

TOWN OF VERNON

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Winterfest Returns to Downtown Vernon

Annual Holiday Event Features Fire Truck Parade, Carol Sing, Tree Lighting Henry Park Holiday Lights to be Illuminated Day after Thanksgiving

(VERNON, Connecticut) – Vernon’s annual winter holiday celebration, Winterfest, returns to downtown Vernon on Friday, December 3rd, 2021 at 6 p.m. and will feature a fire engine parade, tree lighting, illumination of the snowflake on Fox Hill Tower in Henry Park and lighting of the wreath on Town Hall.

“We are looking forward to the kickoff of the holiday season and this wonderful celebration that brings our community together,” Vernon Mayor Dan Champagne said.

Other events planned for Winterfest include the opening of Santa’s House, a carol sing and a performance by the Rockville High School Marching Ram Band. Cookies and candy canes will be available and, of course, Santa will arrive by fire truck.

Henry Park will again be illuminated with thousands of holiday lights, which will be turned on each evening beginning on Friday, November 26th, the day after Thanksgiving. They will remain illuminated through the holiday season for all to enjoy, free of charge.

“Last year’s reimagined Winterfest in Henry Park was a huge success,” Mayor Champagne said. “People really enjoyed the light display and we wanted to continue that part this year. Our Parks and Recreation staff has been working hard preparing the park and stringing lights.” All other Winterfest activities will be downtown.

Firefighters from several area towns will join Vernon firefighters in decorating their trucks for the parade. Trophies will go to the best decorated truck and the best decorated Vernon truck, Parks and Recreation Director Marty Sitrer.

“Winterfest is an important tradition in Vernon and we are glad to be able to offer this family-friendly event to our residents,” Town Administrator Michael Purcaro said. “These kinds of traditions create sustaining memories about growing up in Vernon, Santa arriving on a fire truck and Henry Park being lit up with thousands of holiday lights. The holidays are a magic time for people of all ages.”

About the Town of Vernon

The Town of Vernon is a celebrated place to live, work and visit. From its beautiful parks and lakes, to its vast trails and historic homes and buildings, Vernon is a resilient and thriving community that promotes the health and wellbeing of its residents and values the natural environment. With a resident population of approximately 30,000 and occupying 18.03 square miles, Vernon combines a balanced appreciation of history, and a strong economic base for growth, both residential and commercial. Located 15 minutes east of the Connecticut capital of Hartford, and 25 miles from the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, the Town of Vernon is strategically located in “New England's Knowledge Corridor” with close proximity to some of the top colleges and universities in the country.

Designated a certified Sustainable Community, the Town of Vernon offers a wide range of benefits and services to its residents. The Town of Vernon is a full-service municipality that practices a management philosophy of continuous quality improvement. To learn more about the Town of Vernon, please call (860) 870- 3670 or visit www.vernon-ct.gov.

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