being “nice” are key expectations to building community in Bloomfield.

As proud community builders, it is our privilege and honor to serve this nationally distinguished community of nice neighbors.

- Stanley D. Hawthorne, Town Manager
Adams Road swamp/Griffin Brook Watershed
Auerfarm
Barber Pond
Bloom Hill Farm, Cottage Grove Road
Cigna campus
Van Otterloo Preserve, Mountain Road
Capt. Oliver Filley House
Wintonbury Hills Golf Course
Griffin Falls/Brook, Tariffville Road

Photo credit – Dennis Hubbs
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TOWN MANAGER’S OFFICE

Stanley D. Hawthorne, Town Manager
TOWN MANAGER’S OFFICE:
Stanley Hawthorne
Sharron Howe
Abbie Croteau

“Thank you to Bloomfield for keeping us safe throughout the pandemic. We know it’s a thankless job but we thank you for all you’re doing every day.”

– Bloomfield Neighbor

Who We Serve
Neighbors, Governing Body, Employees

Why We Serve
To Build Better Community
The Town Manager’s Office is charged with a variety of responsibilities and duties. The Town Manager serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Town of Bloomfield and works closely with the Town Council to set policies and goals consistent with the Town Charter. The Town Manager also works with the appointed staff, known as Community Builders, to ensure that those policies are enforced through the daily operations of the Town. The office is staffed by an Assistant to the Town Manager and a Clerk Typist.

The following are some key goals and initiatives of the Town Manager’s Office.

- Build supportive relationships with our neighbors, elected officials, and community builders so that everyone in this community comes to expect superior customer focus and transparency
- Provide recovery support to Covid-19 disrupted services, operations, and personnel
- Continue ongoing Town initiatives including: strategic planning, grant management, organizational efficiencies, long-term budgeting, increased communication, and greater social media presence
- Manage the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget process with an emphasis on reviewing departmental structures to capitalize on any unrecognized resources
- Provide training for management level staff, with a focus on team building, project management, and DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)
- Continue to produce bi-weekly, quarterly and annual reports including periodic public service announcements to the neighbors of Bloomfield
CLERK OF COUNCIL

India Rodgers, Clerk of Council
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

The Clerk of the Council is appointed by the Town Council per Town Ordinance, Section 303. The Clerk of the Council is responsible for keeping a public record of the proceedings of all regular and special meeting of the Council including all roll call votes, ordinances and resolutions adopted at such meetings, which record shall be kept in the Town Clerk’s Office.

In addition, the Clerk of the Council serves as the link between the Legislative and Administrative divisions of the Town of Bloomfield. The Clerk works in partnership to provide administrative support with project initiatives on behalf of the Council, while maintaining open and transparent communications with elected officials, Town Administration and the public.
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Building Division
Economic Development
Engineering Department
Planning & Zoning

Jose Giner, Director
Development Services:
We Serve Bloomfield From Start to Finish

HOT TOPICS

1. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) update
2. Department Staffing
3. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts
4. Complete Street Projects
5. Filley Park Plan Completion
Bloomfield Development Services Department Summary
Department Head: Director of Planning & Economic Development
One Administrative Analyst for the entire Department

**Building Division**
Chief Building Official plus 2 Full-time Assistant BO, 1 part-time Assistant BO, 1 Shared ABO with Simsbury.
- Building Permits and Inspections for:
  - Existing and New Construction, Electrical, Plumbing, Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC), Demolition, Remodeling Decks, Sheds over 200 square feet

**Economic Development**
Staffed by Director of Planning & Economic Development with help from Goman & York, consultants.
- Liaisons to the Economic Development Commission

**Engineering Division**
Town Engineer, Deputy Town Engineer, Civil Engineer/ Inland Wetlands Agent, Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician
- Liaisons to Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and Local Traffic Safety Committee

**Planning & Zoning Division**
- Director of Planning & Economic Development; Liaison to Town Plan and Zoning Commission, Design Review Board, Town Council Land Use and Economic Development Committee
- Zoning Enforcement Officer Liaisons to Zoning Board of Appeals
- Environmental Planner Liaisons to Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee

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**Department Revenues FY16-21**

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**Building Permits FY16-FY21**

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What is Currently Blooming in Bloomfield?

- Phase 3 (Un-named) of Town Center Apartments – 42 units under Construction across from Town Hall on Bloomfield Ave.
- Phase 2 of Town Center Apartments – 150 units across from Heirloom Flats on Jerome Ave. are before the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and the Design Review Board.
- Phase 4 of Town Center Apartments – Master Plan approved for 250 units along Bloomfield Ave. and Gabb Road.
- 111 Units of market-rate apartments under construction at the end of Jolly Drive.
- The Old Bloomfield Hardware Store is undergoing a façade improvement after a fire damaged its storefront. No new tenants have been announced.
- Former Alexandria Manor has received final Site Plan approval for 45 units of housing.
- 156,000 sf warehouse for Pepperidge Farms is under construction on West Newberry St.
- CREC Ana Grace Academy is nearing completion on Griffin Road North.
- The Shops at Gillette Ridge have submitted their application to change the retail/restaurant units to medical space. Starbucks will be moved over to where the bank had been located and roughly double its existing footprint while utilizing the existing drive-through window. The application includes a new 5,000 s.f. building that could house retail and/or restaurant uses.
- Privilege Drive (Woodland Green) – 124 duplexes on 64 lots are under construction.
- Cottage Grove Road – Lavender Field Apartments – 38 units of income based housing are nearing completion.
- The Bloomfield Tennis Club is adding outdoor red clay courts, pickle ball courts and an outdoor pool to its existing facility on Douglas Street.
- Cigna continues to upgrade its existing Headquarters and campus with a total proposed investment of 90 million dollars.
- Blue Hills Avenue Streetscape: Phase 1 of the project runs from the Town Line with Hartford to Elizabeth Avenue; Phase 2 extends the project improvements north from Elizabeth Avenue to Britton Drive; Both grant agencies agreed to merge the two phases into one project. Final design packages will be submitted to the agencies for their review prior to bidding. Construction is anticipated to begin next year.
- Simsbury-Bloomfield Connector Project - Towns/Consultant are finalizing construction details. Project bidding expected early next year, with construction to follow. Construction is expected to take 18 months.
FINANCE

ADMINISTRATION

ASSESSOR

INFORMATION SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGY

PURCHASING & RISK MANAGEMENT

TAX COLLECTOR

Curtis Eatman, Director
TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD FINANCE DEPARTMENT

• Finance Departments
  • Administration, Assessor, Tax Collector, Purchasing and Risk Management, Information Systems and Technology.

• Leader of the Town’s Budget Process

• Collector and Protector of the Town’s Funds

• Informational Systems – Cybersecurity!!!
Background
The Finance Department assists Town departments by providing them the resources needed to serve the Town of Bloomfield residents. The Finance Department performs its mission with the assistance of five divisions: Finance Administration, Finance Assessor, Finance Tax Collector, Finance Purchasing and Risk Management, and Finance Information Systems and Technology.

Finance-Administration
The Accounting department division is responsible for the proper recording of cash receipts, accounts payable and receivables, payroll and assists with the preparation of financial statements as part of the annual audit.

Accounts Payable, Payroll – Includes management of pension and retirement funds and federal and state reporting, and budget preparation, analysis & monitoring, audit functions

Finance-Assessor
The Assessor Division is mandated by State law to set assessments on real and personal property and to prepare the annual Grand List for the Town. The Assessor is responsible for the development of the grand list of property and administration of State/Town Exemption Programs (Veterans, Senior Citizens, Disabled Citizens).

Finance-Tax Collector
The Tax Collector is responsible for the billing and collection of real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes for both current and prior tax years using methods set forth in the Connecticut General Statues. The Tax Collector’s office collects taxes and provide excellent customer service.

Finance-Purchasing/Risk Management
The Purchasing Department fosters fair competition for all purchases, and conducts business without regard to the political affiliation, race, color, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, physical ability, sex, familial relationships, or business associations of vendors, contractors, and or consultants. Purchasing & Risk Management creates Requests for Proposal (“RFP”) for major products and services and monitors bid list to ensure products and services are competitively bid on a regular basis.

Finance-Information Systems and Technology
The Information System & Technology (IST) Division of the Finance Department is responsible for central computer operations for the Town Departments. IST identifies, configures and manages hardware and software to run Town and Emergency Services operations, and ensure that proper internal security controls are in place to protect the Town from viruses and hackers.
HUMAN RESOURCES

Cindy Coville, Director
The Human Resource Department is committed to supporting the Town of Bloomfield by providing services related to human resources management to all employees and retirees of the Town and Police Department.

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<th>Affirmative Action Plan/Diversity Goals</th>
<th>Recruit qualified diverse workforce for delivery of high-quality service and programs to the Town of Bloomfield.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Recruitment</td>
<td>Identify – Attract – Interview – Select - Hire and Onboard qualified employees.</td>
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<td>Collective Bargaining Units</td>
<td>UPSEU-Clerical, Teamsters Local 671, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #36</td>
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The Human Resources Department is committed to our Affirmative Action Plan and Diversity goals in recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce comprised of highly qualified employees to serve the residents and businesses in our Town. Our goal is to ensure recruiting policies and procedures are administered fairly and equitably and that employees are provided with a work environment that provides equal opportunity for learning and personal growth.

Services provided by the Human Resources Department include recruitment and testing, compensation and classification, training, policy development, random drug testing, workers’ compensation, unemployment, wellness, labor relations and employee and retiree benefits.

Some of the accomplishments during the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 include:

- Fourteen (14) full-time. All full-time hires filled vacant positions resulting from retirement, resignation, or promotion.
- Seven (7) part-time. Five (5) of these part-time employees are seasonal for the school year to work on the Town’s after school activity programs. The remaining two (2) replaced employees who resigned from employment with the Town.
- Fifty (50) summer. Part-time seasonal employees to work at the Municipal Pool and the Camp programs.
- Seven employees were promoted during the year: four (4) in Public Works, one (1) in the Tax Department, one (1) in the Building Department and one (1) in the Police Department.
Wellness/Well-Being Initiatives for our employees:

- Quarterly Lunch and Learn Programs on wellness topics
- Annual Flu Clinic
- Walking Challenge
- On-Site Biometric Screening for employees
- Cigna Wellness Incentive

Fiscal Year 2022 Affirmative Action Plan and Diversity Goals

The FY 2022 Affirmative Action Plan (AAP) was recently updated and presented to the Administrative & Education Subcommittee of the Town Council. AAP Goal achievement as well as diversity hires and promotions are reported quarterly to the Administration/Education Subcommittee.

Summer Employment Opportunities

Human Resources has partnered with Social & Youth Services to administer the second Capital Work Force Youth Employment Program during the summer. In addition, the department also assists with summer hires for the Leisure Services Department Aquatics and Camp programs.
LEISURE SERVICES

David Melesko, Director
Bloomfield Leisure Services Department

Leisure Services is committed to providing quality recreational opportunities, preserving natural resources, and managing a comprehensive system of parks and facilities dedicated to enriching the lives of a diverse and changing community.

- Summer Programs
- School Year Programs
- Aquatics
- Community / Special Events
- Parks Programming & Projects
The Bloomfield Leisure Services Department is committed to providing quality leisure opportunities for the community, preserving natural resources and open space, managing a comprehensive park system and outdoor athletic facilities, and presenting safe and quality facilities. We are dedicated to enriching the quality of life by meeting the needs of a diverse and changing community.

The Leisure Services Department is comprised of five divisions: Administration, School Year, Summer Program, Aquatics (Swimming Pool), and Parks.

**Administration**

The Administration division is responsible for major town-wide community events/programs, customer service, planning, management, office operations, and general support for the delivery of Leisure Services to the community at large. The division manages two seasonal semesters of recreational programs, Indoor (October-April) and Outdoor (May-September). This includes promoting, managing, and maintaining outdoor recreational facilities and open spaces. Support is also provided to non-profit recreation programs that are involved in youth athletics and other community programs.

**Recent Accomplishments**

- Worked with town staff, local officials, local artists, and members of the Bloomfield community to paint a Black Lives Matter mural on the Town Hall parking lot along with a second mural on the greenway path near Old Saint Andrew’s Church. The final mural of three was Martin Luther King Jr. mural painted on the exterior of the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center
- Juneteenth Celebration, Dad Hero Event, Fall 2020 Food Drive
- Celebrate Bloomfield & Pop-up Shops

**School Year Program**

The School Year Division provides balanced recreation programming for all ages. Instructional classes for adults are self-supporting and are not included in the annual operating budget. Instruction and supervision for athletic, craft, cultural and social programs both funded through the operating budget as well as self-supporting fees. This division also includes supervision and special services for special events, vacation programs, ice-skating and special uses of the facilities.

**Recent Accomplishments**

- Special Events – Family Game Nights, Family Bingo(s), Holiday Tree Lighting, Pumpkin Carving, Tie-Dye Nights, Paint Night Party, Daytime Paint Party, Grandparent’s Day Celebration, Trunk or Treat, Fall Hikes with Wintonbury Land Trust (WLT), Nature Series webinars with WLT
- Program Offerings – Couch to 5K, Therapeutic Yoga, Zumba, Zumba on the Lawn, Pickleball, Quilting, Adult Basketball, Fall Hikes, Bloomfield Intramural Club (After-school Program), CAMS 7th & 8th Grade After-school Program, Vision Board Workshop, Chicago Steppin’, Drop-In Basketball, Mommy & Me Gym Time, Start Smart Basketball, Futsal Soccer, Tennis lessons by Bloomfield Tennis Club and Jukido.
Summer Program
The Summer Program Division includes instruction and supervision of well-balanced programs of recreation offering opportunities for residents of all ages. Programs include sport program instruction and programs, camp experiences, field and court supervision, adult fitness, and community and special events. All staff is CPR/First Aid Certified and complete Blood borne pathogens training. Our summer camps for children ages 5-15 are paid for by the user fees and partial subsidies included in this division’s budget.

Recent Accomplishments
- Program Offerings – Lil Rec’ers Camp, Rebel Rec’ers Camp, Rec’ing Crew, Recreation Leadership Training, Summer Playground Drop-In program, Basketball Development Skills, ECS Soccer Academy, Mad Science Workshops, Summer Food Service Program, Community Gardens, Jukido, Pickleball, Tennis Lessons, Fierce Fitness Boot Camp, Yoga, and Zumba
- Special Events - Memorial Day Celebration, Summer Concerts, Ice Cream Socials, Paint Nights, West Indian Celebration

Aquatic / Swimming Pool Division
This division covers the operation of the 325,000 gallons outdoor pool; the pool is opened on a daily basis to both residents and non-residents. The swimming pool is typically open for public swimming for ten weeks; opening mid-to-late June through mid-to-late August. Swimming programs are offered June through August including a full range of American Red Cross learn to swim programs, recreational swimming, and aquatic exercise classes, special needs classes and private swim lessons. The department is currently working on replacing the existing wading pool with a new spray/splash pad.

Recent Accomplishments
- Pool house both interior and exterior painted, along with complete roof and gutter replacement
- Pool shell was painted with a new strong epoxy paint called insl-x paint
- Added an easy stair at a second location in the shallow end of the pool for easier pool entrance and exit for our patrons
- Purchased additional tables & umbrella as well as Adirondack chairs and rockers for our patrons
- Replaced the leach field filtration system as well as switched from liquid chlorine to dry chlorine

Parks Division
The overall maintenance budget for parks is supported through the Public Works budget, this division has been created for program support within the parks. This helps offset specialized programs and initiatives developed by the department that is not funded through the Public Works Department.
Recent Accomplishments

- Rockwell Park Basketball Courts – resurfaced, painted, and lined the basketball courts; completed court lighting project to illuminate the two basketball courts on-site.
- Pershing Park Basketball Court – removed old basketball court, restored the area with seed & loam, and constructed a new full size court on the west side of the park with a north/south orientation.
- Pershing Park Playscape – removed the existing playscape, replaced with a new Kompan playscape, and stand along apparatus.
- Replaced the access road culvert at the Farmington River Park
- Park School Complex Tennis/Pickleball Courts constructed
- Awarded funding through the Lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic to complete a trail mapping system and signage at the Farmington River Park
- Park School Complex athletic fields to reopen in Spring 2021

Current Projects and Future Goals & Initiatives

- Continue to provide quality recreation programs and leisure opportunities.
- Include more arts into programming by incorporating and displaying local art projects throughout the center and park system.
- Develop visual arts, video creation, and music component.
- Develop a parks plan for the main community parks within town: Rockwell Avenue, Park School Complex, Bloomfield High School along with the Laurel School property.
- Implementation of the Farmington River Park plan by providing community access to the river along with implementing various projects identified within the plan.
- Begin construction of the municipal pool splash pad. Request for Proposal to be released late fall, early winter 2021.
- Continue to evaluate community use of the Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center and implement changes when needed, along with recommendations for improved user experience.

Samuel Wheeler Reed Park Sunset
"Our family is so grateful to the library staff for getting us through this pandemic in such a positive and helpful manner."

1: Connect people to information
2: Foster community partnerships.
3: Create a library for everyone across our 3 locations.
4: Be the place, virtually & in-person, for people to meet, learn, and connect.

McMahon Wintonbury, Draft Rendering
Prosser, Draft Rendering
Bloomfield Public Library

Mission Statement

Bloomfield Public Library (BPL) aims to provide all members of our diverse community with access to comprehensive services, expansive print and electronic resources, technology, and expert assistance from a caring and responsive staff. By breaking down barriers to access and opening doors to opportunity, building community, and encouraging lifelong learning, BPL works to improve the quality of life for all of our residents and strives to be the heart of our town.

About the Library

Bloomfield Public Library features three locations:

- **Prosser Library**, located at 1 Tunxis Avenue, across the street from Town Hall, at the intersection of five avenues.
- **McMahon Wintonbury Library**, located at 1015 Blue Hills Avenue in the highly trafficked eastern side of town, including the densely populated Blue Hills neighborhood.
- **BPL Online** at bplct.org features 24/7 access to information and resources and includes our suite of online resources and social media content.

Library Values and Literacies of Focus

Bloomfield Public Library values the right of every citizen to have equal opportunity to achieve personal success. We are committed to leading with empathy and improving the quality of life in our community, with a focus on access and education in the following areas:

- Technology access and training
- Social justice and cultural competency
- Lifelong learning (from birth to seniors): reading, writing, early and basic literacy, finance, and health

See also: BPL Social Justice Mission Statement; ALA Core Values of Librarianship; Library Bill of Rights; CT State Library’s Seven Literacies
Strategic Plan Summer 2021-25

Goal 1: One Library Card, Endless Possibilities
Library cards are free! Bloomfield residents of all ages from birth are eligible for a library card, yet only 33% of Bloomfield residents have one.
- Increase the number of residents with a library card.
- Expand the potential of a library card.
- Spread the word! You can use your library card in any public library in Connecticut.

Goal 2: A Library for Everyone
Focus on excellence across the three locations serving all ages.
- Identify and address barriers to access with a specific focus on diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice.
- Modernize library facilities to be ADA compliant and responsive to community needs.
- Design and execute Fine Free Campaign.

Goal 3: We’re Here for You!
Ensure positive patron experience through a responsive service model and empathetic staff, with access to collections, technology, and equipment.
- Connect people with what they need through excellent customer service.
- Improve the user experience in-person and via BPL Online, with additional emphasis on technology access and education.
- Provide ongoing professional development opportunities for staff in order to implement and maintain up-to-date services reflective of community interests and needs.

Goal 4: Community + Library = A Better Bloomfield
Be the place, virtually and in-person, for people to meet, learn, and connect.
- Provide relevant, diverse, and responsive programming for all age groups and communities.
- Foster community partnerships.
- Improve and promote BPL Online library, which is always open — read, watch, listen, research!
Two Library Buildings Project

McMahon Wintonbury Library
1015 Blue Hills Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Prosser Library
1 Tunxis Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Anticipated Features of the New Libraries
• More Space
• More Technology
• Children’s Space
• Teen Area
• More Parking
• Energy Efficient / Solar Panels
• More Study Spaces
• ADA Compliant
• Community Meeting Areas
• Cafés

For more information about this project, visit: bplct.org
A Baker’s Dozen of Things You Can Do at BPL

- Get a library card for free.
- Reserve a study room space.
- Play computer games with your friends.
- Use BPL Online to stream a movie from home with Hoopla and Kanopy for free.
- Checkout your favorite book, blockbuster, or cookbook without worrying about fines.
- Borrow a museum pass for free or reduced admission to 19 local cultural institutions.
- Attend a program for free. We had more than 11,800 program participants in the last year!
- Sign your kid or grandkid up for the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program.
- Learn a new language with Mango Languages or read the NYT online for free.
- Scan, fax, email, and print documents from a BPL computer.
- Borrow a hotspot and a laptop computer to access Wi-Fi from home for free.
- Browse the NEW books! Find a new favorite author today for free.
- Say hello to BPL staff and fellow townsfolk. We’re here for you!
POLICE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
BLOOMFIELD VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE

Paul Hammick, Police Chief
TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD
POLICE DEPARTMENT

• COMMUNITY POLICING
• EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
• BASIC AND ADVANCED
  MEDICAL RESPONSE
MISSION STATEMENT:

The Bloomfield Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life for all people in our community by developing community-oriented partnerships to prevent crime, uphold the law and provide a safe and secure place to live, work and visit.

COMMUNITY POLICING

Community policing is the core of our operating philosophy. At the Bloomfield Police Department, community policing is not restricted to an officer, a unit or a program, rather, it is an overall philosophy that requires the support and participation of every member of the Bloomfield Police Department. It is an organizational strategy built on the foundation of Partnerships and Problem Solving within our community.

Partnerships are the cornerstone of this strategy. In order to establish legitimacy and trust within our community, it is vital that every member of the Police Department work to create strong, effective partnerships with community residents, businesses and stakeholders. Our staff has embraced this strategy, and over the past several years has established strong relationships within the community. With the recent addition of many new members to the department, I continuously challenge every member of the department to join me in creating new relationships while strengthening existing ones. It is fundamental to maintaining trust within our community and continuing our reputation as community servants.

I cannot overstate the importance of this practice. In order to build legitimacy in the eyes of the community, the police should be viewed as protectors and problem solvers, rather than enforcers and the Police Department must continue to demonstrate that it is committed to working in cooperation with our community partners, dedicated to transparency and accountability for our actions and performance.

The Police Department has demonstrated our commitment to community policing by engaging in the following progressive policing efforts.

- A department-wide Strategic Operating Plan focused on community policing, problem solving, building legitimacy in the community and professionalism in our efforts.

- Advanced National and State Accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and The Police Officer Standards and Training (POST). Bloomfield is nationally recognized for our Community Policing efforts.

- The first department wide body-worn-camera program in Connecticut.

- Department-wide training in de-escalation techniques and Crisis Intervention for mental health emergencies.

- Recruitment and retention efforts focused on increasing the diversity of our uniformed and support staff.
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
The Police Department also serves as the coordinating agency for all Town-wide emergency operations response. We work with and coordinate the activities of other Town Departments, the two independent fire agencies, as well as regional, State and private entities in response to emergencies that affect our community. Emergencies can range from small incidents, to large community-wide and regional events. Examples include:

- Traffic related emergencies
- Weather related events
- Emergency Shelter Operations
- Mass casualty incidents
- Pandemic response

Through the Town’s Emergency Operations Plan, The Police Department coordinates activities with the State Emergency Operation Center, regional partners and Town resources.

We provide community updates and information using Code Red, a community emergency and general information platform. For information on how to download the App to your phone, here is the link:


BASIC AND ADVANCED MEDICAL RESPONSE
Bloomfield Police Officers are first responders and are dispatched to all medical emergencies within the Bloomfield Community. The Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) began in 1977 as a division of the Police Department, and has served the Bloomfield community continuously for the past 44 years. BVA utilizes a unique blend of contracted paramedics and over 35 volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians to respond 24/7 to both advanced and basic life support emergencies.

The Bloomfield community generates approximately 2500 medical calls a year and BVA responds, on average, to half of them. The Police Department also contracts with American Medical Response (AMR) as our back up ambulance service to respond to calls when BVA is not available. Aetna Ambulance, Windsor EMS as well as Granby Ambulance will also provide mutual aid coverage in the event of an emergency.
The Bloomfield Emergency Medical Services Sub委员会 (EMS Subcommission) is a subcommission of the Town Council Public Safety Committee. The EMS subcommission is not directly involved in the operations or management of BVA, but was formed to create and implement activities to foster support and interest in current Bloomfield EMS programs.

The Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance Fund is a 501c3 that was established at the inception of BVA. The Fund meets semi-annually to discuss fundraising efforts and donations made to BVA. The Fund has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years through annual fund drives, as well as receiving donations from those who have chosen to name BVA in their estate planning, along with others who choose to donate for other various reasons. The generosity of citizens has made it possible for The Fund to purchase, and then donate to the Town, every ambulance that BVA has used over the 44 years.

The Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance Coordinating Committee is a social action committee comprised of current BVA members. This committee provides resources for quarterly meetings with the membership as well as annual social gatherings and awards banquets. The committee also provides acknowledgements for health and welfare of the membership along with recognition for our volunteers during EMS Week for their dedication and selfless service to the community.
PUBLIC WORKS

Daniel Carter, Director
Public Works Department

1. **Who We Are**

   - Administration
   - Operations
   - Facilities
   - Fleet Services

   Public Works Department

   4 divisions comprised of 34 Public Works professionals

2. **What We Do**

   - Serve Our Residents
   - Maintain Our Roads
   - Maintain Our Grounds
   - Maintain Our Buildings
   - Administer Solid Waste
   - Maintain our Fleet

3. **Who We Serve**

   - Our Residents
   - Our Community
   - Our Neighbors
   - Other Town agencies and Departments

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Core Functions - Public Works & Facilities Department

**ROADS**
- Manage and maintains regulatory roadways signage
- Snow Removal & Street Sweeping
- Storm Drain Repairs
- Maintains and repairs guardrails and fencing
- Manages and coordinates roadway resurfacing program
- Manages road lane striping program
- Performs Tree Removals and Maintenance

**GROUNDS**
- Maintains town parks, grounds, building and school grounds
- Manages and maintains landscaping, including trees, on public rights of way
- Maintains all athletic fields at town & board of education properties
- Coordinates town-wide beautification program

**FACILITIES**
- Manages 7 Town buildings totaling approx. 187,000 sf
- Performs building and equipment maintenance in (selected) town buildings
- Performs capital and preventative maintenance planning and oversight
- Monitor energy consumption and provide recommendations to improve energy efficiencies
FLEET

- Maintains all heavy equipment and fleet vehicles to include purchase, re-assignment and disposal.
- Prepares specifications and makes recommendations for new vehicle purchases.
- Manages fuel dispensing and storage system and supply for all town vehicles.
- Maintains vehicles and manages billing for repair service to non-BPWD and non-Town equipment (BOE).

FLEET DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT

Grounds Maintenance (BOE)

Special events
- Elections (Town Clerk)
- Concerts on Green (Leisure Services)
- Various community events

Vehicle Accidents and Traffic (Police & Fire)

Building openings/access (ALL)
Office moves/changes (ALL)
Evictions (Social Services)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Wintonbury School Touch-A-Truck
- Public Works Food Drive
- Laurel School Touch-A-Truck
- Public Works Stuff-A-Truck
MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the Public Works Department is to provide quality operations and maintenance services to the Town of Bloomfield.

VISION STATEMENT
To be an industry leader and model for what it means to be a professional, capable and nationally certified public works department. To continually strive to provide services to our community, businesses and visitors as proof of our professionalism and community pride.

VALUES STATEMENT
Public Works Department employees are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner at all times when interacting with the public, other departments, or other town employees. The culture of the department is one of inclusion, professionalism and demonstrated excellence.

Bloomfield Public Works and Facilities is the FIRST agency to be Nationally Accredited in Connecticut, and one of only three in New England!
Challenges / Concerns

- Developing more diversity within the department
- Maintaining levels of service due to additional infrastructure
- Aging equipment (Capital Budget)
- Failing infrastructure (town-wide)
- Develop an Urban Forestry Plan (Ash Tree concern)
SENIOR SERVICES

Yvette Huyghue-Pannell, Director
• Healthy Aging & Self Care
• Emotional & Physical Health
• Food Insecurities & Good Nutrition
• Mini-Bus Transportation
• Community Partnerships & Social Activities
The Mission of the Marilyn Michaelson Senior Center of Bloomfield, Connecticut, is to serve as a welcoming focal point for the delivery of services to older adults and their caregivers by responding to their diverse needs and interests in a manner that will enhance their dignity, support their independence, health and general well-being, and encourage their involvement in the Senior Center and Community.

The Senior Center has been nationally accredited since 2004. Fewer than 2% of senior centers nationwide have achieved and maintained this designation.

Recognizing that Bloomfield residents are lifelong learners, Senior Services strives to offer classes and programs that promote aging well for all. The National Council on Aging’s evidence-based Aging Mastery Program (AMP) is designed to change societal expectations about the roles and responsibilities of older adults and create fun and easy-to-follow pathways for getting more out of life. For Bloomfield, that includes Tai Ji Quan Moving for Better Balance, designed to help improve balance and prevent falls. The Connecticut-based LGBT Moveable Senior Center program encourages community members and allies to meet for special programming and to learn about services available to older adults.

We collaborate with area medical centers to provide well-being and health-related opportunities such as lung cancer screenings, dental health and blood pressure checks. “Made Easy” seminars cover those topics “no one wants to talk about” (Final Planning, the A-B-C’s of Probate, Coping with the Blahs). Exercise programs range from the “gentle” chair yoga and energy balance to the more strenuous Be Fit & Have Fun, Aerobics and Chair Pilates. The Bloomfield Citizens Academy (presented in collaboration with the Town Manager’s Office) provides residents over the age of 14 an opportunity to get a behind the scenes look at how their town works. Lifelong learning also includes social programs, such as Juneteenth Celebrations, the Annual Senior Expo, men’s and women’s breakfasts, and Thanksgiving luncheons. Events such as these, along with regular FoodShare distributions, a monthly food box program, Meals-on-Wheels and the Community Renewal Team Community Café also assist with food insecurity and good nutrition.

Trips and excursions provide entertainment, education and companionship. Whether it be a quick trip to the Bushnell or a longer expedition to South Africa--or something in between--new friendships are forged and memories created within each of our travelers.

Bloomfield Senior Services is a North Central Area Agency on Aging Focal Point for providing information and services to the senior population and their support networks.

Senior Services also endeavors to help reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation, emotions that became more prevalent during the pandemic. Programs such as the Day Brightener (a thinking of you card accompanying a “sweet treat” donated by Stop & Shop) and regular wellness calls were instituted and have become part of our regular routine.
A resident called to express concern about an acquaintance who was not answering her phone. A mini-bus driver went to the woman’s home to do a wellness check and reported that the woman answered the door visibly upset and crying, but said that she was “okay.” Another staff member followed up with a phone call to the resident, during which they chatted for a few moments. The driver then returned to the resident’s home to deliver a Day Brightener and found the woman in a much better frame of mind. She shared that after the phone call, she was motivated to get dressed, empty her trash, and get moving again.

There are many volunteer opportunities available through Senior Services. Examples include Meals-on-Wheels delivery, Town Hall Greeters, course instruction and coordination of mailings. Volunteers also participate in intergenerational programs and manage Ida’s Shoppe.

Meals-on-Wheels is a service that enables citizens to maintain independence in their own homes and environment. These lunches and dinners provide necessary nutrition to those who can neither shop for, nor prepare, food for themselves. Although the program is geared toward those over the age of 55, younger individuals with a physician’s referral may also participate. The Community Renewal Team Senior Café is an elderly nutrition site where, for a small donation, those over the age of 60 may enjoy companionship and a nutritious lunch. Those under 60 are welcome, but must pay the full cost of their meal.

The Bloomfield mini-bus service provides curb-to-curb transportation for residents 60 years of age and older and medically-eligible persons age 18 and over. This shared ride service provides an opportunity for individuals to maintain their independence and participate in activities of daily living. Transportation is available weekdays from 9:00 am to 3:45 pm for in-town medical appointments, shopping, banking, and dining out, as well as attending Senior Center programs and volunteer efforts. Out-of-town transportation is available for medical appointments in Hartford, West Hartford and UCONN Medical Center. Excursions are also scheduled to Greater Hartford area malls and restaurants. Twice-a-month weekend outings provide a chance to visit regional areas of interest.

Senior Services is proud to partner with other town departments, the National Council on Aging, North Central Area Agency on Aging, Connecticut Community Care, University of St. Joseph, UCONN, Goodwin College, Greater Hartford Legal Aid, local businesses, community groups and places of worship.

Quality of life, which includes living with dignity, security, and independence; and enrichment of the human spirit in the form of fun and friendship, is the motivating factor in all we do.
SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES

Camilla Hillian, Director
SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES
TOWN COUNCIL ORIENTATION

As an advocate for individuals, older adults, children and families, we enhance the well-being, self-sufficiency, and quality of life of all Bloomfield residents. We provide help and referral services to meet basic human needs; with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of those who are vulnerable and oppressed.
As an advocate for individuals, older adults, children and families, we enhance the well-being, self-sufficiency, and quality of life for all Bloomfield residents. We provide help and referral services to meet basic human needs; with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of those who are vulnerable and oppressed.

- **Information & Referrals:** The department responds to calls and individual appointments to assist residents with a multitude of needs including: housing, mental health/substance abuse, veteran services, disability resources, older adults programs & care needs, diaper bank distribution, probate court documents, insurance options, state applications, parent & youth outreach and case management services.

- **Financial Assistance & Basic Needs:** Through collaborations with our community partners, the department provides resources that helps households with bridging the gaps in resources. Such assistance includes: Food Insecurity, Energy Assistance (heat, utilities, MDC, weatherization), Rent & Mortgage Assistance, COVID-19 resources, Holiday giving programs, summer camp financial assistance, employment resource & assistance, prescription assistance and other basic needs as determined by social workers.

- **Emergency/Crisis Intervention:** Department staff are available 24/7 to respond to a variety of emergency situations. Staff work in collaboration with emergency responders, health & building officials to assist residents in times of great need. This includes: Implementation of Uniform Relocation Assistance in response to fires and building code violations, Management of the town’s Emergency Shelter (located at Arace School), responding to Family With Service Needs referrals, Juvenile Review Board.

- **Youth/family groups & community events:** Youth Services coordinates programs and activities that promotes the healthy development of Bloomfield’s youth and families. Through the support of the Bloomfield Youth Adult Council, town & grant funding and community collaborations Youth Services provides impactful services that include: Summer Youth Employment, leadership and positive youth development after school programming, Foster Care Support Network (29 years of service), Police & Youth collaborations, intergenerational programming, Annual Back to School Fair and Trunk or Treat events, community forums, recreational & cultural activities and trips.

- **Community Partnerships:** Town Departments, Bloomfield Public Schools, Places of Worship, Capital Workforce Partners, Department of Children & Families, United Way, Operation Fuel, Community Renewal Team, local businesses & community groups.
BSYS GOALS & INITIATIVES

- Upgraded website landing page
- Improve marketing of programs and services
- Increase social media presence
- Extend office hours to increase accessibility to residents
- Convert Food Bank to a “Shopping Model”
- Expand Summer Youth Employment Program
TOWN ATTORNEY

Marc Needelman, Town Attorney
TOWN ATTORNEY
MARC NEEDELMAN

INTERESTS AND PRIORITIES

• DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF THE TOWN
• SERVE AS LEGAL ADVISOR FOR TOWN COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER AND OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS
• PROVIDE LEGAL OPINIONS, REVIEW AND APPROVE CONTRACTS, MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGAL ACTION ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN
• ATTORNEY NEEDELMAN CAN BE REACHED AT (860) 242-7174 OR VIA EMAIL: MARC.NEEDELMAN@MNNLAW.COM
TOWN ATTORNEY

Section 505 of the Bloomfield Charter sets forth the requirements and responsibilities of this appointed position. The Town Council appoints a Town Attorney for a two-year term to run concurrently with the Council’s term. The Town Attorney is required to belong to the Bar Association of the State of Connecticut.

The Town Attorney is charged with appearing for and defending the rights of the Town, as well as serving as legal advisor for the Town Council, Town Manager, and other Town Officials. The Town Attorney is responsible for providing legal opinions, reviewing and approving contracts and other documents as well as making recommendations for legal action or settlement on behalf of the Town. The Town Budget includes funding for specialized legal counsel in areas such as labor, zoning, and workers’ compensation claims.

Attorney Needelman can be reached at (860) 242-7174 or via email: marc.needelman@mnnlaw.com.
TOWN CLERK

Marguerite Phillips, Town Clerk
Town Clerk’s Office

Land Records | Vital Records | Elections

Record Management | Misc. Duties

“I appreciate your dedication to doing a great job for our town. I am sure it has been and continues to be very challenging during the pandemic.”
When we look at Other States or New England States, Connecticut is unique. We are not County Government, we are Town Government. Most States have County Government and much of what a Connecticut Town Clerk’s Office does is done at the County Court House. For example, Land Records and all that it entails is done at the County Court House; however, here in Connecticut all of that work is done by the Town Clerk’s Office.

The Town Clerk’s Office has 4 full time employees, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, and two Assistant Town Clerks. By statute, all employees have signing power and are crossed trained, as it is imperative this office never stops functioning. The Town Clerk serves not only the public, but also all Departments, Boards and Commissions, answering many questions on multiple topics. The Connecticut Town Clerk Certification program is designed in conjunction with the State of Connecticut and its various agencies. To earn the CCTC (Connecticut Certified Town Clerk) designation you must complete five modules and pass the State Certification exam.

They include the following:

- Land Records
- Vital Records
- Elections
- Records Management
- Miscellaneous Records/Other Duties of the Town Clerks

It is imperative that all employees are trained properly to be consistent in all we do and not create any legal issues. Certification programs prepare workers for what they may face day-to-day on the job and gives them the necessary tools to accomplish their work goals and overcome challenges without legal ramifications. This dedication requires commitment to the Town Clerk profession which allows for our staff to be more efficient, have fewer mistakes and be confident to perform the important tasks at hand. The Town Clerk’s Office is named in hundreds of State Statutes and must follow the legal requirements to perform their duties. The Town Clerk’s Office strives to provide a high level of service to the Community while remaining efficient in delivery of those services.

The Town Clerk is the keeper of the records. Being one of the more frequently visited office in Town Hall, the Town Clerk’s office provides the professional link between the Citizens, Town Departments, local governing bodies, boards, commissions and agencies of the Town government. We receive many inquiries to research daily by mail, email, phone call and in person. We receive large amounts of paper for record daily.

Land records indexes are required to be electronic databases and must be searchable by both the Grantor and Grantee of each document. To comply with this standard, we have an automated system to create the databases for land records. These databases can be accessed from your home on the Town’s website. You have the ability to see the index and images for our land records to the current minute. That is why it is important for the Town Clerk’s Office to be up to date with the land record processes and have these documents scanned for the public’s use. The Town Charter and Ordinances are also online.

As an archivist of the Town’s records, the Town Clerk takes this stewardship role seriously and applies for grants annually for the preservation and conservation of the Town’s oldest records. We not only preserve the Town’s records from past generations, but also today’s records for future
generations. With technology constantly evolving, we must ensure the continued accessibility and readability of our electronic records throughout their life cycle. Because of the challenges to keeping up with technology, state law requires us to also keep hard copies of all documents. We must also microfilm certain permanent records.

100% of what we do in the Town Clerk’s Office is required by law. With the processing of land records, vital records and other miscellaneous duties we bring in fees in the $700,000 - $1,000,000+ range. Penalties are imposed if the work is not done in a timely manner.

We have a number of responsibilities that are fulfilled in accordance with Federal laws, State laws, and local laws thru the Town Charter and Ordinances. These responsibilities include but are not limited to; the recording, indexing, scanning/microfilming and security storage of the Towns Official records; and the recording of Land Records, Towns Vital Records, issues and records certificates, permits, birth, marriage, death, burial, disinterment, cremation, name change, adoptions, liquor permits, trade name registration, notary public. We supervise and coordinate all General and Special Elections, primaries and referendum, prepare all ballots, including (EDR) Election Day Registration ballots, issue Absentee ballots, Presidential ballots, Emergency, Supervised, Military and Overseas ballots and, along with the Registrar of Voters instruct election officials and provide election supplies. The Town Clerk tallies, certifies and records election results, administers oath of office, maintains election and campaign finance records; issues licenses and collects applicable fees, dog licenses, fish and game licenses and fish and game permits, stamps and tags, issues marriage licenses, certified copies of vital records. The Town of Bloomfield has many nursing homes and assisted living homes that have hospitals in them. As we are treated as a hospital town for death records we regularly meet with Funeral Directors and process 300 plus deaths yearly; insures that accurate bookkeeping records are kept for all Town Clerk fees, including land records, conveyance tax collected for town and state, farm land, historic preservation, DEEP, dogs etc.

The Town Clerk prepares monthly and yearly reports for the Department of Revenue Services, State Treasurer, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Health, Public Records Administrator, State Library, Secretary of the State, Department of Agriculture and various other departments. Audits are done at the local level as well as the state level as required by law; Serves as Notary Public, processes notary applications and records certificates and administers the oath; publishes legal notices as required by law and insures compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. We maintain agendas and minutes of various boards; respond to general inquiries from attorneys, title searchers, town departments, state departments and the general public; serve as custodian for the Town Seal, insure that the Town’s records are retained and disposed of in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Office of the Public Records Administrator and State Archives of the Connecticut State Library.

The Town Clerk is responsible for the copiers for Town Hall, Town Hall Annex, Libraries, Police Department, and Public Works Department; Maintenance contracts, Lease, Service, supplies and billing, as well as, ongoing questions being answered for all departments on this subject; We are the Liaison to Town Council – Committee on Committees and guide them in the laws that allow for appointments to Boards and Agencies and filling vacancies in elective office. We file monthly reports, memos, keeping track of the appointment book, vacancies, letters of interest etc. The Town Clerks Office is responsible for FOI requests.
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Donald F. Harris, Jr., Board of Education Chair
Dr. James Thompson, Jr., Superintendent of Schools
Bloomfield Public Schools

- Bloomfield Public Schools demographics
- Plan of Excellence 2021-2024
- District Goals for 2021-2022
  1. Portrait of a Graduate Initiative
  2. Plan for the establishment of a school readiness program for ages 3 and 4
  3. Advance the work to address racism and inequity
  4. Developing a district Talented and Gifted program

Over the past decade, the district has made substantial strides due to the collaboration of our staff, families and partners. Here are a few highlights:

**Portrait of a Graduate Initiative**

As part of our ongoing efforts to prepare students for college and meaningful careers, Bloomfield Public Schools launched a collaborative, town-wide initiative to develop a Portrait of a Graduate. Our Portrait of a Graduate work will help us to identify and align, within our curriculum, ideal learning experiences needed for our students to prosper in a 21st Century global economy.
Bloomfield Public Schools is a school district intently focused on achieving excellence in academics, athletics and the arts – and preparing students for college and meaningful careers. Ensuring equity and excellence for all students, our schools partner with families and the community to accelerate learning experiences.

The school district is led by Superintendent Dr. James Thompson Jr., who joined Bloomfield Public Schools in April of 2011. Over the past decade, the district has seen significant gains in the graduation rate which went from 74% in 2011 to 90% in 2020. The district began its transformation through the strategic use of academic data and professional development to improve student performance and classroom instruction. This has led to improved outcomes for Bloomfield Public Schools’ students.

The district attributes student success to the implementation of a District Plan of Excellence. Thoughtfully created in response to the needs of our students, staff, and community, our work aligns with our core values and beliefs, while setting high expectations for student performance. The plan’s vision and theory of action for academic excellence was developed from guidance of our community members. The clarity and focus of the plan permits educators to recognize and act on what is required for all students to succeed.

The district has established four key priorities which guides our work (1) Holistic Accountability, (2) Rigorous Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, (3) Positive School Climate, and (4) Family and Community Engagement.

The 2021-2024 District Plan of Excellence can be viewed on the Bloomfield Public Schools website (www.bloomfieldschools.org).

Each year, aligned with the Plan of Excellence, the Superintendent establishes annual district goals. The focus for 2021-2022 includes:

- Implementing of the Portrait of a Graduate Initiative.
- Planning for the establishment of a school readiness program for Bloomfield children ages 3 and 4 for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Advancing the work to address racism and inequity.
- Developing a district Talented and Gifted program.

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The Portrait of a Graduate project began in March 2021, when Board of Education members shared their expectations about the academic skills, mindset and achievements when a student graduates from Bloomfield. We have heard from the Town Council, school staff, local business leaders, institutes of higher education, and other community groups to establish core competencies for every graduate. Our focus this year is to implement our Portrait of a Bloomfield Graduate across the district.

**Extended School Day and Year**
- Free extended school day programs are available to students in Kindergarten through grade 6. The purpose is to provide our students with enrichment opportunities beyond the traditional school day that support achievement. The district partners with organizations such as the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Hartford Boys and Girls Club, and Auerfarm to provide this programming.

- Bloomfield Public Schools’ students in grades Pre-K through 12, have the opportunity to participate in a free, comprehensive summer programming for (purpose) academic enrichment. New in 2021 was the Ready Steps program for incoming Kindergarten students. This program prepared students to be ready for school, cognitively, socially, and emotionally.

**Addressing Racism and Inequity**
The Bloomfield Board of Education supports programming and practices designed to educate our learning community about cultures and customs throughout the world, including Caribbean and Latin American cultures.

This past year, the district celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance with yearlong activities that celebrated the culture, music, art, and history from the 1920’s and beyond. Invitations were extended to the larger Bloomfield community to participate in all virtual events.

Bloomfield teachers have also participated in professional development, book studies and curriculum development to align with historically and culturally responsive teaching practices.

**Partnerships**
Partnerships with local businesses, community organizations, colleges and universities have all become even more vital in providing additional resources, learning opportunities and enrichment for our students. These partnerships play a key role in the district’s goal of expanding educational programs in order to make college and meaningful careers accessible to all students.
Magnet Schools
Bloomfield Public Schools operates two magnet schools in town, Global Experience Magnet School, serving students in grades 6-12 and Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School, serving 3 and 4 year olds. Global Experience Magnet School prepares students to succeed in a highly competitive global economy. The school’s “global” theme is enhanced through their international schools partnerships. The Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School’s mission is to develop the character of young children and create a sense of wonder about their environment, culture and world. The school’s scientific inquiry theme is enriched through their partnership with Auerfarm.

Students from Global Experience Magnet School
BLUE HILLS
FIRE DEPARTMENT

Willie Jones, Fire Chief
It is the mission of the Blue Hills Fire Department to provide the protection of the lives and property of the residents and those who work in or visit the Blue Hills Fire District in the town of Bloomfield from the dangers associated with fires, life threatening emergencies, and hazardous chemical releases from accidents and natural disasters.

VISION
We will continue to transform today’s fire/rescue service into a progressive proactive and professional service, a service that will exceed today’s demands, and meet tomorrow’s. We will provide excellent customer service and exceed the expectations of the people we serve, both internally and externally. We must be responsive to the changing needs of our customers.

WHO WE ARE
Founded in 1926, the Blue Hills Fire department is a combination department consisting of 30 volunteer firefighters and 5 career full-time firefighters. The department includes the fire marshal’s office and provides fire prevention, suppression, and rescue services to the 20,000 residents of the town of Bloomfield and assists neighboring communities. We serve the Blue Hills Fire District, which makes up one third of the town on the eastern side.

Our career firefighters work Monday through Friday in two shifts; three firefighters work from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and two firefighters works 3:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

The present Blue Hills Fire Department fleet includes four engine companies, one tower ladder, and three support vehicles. We have an automatic mutual aid agreement with Bloomfield Center Fire Department and the Windsor Fire Department for response to smoke in the building and structure fire calls.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
The Blue Hills Fire Department is more than a protector of the community. Our firefighters are a part of it and we offer several events during the year to support the people who live, work, and visit this beautiful part of Connecticut.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT
We also want to help the less fortunate with our annual coat drive, which has provided warm garments and funds, and various food drives. The firefighters also adopt families during the holidays (people who we will never meet face-to-face because their privacy is protected through the appropriate social services) men, women, and children that we consider part of our family. While we enjoy our social events like the Lobster Fest in September, the bottom line is simple… to our community we say, “We’re here. Just call us.”

SAFETY EDUCATION
Our education goals are simple: to help people avoid danger and, when that is impossible, know how to react during an emergency.

- Our annual May event gives the public the chance to safely experience a smoking vehicle and ask questions of us. Other first responders join in this important community event, such as the police who teach the proper installation method for car seats. Funds raised support the Connecticut Burns Foundation.
- We visit schools, especially during October, National Fire Prevention Month, to show children the equipment we use to battle fires, including the gear we wear and the trucks we drive. We also start a good fire to cook up some tasty hot dogs and other refreshments for our visiting friends!
- The firefighters are proud to participate in meet-and-greets with Boy Scouts, youth groups, and church organizations to provide information and conduct activities that will make a safer community for all of us.
- We offer an internship program to Bloomfield High School students who win an essay contest and are in good academic standing. Two to four students who might be interested in a public safety career have the opportunity to work alongside firefighters, listen to guests speakers from various emergency service disciplines, and gain a unique educational experience over the course of six weeks.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
The need for firefighters is as old as fire itself and always ongoing. We won’t sugar coat it—the work is physically and emotionally demanding but, when you go on your first call and see that you can make a difference in somebody’s life by helping them, it makes you feel good inside. Firefighters are respected in the community for their service and integrity. We don’t stop helping once a fire is extinguished. We help people who have lost their homes by working with the American Red Cross and do everything in our power to assist those who have experienced an emergency situation.

The firefighting community is a brotherhood and sisterhood like no other. If you would like to consider joining us, please call 860-243-8949 for more information.
CENTER VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT

William Riley, Fire Chief
The Town of Bloomfield is comprised of two separate fire districts. The Bloomfield Center Fire District, which covers about 2/3 of the town or approximately 17.7 sq. miles in the western part of town and the Blue Hills Fire District covers the remainder of the town on the eastern side. These Fire Districts are two separate and independent municipal governments which set tax rates and collect taxes for the operation of their departments to include buildings, fire apparatus & equipment, daily operation, etc. The Bloomfield Center Fire District is governed by a Board of three Fire Commissioners which are elected yearly for a three-year term. The Bloomfield Center Fire District administrative offices are located at 18 Wintonbury Avenue in the center of town. These offices house a 24/7 communications center, which employs a staff of 3 full-time dispatchers and 8 part time dispatchers. They dispatch for both fire districts and are responsible for answering both emergency and non-emergency calls as well as other clerical duties. Also located here are the Chief’s offices, Treasurer and Clerk’s office and the Office of the Fire Marshal.

**Fire Department**
The Bloomfield Center Volunteer Fire Department is comprised of three (3) fire stations:
- Headquarters – 18 Wintonbury Ave
- Company 2 – 41 Duncaster Road
- Company 3 & Training Grounds – 360 Tunxs Avenue

The department apparatus includes the following:
- 5 Pumpers (3 of which are combined rescue pumpers)  
- 1 Aerial Platform 100’
- 1 Tanker (2000 gallons)  
- 1 Medium Duty Rescue Vehicle
- 2 Brush Vehicles  
- 1 Utility Vehicle
- 1 Command Vehicle  
- 1 Fire Marshal Vehicle

There are presently 35 active members in the department including the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, 3 Captains and 3 Lieutenants, who respond to both non-emergency and emergency calls to include fires, area smoke investigations, water calls, power lines down and/or arcing, open burning, fire alarms, sprinkler activations, smoke alarms, CO alarms, hazardous materials incidents, motor vehicle accidents, lost and/or trapped individuals, etc.

Firefighters train on a minimum weekly basis on Tuesday evenings in regard to all the above scenarios. The day to day operation of the volunteer fire department is under the administrative oversight of the Fire Chief and his command staff. Activities and operations of the fire department include fire extinguishment, pre-fire planning and facilities management that includes building and vehicle maintenance.

**Fire Chief**
- Insures proper management, discipline and training of the members of the fire department.
- Establishes suitable measures for effective policies, rules and regulations and procedures necessary for the efficient operation of the fire department.
- Deploys fire apparatus and personnel in the most advantageous manner for the control and extinguishment of fire and preservation of property.
- Maintains a balance of fire personnel between stations to ensure optimum response efficiency.
• Holds meetings with subordinate fire officers for the purpose of policy matters, working conditions, training practices and other subjects related to the efficiency of fire department operations.
• Maintains a personnel roster for purposes of training assignments, work assignments, etc.
• Maintains a complete record of fire apparatus and fire equipment including cost, maintenance and operating expense.
• Maintains an accurate record of all business transacted by the fire department.
• Maintains complete record and cost of fire station operating supplies.
• Submits to Board of Commissioners an annual budget estimate for fire department equipment, supplies and operation with supporting justification.

Office of the Fire Marshal (Fire District)
• Many duties of the Fire Marshal’s Office are imposed by Chapter 541 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
• The office reviews, comments on plans and specifications, and either approves or rejects permits to ensure fire safety codes are met in all new buildings except one and two family dwellings.
• The office is also part of the approval process for the site plans of new constructions to ensure that both firefighters and apparatus can access those structures and/or developments.
• The office investigates the origin, cause and circumstance of all fires within the Fire District.
• Follows up on suspicious fires to determine any wrongdoing. Recommends enforcement action as necessary.
• Additional duties include the investigation of petroleum and hazardous materials spills.
• Responds to complaints and/or inquiries concerning hazardous fire conditions and takes appropriate action to assure public safety.
• The Fire Marshal issues permits for the use, transportation and storage of explosives in accordance with code and the inspection of fireworks and special effects displays for compliance with the regulations.
• Responsible for the Certification for state licensing: day care centers, medical centers and liquor permit premises.
• Inspection and enforcement duties to assure code compliance for a variety of facilities and services, including: regulated tents and portable structures, flammable liquid installations, outdoor amusements, commercial tanks for storage of fuel oil, gasoline, and liquid propane gas, among others.
• Receives complaints regarding fire hazards and potential Code violations and investigates them as necessary.
• Participates in the development of near term and long range planning and strategies to meet fire prevention, school safety and fire safety objectives of the district.
• Coordinates with Police, Planning and Zoning, Public Works, the Health District, Building Official and the Bloomfield Center Volunteer Fire Department to ensure a coordinated approach on public safety matters.

The office also coordinates fire prevention education programs and provides safety tips and information on general Code enforcement.
WEST HARTFORD
BLOOMFIELD
HEALTH DISTRICT

Aimee Krauss, Director
What is a Local Health District?
Health Districts provide core public health functions that lay the groundwork for healthy communities. These functions include protecting the community from diseases, injuries, and changing behavior that is harmful. This assures that we have water that is safe to drink, sewage and sanitation systems that protect our communities from diseases, clean restaurants to protect us from foodborne illnesses, a disaster response system, immunizations to prevent epidemics, and a way to track health problems and find solutions.

Our Health District receives its funding from three primary sources: general fund appropriations from West Hartford and Bloomfield, fees for services such as licensing / permits, and grants. Grants that we are eligible for include State of Connecticut Per Capita Grant, Preventative Health Block Grant, and categorical grants that become available. We are annually awarded grants from the State of Connecticut based on our capacity to provide essential public health services to the community.

How Does the District Operate?
The District is a separate government entity from the member towns. WHBHD is governed through a Board of Directors appointed by the elected legislative bodies of the member towns. The size of the board is population related. The District board consists of five representatives from West Hartford and three from Bloomfield.

Board Members
Matthew Hart - Chairperson, Scott Aronson - Vice Chairperson, Gloria Jones, Phyllis Hyman, Tanya Barrett, Karen Harrington, Seth Pitts, Stanley Hawthorne.

Our Health District
The mission of the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District is to work in partnership with the local communities to protect, promote, and improve the health of present and future generations through prevention, advocacy, and accessibility.

Staff
The District employs one full-time director of health, one full-time assistant director, four full-time sanitarians, one part-time sanitarian, two full-time public health nurses, one full time office manager, one full time epidemiologist, one full-time emergency response specialist, and two part-time clerical assistants.
Services Provided

Environmental Health:
Inspection services – Restaurants, daycares, salons, plan review public pools, facility, septic systems, lead.
Complaint / Town ordinance enforcement – Housing, litter/community standards, rodents, noise.

Community Health:
Immunization clinics, communicable disease monitoring / reporting, health education, childhood lead reporting / management, senior wellness clinics, health screenings, health / vector information resource.

Emergency Preparedness:
The Health District works with first responders, state and local agencies, and other area health departments, to respond to and reduce the effects of natural and man-made emergencies on people’s health.
Bloomfield Memorial Day

November 2021

Building a Better Community

Alvin & Beatrice Wood Human Services Center Mural