



TOWN OF DARIEN NEWSLETTER

July 21, 2023 - Issue 38

MESSAGE FROM MONICA

Dear Darienites,

I hope this message finds you well. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Town Fireworks last Saturday, fortunately the weather cooperated, and we were able to enjoy a spectacular show. I want to thank the Park and Recreation Department and the Police Department who worked hard to accommodate the change in schedule due to the rain on Friday.



As the summer heat continues, I want to remind you that the Mather Center will be available as a cooling center if the temperatures become severe. Your well-being is important to us, so please do not hesitate to reach out if you need assistance. You can also contact the State Health Emergency Health Line at 800.830.9426 with any questions or concerns.

On Wednesday evening, July 19th, we had the first meeting of the Great Island Advisory Committee (GIAC). The committee members bring valuable skills and experiences to the table, and their genuine appreciation for the property was evident throughout the discussions. You can find a link to the [meeting video](#) on TV79's webpage.

As we move forward, there will be paving and road work projects happening in various parts of town. This may cause some traffic delays and detours. Summertime is the best time for these projects, as the warmer weather and lighter traffic are conducive to completing the work efficiently. I appreciate your patience during this time and ask for residents to use extra caution while driving in these areas.

I value your input, please continue reaching out with your thoughts, questions and concerns.

Happy summer,

Monica

DATES & INFORMATION

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE
7.23.23 10:00 AM

DARIEN HOUSING AUTHORITY
7.25.23 6:30 PM

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
7.25.23 7:30 PM

DARIEN TV 79 ADVISORY BOARD
7.27.23 7:30 PM

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION

INTERESTING INFORMATION

Darien Senior Center woodshop volunteers will repair small wooden items; chairs, drawers, tables, etc., for a recommended donation. Volunteers will look at your item and review the repair cost, including supplies you will need to provide on the following days and times:

- Mondays: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
- Tuesdays: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
- Wednesdays: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

8.3.23 7:00 PM

DARIEN POLICE COMMISSION

8.3.23 4:00 PM

The complete meeting schedule of all Boards and Commissions is available [here](#). Most meetings can be viewed on DarienTV79.com.

For additional events and programs happening within Darien, click [here](#) to view the Darien Community Calendar available through the Darien Chamber of Commerce.

Call Darien Senior Programs for more information at 203.656.7490.

FOLLOW THE TOWN ON SOCIAL MEDIA

#TownofDarienCT
@TownofDarienCT




RESIDENT REMINDERS, NEWS, & TIPS

Aquarion Water Drought Advisory

Aquarion Water Company has issued a drought advisory for Southwest Fairfield County. Recent rain has not made up for the lack of rainfall over the last couple of months, so residents of Stamford, New Canaan, Greenwich, and Darien are being asked to reduce water use by 10% and a twice-a-week schedule for usage of sprinkler irrigation systems has been issued.

The irrigation schedule and water conservation tips are posted to [Aquarion's website](#).



Twice-Weekly Sprinkler Irrigation Schedule

Last Digit of Your Address Number	Please Water Only On:
0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 (even numbers)	Sunday & Wednesday 12:01 am – 10:00 am, or 6:00 pm – Midnight
1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 (odd numbers)	Saturday & Tuesday 12:01 am – 10:00 am, or 6:00 pm – Midnight
No address number	Sunday & Wednesday 12:01 am – 10:00 am, or 6:00 pm – Midnight

Town Road Paving Schedule

The Town of Darien Summer paving schedule is as follows:

<u>STREET NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>START MILLING</u>	<u>FINISH PAVING</u>
Hillside Rd	Post Rd	Hollow Tree Ridge Rd	7/24/23	7/28/23
Patricia La	DuBois St	DuBois St	7/24/23	7/31/23
Casement St	Dubois St	Noroton Ave	7/25/23	7/31/23
Fitch Ave	Post Rd	Hecker Ave	7/25/23	8/1/23
Clock Ave	Noroton Ave	Dickenson Rd	7/26/23	8/1/23
Garden City Rd	Post Rd	Clocks Ave	7/26/23	8/1/23
Dickenson Rd	Post Rd	Crimmins Rd	7/27/23	8/2/23
Crimmins Rd	Dickenson Rd	Park Pl	7/27/23	8/2/23
Park Pl	Noroton Ave	Renshaw Rd	7/27/23	8/2/23
Waring La	Old Kings Hwy S.	End	7/28/23	8/2/23
Brushy Hill Rd	Andrews Dr	Andrews Dr	7/28/23	8/3/23
Andrews Dr	Old Kings Hwy S.	Red Coat Pass	7/31/23	8/4/23
Robinhood La	Sedgwick La	End	8/1/23	8/4/23
Royle Rd	Mansfield Ave	End	8/1/23	8/4/23
Richmond Dr	Post Rd	Point O' Woods	8/1/23	8/7/23
Hamilton Rd	Brookside Rd	End	8/2/23	8/8/23
Linda La	Hanson Rd	Linda La	8/2/23	8/9/23
Hummingbird La	Hanson Rd	End	8/3/23	8/9/23
West Ave	Edgerton St	Noroton Ave	8/4/23	8/9/23
Edgerton St	Heights Rd	West Ave	8/4/23	8/10/23
Heights Rd	Edgerton St	Noroton Ave	8/4/23	8/10/23

The [paving schedule](#) is also available to view on the Public Works page of the Town website. All dates shown are from start to finish, including preparatory work, milling, and paving. This paving schedule is weather dependent. If possible, please avoid these roads during paving times and use extra caution if you must travel on them, as road surfaces will have raised structures. Darien police officers will be on-site to direct traffic and assist area residents during construction. Minor traffic delays are likely, so please plan your travels accordingly. Emergency access will be available at all times. Driveway access will be limited during paving operations, however no single driveway should be closed for more than an hour. On-street parking will be suspended during paving operations. Please call the Department of Public Works at 656-7346 for further information.

West Avenue and Noroton Avenue Intersection Improvement Project

The West Avenue and Noroton Avenue Intersection Improvement Project work is scheduled to resume on Monday, July 24, 2023, continuing through Friday, July 28, 2023. Work will include milling and paving, as well as the adjustment of catch basins and manholes. The road surface may be uneven, so we recommend using alternate routes if possible during this time. Detours will be posted, with signage as needed and Darien police officers will be on-site to assist with moving traffic through the area. Access to local businesses will be available throughout the construction. Pavement markings and signage will follow the completion of paving. Please contact the Department of Public Works at 203.656.7346 to report concerns or inquire further.

Property Taxes

Property tax payments are due to the Darien Tax Collector by July 31, 2023. Payments can be made by mail, online, or in person.

- By mail: use the return envelope included in the envelope with the tax bill(s).
- In-person: the Tax Collector's Office is located in Room 104 on the 1st floor of the Darien Town Hall, 2 Renshaw Road, Darien, CT. Office hours are Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:15 PM, closed Fridays.
- Online: through the [town website](#). Fees are charged by the payment link provider and depend on the method of payment selected:

ECH (electronic check)	\$1.50 flat fee
Credit Card	2.5% with \$2.00 minimum
Debit Card	\$3.50 flat fee

Multiple tax bills may be paid in one transaction. American Express, VISA, MasterCard, and Discover Card are accepted.

Questions can be directed to the Tax Collector, Kathy Larkins, klarkins@darienct.gov, or the Deputy Tax Collector, Inna Ginzburg, iginzburg@darienct.gov. The Tax Collector's Office staff can be reached via telephone, at (203) 656-7314. Calls are returned within 48 hours Monday through Thursday.

Grove Street & Tilley Pond Area Drainage Study Public Meeting

On Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM, the Town of Darien will hold a public informational meeting to address the recently completed drainage study of the Grove Street and Tilley Pond area, focusing on recent flooding between Tilley Pond and the Goodwives River. The results of the Grove Street and Tilley Pond drainage study will be explained in detail and will include all or some portion of the following roads: Lakeside Drive; West Avenue (near Tilley Pond); Leroy Avenue; Squab Lane; Grove Street; Day Street; Brook Street; Gideon Lane; Post Road (between Corbin Drive & Center Street); Corbin Drive; Center Street; and, Old Kings Highway South.

The meeting will take place in the Mather Center Cafeteria at Darien Town Hall, 2 Renshaw Rd. The Mather Center is easily accessible from the lower front parking lot of Town Hall.

A portion of the meeting will be devoted to questions and answers specifically related to this drainage study only. Other drainage studies in progress in Darien will not be discussed during this meeting. The drainage study document can be found on the [Public Works](#) page of the Town of Darien website, under [Grove Street & Tilley Pond Area Drainage Evaluation Report](#).

Register for Code Red

The Town of Darien utilizes an emergency contact system called CODE RED. The CODE RED system enables Town leadership and emergency personnel to contact the public in the event of emergencies or critical community alerts. Examples include severe weather, evacuation notices, and air and water quality notices. Residents must register a phone number and/or email address to receive CODE RED notifications. Please register for [CODE RED here](#) or on the Town Of Darien "[How Do I](#)" webpage.

Register to Vote

Now is a great time to encourage recent high school graduates or those who have recently turned 18 years old to register to vote and to apply for an absentee ballot if they will not be in Darien on Election Day. All [voter registration](#) information is available on the [Town Clerk page](#) of the Town of Darien website.

Employment Opportunities

The Town of Darien has a number of part-time [employment opportunities](#) available. All postings can be viewed on the Town of Darien [Human Resources webpage](#).

Prescription Drug Drop Box

The Darien Police Department has a prescription drug drop box where residents can dispose of unused prescription medication. The box is for pills or dry, contained medications only. Please do not leave liquids, syringes, or vitamins in the box.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sunsets and Serenades Dinner & Dancing at Pear Tree Point Beach

The Parks and Recreation Department is looking forward to hosting an elegant evening of music and dining on the beach on July 28th. The sold-out event will feature live music provided by the Jazz ensemble "The Tom Brown 6!"

**DARIEN PARKS & RECREATION
FESTIVE NIGHTS**

**Sunset, Dinner
and Serenades**

FEATURING

**THE TOM
BROWN SIX**

JULY 28 AT PEAR TREE POINT BEACH

LIVE MUSIC STARTS AT 6:30PM | TICKETS REQUIRED

\$25/BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC OR \$45/DINNER & SEATING
LEARN MORE DARIENCT.GOV/EVENTS



Darien TV79

Darien's TV79 is our local government access channel. It is a tremendous resource for all community information available to Darien residents on Altice (cable TV) and online anywhere via DarienTV79.com. TV79 covers all government meetings and community events, airing many live, but also archiving them for on-demand viewing via the website DarienTV79.com. Included in the variety of offerings is a series, "Inside Town Hall," which hosts a collection of interviews with town employees and elected officials. All viewing options are below.

Click for [TV79 on Demand](#)

For [Live Streaming](#) (4 pm – 12M):

Follow us on Social Media: [@DarienTV79 on Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

For more information: DarienTV79@gmail.com

Click to receive TV79's [weekly program schedule](#)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Health Department, will begin conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment of the Town of Darien. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) will paint a comprehensive picture of the community's health status. The State Health Department recommends that municipalities complete a CHNA every 3-5 years. The last time Darien completed a CHNA was in 2017. Darien was preparing to complete a CHNA in 2020, just before the COVID-19 Pandemic. The current CHNA will also evaluate the mental health of our community and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical and mental health.

Ascendant will be collecting survey data from the community's local public health system including demographics, health status, morbidity and mortality, socioeconomic characteristics, quality of life, community resources, behavioral factors, the environment, and other social and structural determinants of health status.

The first working meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 25, 2023. The assessment is due to be completed in March, 2024. Over the next several months, there will be requests and opportunities to participate in data collection surveys. Thank you in advance to residents for participating.

FLOODING

Summertime and hurricane season bring the continued risk of heavy rains and storms. Being prepared and knowledgeable about flooding and available resources is beneficial. In addition to the many resources available on the Town of Darien [Emergency Management webpage](#), the Connecticut State Department of Public Health website

provides very useful information on a variety of topics, including floods and the consequences of flooding:

- Basic information on flooding: before and after - [Natural Disasters - Floods \(ct.gov\)](#)
- Information for wells, sewer/septic system backups, and mold cleanup: [Flooding Information for Homeowners About Private Wells Sewage and CleanUp \(ct.gov\)](#)
- Weather-related consequence management and resources for upcoming hurricane season: [Weather \(ct.gov\)](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

Emergency Call List

The Human Services Department maintains an Emergency Call List with the names of vulnerable seniors and disabled individuals to be contacted for reassurance before a storm or other emergency. Individuals are also provided with community resource information such as Emergency Shelters or Cooling Centers. If you, or someone you know, would like to be added to the Emergency Call List, please call 203.656.7328 or email [Ali Ramsteck](#), LCSW, Director of Human Services.

Mental Health First Aid Training

The Town of Darien is offering another session of Mental Health First Aid Training. The two-day class will be held August 1st and August 3rd, 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM, at EMS Post 53, 0 Ledge Road, Darien. This class is highly recommended for adults 18 and over who are beginning college or trade school. To register, email [Ali Ramsteck](#). Seating is limited to 30 participants.

Mental Health First Aid is an interactive course designed to give members of the public key skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Like CPR training, which helps a non-medical professional assist an individual following a heart attack, the 8-hour certification in Mental Health First Aid helps an individual who does not have clinical training assist someone experiencing a mental health crisis.

POLICE INFORMATION & CRIME TIP



Identity theft continues to be a problem and a concern for our residents. Although Darien residents are not specifically targeted, this occurs when someone wrongfully uses your personal identification to obtain credit, loans, services, even rentals and mortgages in your name. Information can be stolen from an individual in a variety of ways including going through your mail / trash to take pre-approved credit card offers, discarded receipts, or other personal information, stealing your purse or wallet, or by calling you over the phone and posing as a solicitor to gain your personal information.

Below are tips to help prevent falling victim to identity theft:

- Get a free annual credit report: www.annualcreditreport.com Check and review your

credit report. Report any discrepancies to the credit reporting agency. Put an alert on your credit if necessary.

- Stop prescreened credit card offers coming to your home: www.optoutprescreen.com or call **1-888-5-OPTOUT**.
- Stop telemarketing calls: www.donotcall.gov
- Stop receiving unwanted catalogs and other telemarketing mail: www.dmachoice.org
- Shred your old credit card, bank statements, bills, etc. to avoid “dumpster diving.”

For more information on ID Theft or what to do if you are a victim, please go to www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/identity-theft

GOVERNMENT 101

The Darien Town Charter also referred to as the Town Code, details the roles and responsibilities of the many boards, committees, and commissions in Darien. Board, committee, and commission members are elected by the public or appointed by the Board of Selectmen. In addition to these elected boards, committees and commissions, the RTM has sub-committees designed to work in tandem with them to ensure an easy flow of communication to the full RTM and the public. While the Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for oversight of all of Darien’s Parks and Recreation facilities and related expenses, the Parks and Recreation Committee of the RTM closely follows the work of the Commission and reports to the full RTM on related matters as appropriate. The Commission and the RTM committee have different roles and responsibilities, detailed in the Town Code, but they are an excellent example of how our government works to promote public input and transparency.

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



Town of Darien | 2 Renshaw Road, Darien, CT 06820

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