

A Message from Monica



Dear Darienites,

As a community, we have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to try to purchase Great Island. Great Island not only has a unique history, but it is also the last and best property of its kind available on the entire east coast of the United States. There will never be another opportunity for this town to control the property's destiny, or to add such an asset to benefit all of us and the many generations ahead of us. We know Darien is very close to being fully developed, currently

at 97%. As the town continues its growth of approved and constructed multi-family housing (the total number of units since 2000 is expected to be 926). We are adding density and our community is coming alive with improved school facilities, new shops and dining experiences. Darien continues to be an attractive place to live for a multitude of reasons - we hope this will be one of them.

Please continue to share your thoughts, questions or concerns with me.

Sincerely,
Monica McNally

RESIDENT REMINDERS, NEWS, & TIPS



All building permits, plans, and drawings are now submitted electronically. This speeds up the application and approval process. To learn more or to apply for a permit click [here](#).

Did you know that the Darien Health Department can facilitate the testing of ticks to see if they are positive for Lyme Disease? See the Darien Health Department [site](#) for more information.

Fishing season for lakes and streams opened on April 9th. Licenses are available [online](#) on the CT state website, or in the Town Clerk's office. No charge for residents age 65 or over. No license is required to fish on Saturday, May 7th.

Residents can also apply for a shell fishing permit to access the many shellfish beds in Darien through the [Health Department](#).



MEETINGS & EVENTS

RTM
4.18.22 8:00 PM

BOARD OF SELECTMAN
4.19.22 8:30 AM

PLANNING & ZONING
4.19.22 7:30 PM

HHR Committee
4.21.22 6:00 PM

PLANNING & ZONING
4.26.22 7:30 PM

The complete meeting schedule for all Boards and Commissions is available [here](#).

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS



Residents should sign up [here](#) for CODE RED notifications to be contacted in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts.

As construction proceeds within The Corbin District you can refer to their [website](#) for road closures and construction updates

Subscribe to the newsletter [here](#).

Government 101

On April 5th the Board of Finance approved both the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education proposed budgets for Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The Town budget is \$48,437,074 and the Board of Education's approved operating budget is \$110,607,016. The BOF approved budget, which has gone through a lengthy development and review process over many months includes a 2.32% mill rate increase over last year, making the new rate 17.23. The RTM has the final vote to approve the budget on May 9th.

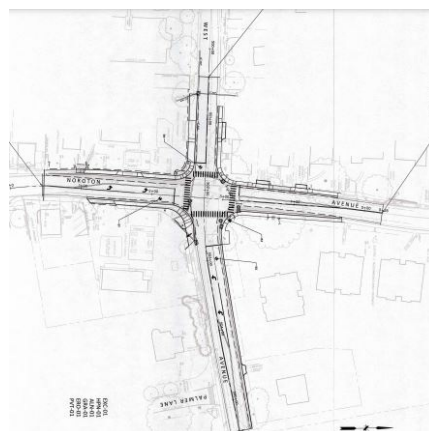
COOL FACT



Darien has three volunteer-run fire departments. This is an amazing testament to the spirit and dedication of volunteerism in our town, including a number of high school and college age students. This generosity provides a large savings for taxpayers. To volunteer: darienfire.com, norotonfd.com, norotonheightsfd.com



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION



Construction will begin soon at the intersection of Noroton and West Avenues, adding two left-turn lanes to assist with traffic flow. One lane will be added on Noroton Avenue heading north from I-95 towards the High School, enabling cars to turn left onto West Avenue. This will free up vehicle traffic to turn right onto West Avenue towards Rings End Lumber or continue straight towards the High School. The second turn lane will be for vehicles heading west on West Avenue turning left onto Noroton Avenue towards I-95.

Earth Day is Friday, April 22nd

This Earth Day ALL Darien residents are encouraged to beautify our town by picking up and disposing of trash wherever they are: while out walking, in parks, at the beach, at sports events, or around your neighborhood. Additionally, the Darien Advisory Committee on Sustainability has many Earth Day events and programs to share:

1. Saturday, April 24th, the Darien Nature Center is hosting their "Spring into Nature" festival from 10:00 AM - Noon and from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. The event will be held at Cherry Lawn Park and will provide some fresh air family fun to inspire sustainable living habits in the community. More information and tickets are available at dariennaturecenter.org.

2. Saturday, April 23rd and Saturday, April 30th, the Town will conduct a compost giveaway at the Recycling Center. The event will demonstrate the benefits of composting and the food scrap program.
3. Saturday, April 23rd, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Friends of Woodland Park are sponsoring a cleanup and trail repair - meet at the Middlesex Road parking area. Please wear work gloves.
4. Sunday, April 24th, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM The Friends of Selleck's Woods and the Darien Land Trust are sponsoring the "Spring Trail Fix." Please wear work gloves and bring a rake if you can.

Community News

Last week the Darien Department of Human Services arranged for a Mental Health First Aid Training Sessions, paid for with ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. Mental Health First Aid is an interactive 8-hour course designed to give members of the public key skills to help someone who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Similar to how CPR training helps a non-medical professional assist an individual following a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid Training helps an individual without clinical training assist someone experiencing mental health concerns.

Due to its content, the training has a maximum class size of 30 participants. After announcing the offering and its open registration, the class reached capacity within 24 hours. Because the class filled up so quickly, two more classes are being offered: Sunday, June 5th, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, and a two-day option on Wednesday, June 8th, and Thursday, June 9th, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Check the Town website for registration details.

[Sign up here to receive the newsletter](#)

