Ellington

ANNUAL REPORT
2025-2026



WALL OF HONOR 2026 INDUCTEE

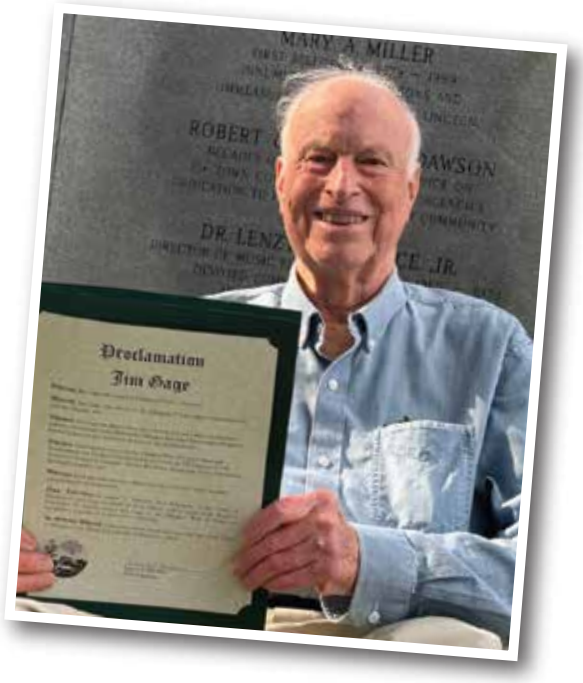
Jim Gage

At the May 11, 2026 meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Jim Gage was unanimously selected to be inducted to the Ellington Wall of Honor. A 60+ year resident of Ellington, Jim was nominated by Ellington Town Planner Lisa Houlihan, who was joined by several other references.

One of the original members of the Ellington Conservation Commission, Jim is being recognized for his role in advocating for open space and farmland preservation.

As an integral participant in multiple preservation projects in the area, Jim's efforts included working directly with conservation groups, securing funding, physically preparing sites, and other critical acquisition efforts. He always offered a persistent and engaged voice in preserving Ellington's agricultural character, working with local, regional, and state agencies to learn about preservation programs and help develop long-term plans. He was also instrumental in establishing the Ellington Farmland Preservation Program that has helped protect hundreds of acres of our farmland.

In addition to his service on the Conservation Commission, he served during the last three decennial revisions of the Ellington Plan of Conservation and Development, is a current member of the Northern Connecticut Land Trust, volunteers with the CT Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation (CT-TACF), and serves on the MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership Steering Committee. In an article from CT-TACF, Jim is described as "quiet, smart, competent, hard-working, respectful and humble... incredibly productive... the ultimate team member."



Jim finds connections between groups and organizations and works to create operational framework for meaningful collaboration; a lifelong appreciator of the outdoors, he continually seeks ways to keep nature close to his community.

A formal induction ceremony was held on Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 4:00 pm at the site of the Wall of Honor in Arbor Park [off Main Street]. The public was invited and encouraged to attend.



Front cover photo by Cheryl Chamberlin

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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LOGAN JOHNSON
Chairman

BOARD OF FINANCE

ELIZABETH NORD
Vice Chairman

MAURICE BLANCHETTE
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
DANIEL KEUNE
GOMATHI RAMACHANDRAN

Dear Fellow Ellington Residents:

On behalf of the Board of Finance, I am pleased to present the Town of Ellington's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 was a very busy year for Ellington. The Board of Finance continued to focus on maintaining the Town's strong financial position while balancing the increasing cost of providing basic services to our residents. The annual budget process required careful consideration of operating needs, capital improvements, debt obligations, available revenues, and the long-term financial health of the Town. Fortunately, we maintain a high credit rating (Moody's Aa1), which helps with investor decision making and contributes to more-favorable interest rates.

This year, the most significant financial concern was the completion of the state-mandated 2025 property revaluation, which occurs every five years. The purpose of the revaluation is to eliminate any assessment inequities which may have developed since the previous revaluation. The new assessments became the basis for the taxes levied for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and resulted in a recalculation of the Town's mill rate.

The Town also continued to pursue and utilize State and Federal grants and other outside funding whenever possible. These resources help secure vital infrastructure and community upgrades, while lowering costs to taxpayers.

Capital investments also continued throughout the year. Work progressed on various projects, including the Windermere School project and HVAC improvement projects. Additionally, work continued toward improving Town infrastructure, roads, and public facilities, contributing to a great quality of life for our community.

Budget deliberations during this time resulted in the planned hiring of 4 firefighters to begin work during the next fiscal year and the leasing of a replacement rescue truck, both of which will provide a safer community for our residents.

The Board of Finance will continue to consider both the immediate needs of the community, along with the long-term financial impact of these investments when planning for future budgets. We remain committed to maintaining a strong fiscal foundation that allows Ellington to provide quality services while preparing for future needs.

On behalf of the Board of Finance, I would like to thank all Town employees for their professionalism, hard work, and commitment to our community. I would also like to recognize the many residents who generously volunteer their time and talents on our boards and commissions, and our emergency services and community organizations.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Nord

Elizabeth Nord
Vice-Chairperson, Board of Finance
Town of Ellington

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General Government Administration

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Back (L-R): James M. Prichard, David E. Stavens, Charlotte Ward, Jamison J. Boucher
Front (L-R): Su Thanvanthri, First Selectman Laurie E. Burstein, Deputy First Selectman Mary B. Cardin

The Board of Selectmen is responsible for the administration of Town government, infrastructure, public safety, fiscal management, and other community services. Among its responsibilities, the BOS makes the rules and regulations relating to purchasing and bidding, presents a budget for municipal capital improvements, and is responsible for keeping records of its meetings.

HIGHLIGHTS

In fiscal year 2025 – 2026, the Board was focused on the Town's long-term fiscal stability, finding solutions to long-term challenges the Town faces, including a decrease in volunteers for ambulance and fire service, public safety, as well as addressing the expansion of large-scale commercial solar farms and its impact on the Town's economic development and rural character. The Board also worked with the Board of Finance during budget season, which was especially challenging due to the revaluation (which was required under state law) of real estate values.

The Board of Selectmen held fourteen regular meetings, two special meetings, four public hearings, and called seven town meetings to address a wide range of municipal business.

The Board adopted a resolution opposing the siting of new large-scale (>1 megawatt) commercial solar facilities on prime agricultural land within Ellington. The resolution urged the Connecticut General Assembly, the Siting Council and DEEP to strengthen municipal input and consent in siting large-scale solar facilities and encourage appropriately scaled and equitably distributed renewable energy development projects.

The Board expanded property tax exemptions to veterans who suffered total disability in the course of their duties, and authorized expenditures from the Opioid Settlement Fund to support prevention and treatment initiatives.

As the population of Ellington grows, there is a need for expanded services. To address the recognized decreasing volunteerism in Emergency Medical Services (ambulance) and the Fire Departments, the Board hired Craig Webb, an Ellington native, Rescue Post 512 graduate and former Battalion Chief at Manchester Fire Department for the new position of Director of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The Director of EMS assumes management responsibilities for Ellington Volunteer Ambulance and the associated emergency medical services, developing short and long -term plans to align with changing regulations and maintaining records and statistics.

The Town also saw changes in other key personnel, including hiring Lori Caron as Human Services Director and promoting Mary Bartley, a long-time recreation employee, to the position of Recreation Director, bringing her wealth of knowledge of Ellington to that leadership role. Following the resignation of the Finance Officer/Treasurer, a search was undertaken promptly, and a new Finance Officer is expected to begin in August 2026. The Board extends gratitude to Assistant Finance Officer Felicia LaPlante for her excellent work, especially during the budget season.

The Board also welcomed new employees across numerous departments, recognized retirements and resignations, and approved promotions that strengthened internal career development, which are detailed below.

The Town continued to pursue outside funding opportunities through state and federal grant programs. The Board accepted grant funding for a new ADA-compliant senior transportation vehicle and authorized applications for several significant transportation projects, including the Newell Hill Road Reconstruction Project, the Ellington Center Rotary Design Project, the Sandy Beach Road Sidewalk Project, and emergency management funding.

The Board formally designated 72 Maple Street as "Market Park", the site of the seasonal weekly (May-October) Ellington Farmers Market, and entered into a long-term agreement granting Ellington Farmers Market, Inc. exclusive use of Market Park on Saturdays from May through October between the hours of 7:30 am and 1:00 pm.

In 2025-26 the Board of Selectmen continued to support infrastructure maintenance and enhancements. The Board awarded contracts for capital improvements and municipal services that enhanced Town infrastructure and operations. The major projects included roadway and culvert improvements, tree maintenance, snow removal, electrical services, historic resource inventory work, Crystal Lake milfoil management, the Windermere playground relocation, and replacement of the Public Works salt dome roof. The Board also approved the purchase of a new ambulance for the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the renewal of the contract for the town-wide emergency notification system.

The Board is happy to share that it selected Jim Gage as the 2026 Wall of Honor inductee, recognizing Jim's decades of contributions to open space initiatives and farmland preservation. The Board appreciates the dedication of Town staff, volunteers, board and commission members, and community partners whose efforts contribute to the effective delivery of municipal services, and who make Ellington a great place to be.

Throughout the year, the Board continued to support community organizations, special events, and volunteer committees by approving event permits, road closures for road races, parades and authorized community celebrations including Winterfest, Earth Day, the EVFD annual carnival, and Ellington's America 250 commemorative event.

AGREEMENTS

- Approved the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Ellington and Ellington EMS Professional & Volunteer Ambulance Corps. I.A.E.P. Local R1-512
- Amended the Market Park Agreement, as described above.
- Authorized the Town Administrator to execute the tax stabilization agreement between the Town of Ellington and 24 Middle Solar 1 LLC/Phrumb Properties LLC
- Approved the revised service agreement between the Town and Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc.
- Approved the tax abatement agreement with Roaring Brook Farm, LLC and Aborn Land, LLC
- Authorized an agreement for temporary government accounting consulting services between the Town and Pignataro & Associates, LLC while a search for a new Finance Director was undertaken
- Approved the renewal of five-year lease agreements for Ellington Public Schools for the premises located at 89 West Road

CONTRACTS

- Renewed the contract for the Town of Ellington mass notification system to Everbridge, Inc. of Vienna, Virginia
- Renewed the contract for the removal of milfoil from Crystal Lake to the New England Aquatic Services of Sherman, CT, to maintain the health of the lake
- Awarded the bid for a new ambulance to Eastford Fire and Rescue Sales, Inc of Eastford, CT
- Awarded the following requests for proposals/contracts:
  - o Snow plowing services to All Source of New England of Ellington, CT
  - o Construction/repair salt dome roof replacement to Dzen Commercial Roofing, Inc. of East Hartford, CT
  - o Town-wide historic resources inventory to E2 Project Management LLC of Rockaway, NJ
  - o Tree maintenance and removal services to Asplundh Tree Experts, LLC of East Windsor, CT as the primary contractor and Mountain Tree Service, Inc. of Somers, CT as the secondary contractor
  - o Windermere playground relocation to Probuilt Designs of Marshfield, MA
  - o Webster Road Culvert Lining project to Savy & Sons, LLC of Amston, CT
  - o Electrical services to Ellington Electrical Contractor LLC of Ellington, CT

EQUIPMENT

- Authorized the disposal of the following assets via auction or private sale:
  - o 2007 International 7400 6-Wheeled Dump Truck, 2007 GMC Topkick 5500 6-Wheeled Dump Truck, 1984 Mott 1072 Roadside Mower
  - o Blue Star JE200-01 Diesel Generator and Raypak H7-2007 Boiler related to the Windermere School Renovation Project

FINANCES

- Approved the Department of Public Works Material Sales Pricing Schedule and authorized the Town Administrator to annually approve said pricing schedule
- Authorized Human Services expenditure of $25,111.50 from the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund to cover costs related to various special events, awareness campaigns, and treatment resources
- Increased the budget appropriation in the amount of $492,115 in the road overlay and road work reimbursement accounts, resulting in a net budget appropriation of $0, for the paving work on Egypt Road, Hayes Avenue, and Hillsdale Drive
- Increased the budget appropriation in the amount of $11,472 in the road overlay and road work reimbursement accounts, resulting in a net budget appropriation of $0, for the paving work on Penfield Avenue
- Authorized additional veterans' property tax exemptions for assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2025
- Appropriated $35,000 for the Windermere playground relocation project
- Appointed Arrow Bank National Association as investment manager and trustee of the Town of Ellington Fire Department Service Award Program
- Approved the allocation of up to $5,000 from the open space fund for the appraisal of Assessor Parcel No. 191-001-0000 to support the acquisition of the property by the State of CT
- Increased the billing rate for Police Special Duty to $120 per hour for regular events and $150 per hour for emergency, short notice, holiday and weekend rates, effective July 1, 2026

GRANTS

- Accepted the grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services in the amount of $99,778 for the purchase of a new, ADA-compliant wheelchair-accessible vehicle to expand and modernize the Senior Center's fleet
- Approved the application for the BUILD Grant for the Newell Hill Road Reconstruction Project in the amount of $1,236,400
- Approved the application for the 2026 Road to Zero Traffic Safety Grant for the Ellington Center Rotary Design Project in the amount of $116,500
- Approved the application for the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program for the Sandy Beach Road Sidewalks Project in the amount of $1,000,000
- Authorized the application for the annual Emergency Management Performance Grant

ORDINANCES

- Recommended adoption of the Public Works Special Revenue Fund
- Recommended modifications to Section 28-1 of the Town Code to change the bidding threshold from $25,000 to $35,000

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Approved the revision to the Fund Balance Policy to modify the suggested target of budgeted expenditures from 10 percent to 20 percent
- Approved the revisions to the Sick Leave Policy
- Approved the revision to the Purchasing Policies and Procedures manual, increasing the bidding threshold from $25,000 to $35,000

PROPERTY

- Formally designated "Market Park" an official Town Park, as noted above
- Awarded the leases for the Town-owned Middle Road and Maple Street land to Oakridge Dairy, LLC for two years, with the option to extend for three additional one-year periods, generating income for the town
- Accepted the warranty deed associated with the road extension of Punkin Drive

STAFF

- Approved or revised the following job descriptions
  - o Director of Emergency Medical Services (new)
  - o Library Technical Assistant (revised)
  - o Library Assistant II – Interlibrary Loan Assistant (new)
  - o DPW Facilities Crew Chief (revised)
  - o DPW Maintainer I (revised)
  - o Staff Accountant (new)
- Appointed the Town Administrator as Emergency & Risk Manager to serve an indefinite term
- Hired the following staff members:

  Hall Memorial Library
  - o Children's Library Assistant II: Ryan Young
  - o Hall Memorial Library Pages: Keisha Burce and Caroline Cuthbert
  - o Library Assistants: Victoria Sierra (II), Jessica Donovan (I) and Jordan DeFreitas (I)

  Recreation
  - o Camp Directors: Eric Senger (Archery), Evan Morrow (Lacrosse), Scott Curtis (Wiffleball)

  EVAC
  - o EVAC EMR: Om Sachdeva
  - o EMTs (per diem): Jayden Holt, Megan Camperlengo, Caelyn Utz, Jean-Marie Currier, Harlie Locke, Adam Palotti, Ivan Panchyshyn

  Public Works
  - o Maintainer I: Kyle McDonald
  - o Laborer: Alexander Grossman
  - o Custodian: David Spinelli

  Youth Services
  - o Assistant Director: Olivia Catlett
  - o Program Instructor: Fariah Khan

  Town Hall/Miscellaneous
  - o Assessor: Tyler Devine
  - o Administrative Clerk: Caitlin Trueb
  - o Director of Emergency Medical Services: Craig Webb
  - o HR Director: Rebecca Gritti (resigned)
  - o HR Director: Lori Caron
  - o Poll Workers: Jaimee DelPiano, Laura Casey, Linda DeYoung, Mackenzie Gorman
  - o Staff Accountant: Jacob Bundy
- Acknowledged the following resignations:

  EVAC
  - o EMTs: Kaila Morrow (per diem), Abigail Edelstein (part time), William Gray (per diem)

  Public Works
  - o Lead Custodian: Kimberly Gallicchio (retirement)
  - o Maintainer I: Colton DuBois
  - o Custodian: Victoria Brooks

  Youth Services
  - o Assistant Director: Jessica Rosa
  - o Specialist: Sarah Blais

  Town Hall/Miscellaneous
  - o Emergency & Risk Management Director: Walter Lee
  - o HR Coordinator: LouAnn Cannella (retirement)
  - o Finance Officer/Treasurer: Tiffany Pignataro
  - o Accounting Assistant: Patricia Choiniere (retirement)
  - o Recreation Director: Dustin Huguenin
  - o Deputy Tax Collector: Lindsey Bourque
  - o Assistant Town Clerk: Courtney Spazzarini
  - o IT Technician: Thomas Kindall
  - o PBC Recording Secretary: Christina Shackford
- Acknowledged the following assignments/promotions/transfers:
  - o Robert Gorman, Recreation Program & Event Specialist (part time to full time)
  - o Lauren Desrocher from Library Assistant I to Library Assistant II – Interlibrary Loan
  - o Heather Nosack from Library Assistant II to Library Technical Assistant
  - o Jennifer Wells, EMT (per diem to part time)
  - o Casey Lombardi from Laborer to Facilities Crew Chief
  - o Mary Bartley, Assistant Director to Director of Parks and Recreation
  - o Assignment of Rebecca Einsiedel as PBC Recording Secretary
  - o Transfer of Shane Schiller, Manager of Technology Support, from the BOE
- Wall of Honor Inductee: Jim Gage, as stated above
- Elected Board Resignations and Appointments:
  - o Accepted the resignation of Subhra Roy from the Zoning Board of Appeals and appointed Suren Thirumappan to fill this vacancy
  - o Accepted the resignation of Mary Cone from the Library Board of Trustees and appointed Deanna Wambolt-Gulick to fill this vacancy
  - o Accepted the resignation of Jennifer Dzen from the Board of Education and appointed Steven Viens to fill this vacancy

OTHER ACTIONS

- Granted/Recommended/Approved the following requests for town activities:
  - o Request of the Recreation Department to close Town roads for the November 1, 2025 Road Race
  - o Request of the Winterfest Committee for the 2025 Winterfest Celebration held on Saturday, December 6, 2025

- o Request of the Earth Day Committee for the Earth Day Event held on April 25, 2026
- o Approved the 2026 Sailboat Race Series, as presented by the Crystal Lake Sailing Club
- o Recommended that the license to permit parachute jumping at Ellington Airport be renewed
- o Granted permission to the EVFD to use Robert Tedford Memorial Park for their annual carnival
- o Granted the request of the Ellington America 250 Committee to hold Ellington's America 250 Event on the Town Green, Library Grounds, Ellington Historical Society Grounds, Arbor Park, Church Street, and Main Street on Saturday, October 3, 2026

- Re-established the following Ad Hoc Committees: Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture, Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, Patriotic Committee, Emergency Services Committee, Committee on the Comprehensive Athletic Facilities Lighting Project, Trails Committee, and Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee
- Adopted a resolution on the siting of commercial solar energy facilities on, or in close proximity to, land within Ellington's western farm belt or lands containing prime agricultural soils or soils classified as farmland, as detailed above
- Recommended the approval of the Neighborhood Assistance Act Proposal entitled "Station 243 HVAC Replacement"
- Directed the Town Attorneys to file an appeal on behalf of the Town in the case of Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission v. The Town of Ellington
- Adopted a resolution to elect Penflex Actuarial Services, LLC to provide administrative and actuarial service for the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP)
- Adopted the Fair Housing Policy Statement and Resolution
- Issued the following special event licenses:
  - o Drew Estate - Tobacco Educational Events (2)
  - o Old School Harley-Davidson - Motorcycle Exhibition
  - o Oakridge Dairy - Farm Day

BOARD OF FINANCE



Board of Finance: Front Row (L-R) Liz Nord, Chairman-Logan Johnson, Gomathi Ramachandran Back Row (L-R) Maurice Blanchette, Dan Keune, Doug Harding

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Board of Finance represents the taxpayer on all matters concerning the receipt or expenditure of taxpayer funds. The Board of Finance's principal responsibility is in the preparation of the annual budget, the Board works closely with the Finance Officer/Treasurer to establish and enforce fiscal policy, and implement the recommendations of the town auditors. The Board also directs fiscal policy such as the establishment of Reserve Funds, and the allocation of funds among sectors such as departmental budgets, capital expenditures and debt service. The Board of Finance meets monthly, except during the period of January through April, when it meets more often toward assembling the annual budget.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Hold public meetings from January through March on submitted departmental budgets
- Hold the Annual Budget Hearing in April
- Deliberate and approve a completed budget for taxpayer approval
- Upon budget approval by taxpayers, the Board sets the mill rate
- Authorize/deny expenditures in excess of budgeted amounts
- Authorize/deny the issuance of Municipal Bonds
- Monitor town revenues and expenditures on a monthly basis
- Interview and engage the outside auditing firm
- Prepare the Annual Town Report
- Member of Permanent Building Committee and Shared Services Committee
- Appropriations during public emergency
- Grant approvals that have the potential to impose a financial burden on the Town.

FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Finance Officer is responsible for the accounting and reporting of all financial transactions for the Town of Ellington. Other duties include the investment of Town funds, preparation of financial statements, submission of annual budget to the Board of Finance, preparation of bid documents, purchasing agent, and serving as financial advisor to all boards and agencies. The Finance Officer oversees operations in Tax Collector and Tax Assessor's offices.

HIGHLIGHTS

During fiscal year 2026, the Town of Ellington received $458,058 in Town Road Aid funding from the State of Connecticut, of which $458,058 was spent on the construction, reconstruction, improvement and maintenance of highways roads and their related structures.

The Finance Office accomplished or assisted in the following projects:

- Retained credit rating of Moody's Aa1 with stable outlook
- Monthly close procedures in order to complete annual audit in compliance with State Statute
- Cyber Policy and required changes/additions
- Assisted in administration of Capital Projects
- Maintained monthly close procedure with Board of Education
- Closed out Capital projects to the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance
- CIRMA rate increase remains low due to Town proactive risk control enhancements
- LOSAP Administration
- Coordinated Budget Executions for all Town Departments
- Assisted with the Windermere School Renovation/Addition

The Finance Office requested and/or awarded bids on the following projects:

- Windermere Avenue Sewer Extension
- Electrical Services
- Maple/Middle Lease
- Tree Trimming Services
- Snow Plowing Services

The Finance Office requested, assisted and/or led the following contract ratifications:

- Elevator Maintenance Agreement
- Tax Collection Services
- HML Sliding Doors Maintenance Agreement
- Municipal Mapping Services
- Irrigation Services
- Paint Recovery Program
- Town Clerk Land Record Recording
- Library Collection Mapping
- Procurement Solutions
- Generator Maintenance
- Health/Dental Brokerage
- Accounting Software

The Finance Office assisted in the following Shared Service initiatives:

- Information Technology Services
- Month End Procedures
- Procurement Procedures over $35,000

The Finance Office assisted the Board of Finance in the following areas:

- Budget preparation (tables and books) and capital improvement books
- Standardization of all budget documents
- Provided historical statistics for maintaining reserve and contingency funds
- Interim budget expenditures/revenue projections

The Finance Office assisted with the following grant administration:

- Local Capital Improvement Program
- Strawberry Road Bridge
- ARPA – Crystal Lake Drainage Study
- Historic Resources Inventory Grant
- Emergency Management Performance Grant
- Urban and Community Forestry Planning Grant Program
- Historic Preservation Town Clerk
- Windermere Renovation and Addition
- EMS HVAC
- EHS HVAC
- Center School HVAC

TOWN ASSESSOR

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

Each year, the primary function of the Assessor's Office is to complete the Grand List. The Grand List is the annual listing and record of all taxable and tax-exempt property in the Town of Ellington. The Grand List contains three components: real estate, tangible personal property and motor vehicles. The Grand List is based on an annual assessment date of October 1st. The staff in the Assessor's Office identifies and values all properties in Ellington for each of the three Grand List components. Exemptions are applied where applicable. The Grand List is completed each year by the end of January (or February if an extension is filed) after the assessment date. Property is valued in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes and the state-mandated 70% assessment ratio is applied to calculate each assessment.

Tangible (business) personal property and motor vehicles are revalued annually. Real estate is revalued every five years, in accordance with statute. During Ellington's most recent revaluation dated October 1, 2025, we saw the Net Taxable Grand List for real estate increase by almost 53%. This increase reflects the real estate market change from October 1, 2020, Ellington's last revaluation, to October 1, 2025. Some real estate assessments also change due to physical changes to the property, as allowed by statute.

The Assessment staff also administers many tax exemption and tax relief programs that are permitted either in accordance with State statute or by local options approved by the Town of Ellington. There are tax relief or exemption programs available to many seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, charitable or religious users, manufacturers, farmers, and more.

GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2025

Net Grand List Totals	10/1/23	10/1/24	10/1/25
Real Estate	$1,287,932,630	$1,290,539,810	$1,973,701,020
Personal Property	$76,648,700	$78,791,770	$115,393,350
Motor Vehicle	$196,450,330	$185,935,200	$194,926,420
TOTAL	$1,561,031,660	$1,555,266,780	$2,284,020,790
Date Signed	*1/25/2024*	*1/28/2025 Rev. 3/18/2025*	*1/28/2026*

COMPARATIVE GENERAL FUND OPERATING STATEMENT BUDGET AND ACTUAL
(Budgetary Basis)

	Fiscal Year 2024-25 Audited Actuals	Fiscal Year 2025-26 Estimated Final Budget	Fiscal Year 2025-26 Estimated Unaudited Actuals	Fiscal Year 2025-26 Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	$ 56,260,296	$ 57,307,974	$ 57,723,752	$ 415,778
Intergovernmental	12,203,182	11,975,178	12,136,929	161,751
Charges for Services	2,005,435	1,621,057	2,145,457	524,400
Investment Income	1,680,007	670,000	1,450,749	780,749
Debt Retirement	90,000	90,000	90,000	-
Other	840,302	921,600	957,802	36,202
TOTAL REVENUES	**73,079,222**	**72,585,809**	**74,504,689**	**1,918,880**
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
General Government	2,237,133	2,423,064	2,290,698	132,366
Boards and Agencies	131,171	127,320	105,359	21,961
Public Safety	3,661,923	4,115,362	3,918,673	196,689
Public Works	5,364,220	5,734,431	5,593,845	140,586
Recreation	789,945	874,311	818,919	55,392
Library	765,697	792,619	787,824	4,795
Human Services	891,340	976,021	944,918	31,103
Town Properties	793,407	785,115	709,158	75,957
Debt Service	3,144,377	3,165,042	2,924,541	240,501
Other	3,933,147	4,105,438	4,006,217	99,221
Education	46,564,324	47,921,412	47,921,412	-
Capital Outlays	2,181,199	2,283,229	2,278,911	4,318
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**70,457,883**	**73,303,364**	**72,300,475**	**1,002,889**
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	2,621,339	(717,555)	2,204,214	2,921,769
Other financing sources (uses):				
Appropriation of fund balance	-	617,555	-	(617,555)
Transfers In	213,000	100,000	27,045	(72,955)
Transfers Out	-	-	-	-
Total Other financing sources (uses)	213,000	717,555	27,045	(690,510)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	**$ 2,834,339**	**$ -**	**$ 2,231,259**	**$ 2,231,259**

Source: Town annual audited financial statements; unaudited financials; annual budgets; town officials.

Estimates are preliminary and subject to change.

For audited financial statements and budget information visit: https://www.ellington-ct.gov/departments-and-services/finance

TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR

FOUNDATION FOR FISCAL STABILITY

The Tax Collector's office plays a pivotal role in ensuring the fiscal health of our community. Our primary responsibility is the accurate billing and timely collection of all real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle taxes, as well as water and sewer assessments. These vital duties are carried out in strict adherence to Connecticut State Statutes, the Town Charter, and local Town Ordinances.

Maintaining a consistently high collection rate remains our foremost priority. Collecting these revenue streams provides the necessary funding for essential municipal services, infrastructure, and community resources that directly sustain the exceptional quality of life our residents enjoy.

2024 GRAND LIST - FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

	# of Accounts	Original Levy	Adjusted Levy	Collections as of 6/30/25	Rate
Real Estate	6,077	47,792,695.11	47,838,308.67	47,606,296.35	99.52%
Personal Property	969	2,890,376.52	2,946,638.72	2,923,181.32	99.20%
Motor Vehicle	16,564	5,956,633.43	5,864,426.72	5,751,404.65	98.07%
Motor Vehicle Supplemental	3,265	870,555.00	860,253.90	825,591.37	95.97%
Total	26,875	57,510,260.06	57,509,628.01	57,106,473.69	99.30%

STAFFING UPDATES: Fond Farewells and Warm Welcomes

At the end of May, our former Deputy Collector departed to relocate to a new city for exciting new opportunities. I am deeply grateful for her dedicated service and support since December 2024, and while she will be missed, I wish her great success in her next chapter.

With this transition, I am delighted to introduce our new Deputy Collector, Jennifer Bourque. A former Ellington resident and dedicated public servant, Jennifer brings years of valuable municipal experience to our office. We are thrilled to welcome her to the team, and I am confident her expertise will serve our community well.

LOOKING AHEAD

As always, our team remains committed to providing efficient, transparent, and courteous service. Whether you are visiting Town Hall to make a payment or simply stopping by to say hello, we look forward to seeing you.

PAYMENT DUE CALENDAR	
JULY	• Real Estate 1st installment • Personal Property 1st installment • Motor Vehicle ***single*** payment
OCTOBER	• Sewer Usage Fee
NOVEMBER	• Trash Collection Fee
JANUARY	• Real Estate 2nd installment • Personal Property 2nd installment • Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax ***only if applicable***
APRIL	• Sewer Usage Fee
JUNE	• Sewer Benefit Assessment Fee • Dog License Fee

TOWN CLERK

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The duties and responsibilities of the Town Clerk's Office consist of the following, most of which are governed by State Statute, others by Town Charter and the Board of Selectmen. The State Statutes govern the duties and responsibilities of the Registrar of Vital Records.

- Recording documents related to real estate transactions
- Collection of conveyance taxes
- Filing and maintaining maps, trade names, liquor permits, military discharges, and Notary Public Certificates
- Posting notices of meetings and filing minutes and notices received from various Boards and Commissions, as required by the Freedom of Information Laws
- Preparation of absentee ballot election material for all elections, primaries, and referenda
- Registration of voters and accepting applications for voters wishing to change their party affiliation
- Issuance of marriage licenses, burial, cremation, and transit permits, and certifying copies of birth, death, and marriage certificates
- Annual registration of dogs
- Sale of Sportsman Licenses
- Aircraft Registration Official
- Recording and preparing minutes of Town Meetings
- Issuing and maintaining all Raffle & Bazaar Permits

All Town Meeting Minutes are on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Also available are land record indexes and images as well as recorded survey and subdivision maps. These are available both for public retrieval in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town Website under Land Records.

The Town Clerk also serves as accepting agent for civil actions brought against the Town and is responsible for processing claims and lawsuits and submitting them to the Town Attorney, Selectmen, insurance carrier, and the department involved.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Clerk's Office offers protection from property and mortgage fraud, free of charge, with Fraud Alert. Sign up at https://searchiqs.com/fraudalert/?cc=ctell.
- Annual Dog License renewal is available on the Town Website – current rabies vaccination certificate must be on file at the Town Clerk's Office to utilize this service.

Summary	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Births	115	130	153
Marriages	33	97	74
Deaths	144	144	124
Land Records Filed	1,999	2,116	2,153
Maps Filed	26	32	18
Trade Names	30	33	29
Dog Licenses	2,342	2,311	2,320
Kennel Licenses	5	4	3
Sports Licenses	386	370	341
Veteran Discharges Filed	35	37	47
Cemetery Deeds Filed	32	39	31
Aircraft Registrations	7	6	6
Bazaar & Raffle Permits	7	7	7
Notary Services	307	283	261

TOWN ENGINEER

DANA STEELE, P.E.
J.R. RUSSO & ASSOCIATES, LLC

The Town engineer is appointed by the Board of Selectmen to provide engineering consultation services to Town officers, departments, boards and commissions. During the past year as Town Engineer, J.R. Russo & Associates, LLC has provided the following services:

- Met with Town officers and prospective developers to discuss and provide guidance for preliminary development plans.
- Reviewed site design plans, traffic reports and drainage calculations submitted to the Planning Department, Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency regarding Town requirements and sound engineering practice and provided written comments for consideration in the approval process.
- Prepared bond estimates and recommendation for reduction of bond amounts for erosion control on private projects and public improvements such as new subdivision roads.
- Reviewed as-built surveys and site inspections for completed projects to verify conformance with the approved plans and recommend acceptance of completed public improvements.
- Assisted the Planning Department and Public Works in preparing plans for town infrastructure improvements:
  - West Road (Rt. 83) Sidewalks (design completed, awaiting DOT authorization to bid)
  - Burbank Road & Webster Road Culvert Replacement (design completed, construction Fall 2026)
  - Windermere Avenue Reconstruction & Sidewalks (design completed, bidding 2026)
  - Windsorville & Pinney roadway improvements (design progressing)
  - Brush Dump Expansion (design pending)
  - Kibbe Road Improvements (evaluating possible intersection realignment)
  - Windermere Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension (design completed)
  - Newell Hill Road Drainage Improvements (design progressing)
  - Hoffman Road Drainage Improvements (design completed)
  - East Porter Road Drainage Improvements (construction completed)
  - Town Hall Solar Carports & EV Charging Stations (design completed)
  - Sandy Beach Improvements (design progressing)
  - Sandy Beach Road Sidewalks (grant funding progressing)

LAND RECORDS INSPECTOR

In accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut (Inspection Sec. 7-14) "an inspection of the Land Records of each municipality in this state must be done annually." The Land Record documents prepared by the Town Clerk's Office have been inspected for the period from January 2025 through December 2025; the corrections and certification has been completed and sent to the Public Records Administrator.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Ellington Planning Department assists citizens, businesses, government officials, design professionals, and developers with general land use inquiries, permitting requirements, and compliance activities associated with zoning, subdivision, and wetlands regulations. Staff provide technical and administrative support to six permanent land use commissions: the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Inland Wetlands Agency, the Economic Development Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Conservation Commission, and the Design Review Board. In addition to carrying out planning, permitting and enforcement duties, the Planning Department helps direct long-range planning and local GIS (Geographic Information Systems). Department staff consists of a full-time Town Planner, a full-time Assistant Town Planner Wetland and Zoning Officer, a full-time Land Use Assistant, and a part-time Recording Secretary.

TOWN ATTORNEY

DORIAN L. REISER
KAHAN, KERENSKY, CAPOSSELA, LLP

The Town Attorney is appointed by the Board of Selectmen to be the legal advisor to the Board, the First Selectman and all Town officers, departments, boards and commissions in all matters affecting the Town.

I have enjoyed getting to know and working with Ellington's new First Selectman, Laurie Burstein, over this past year. In addition to working with her, I've spent the past year working with the Town Administrator and Finance Department on bidding and contracting relative to various municipally provided services and municipal improvement projects. I have worked with the Planning Department on new development proposals and conveyances to the Town in connection with approved developments, as well as reviewing revisions to the Zoning Regulations necessary to ensure continued compliance with state statutes. I have worked with the WPCA Administrator regarding the Town's grinder pump policy and reviewing and obtaining necessary sewer easements. Lastly, I have worked with and continue to work with the Assessor on issues relating to tax exemptions and to resolve a number of tax appeals related to the Town's 2025 Revaluation.

BOARDS, AGENCIES AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (PZC)

The PZC is responsible for maintaining and updating the Ellington Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD/Plan). The POCD is a policy document that guides land use, development patterns, preservation strategies, and capital investments for certain infrastructure and community facilities with a ten-year lookout. The last comprehensive update to Ellington's POCD was effective November 30, 2019.

The subdivision and zoning regulations are the main tools the PZC uses to implement long-term planning policies and development practices. These regulations are living documents and amended from time to time in accordance with the goals and objectives of the POCD.

Text amendments for the past fiscal year include:

- Zoning regulation amendment to Section 3.6.6 Age Restricted Communities to allow an average of 2.2 bedroom units per unit.
- Zoning regulation amendment to Section 7.14.2E for backyard poultry to reduce minimum lot size and setbacks.
- Subdivision regulation amendment to add new Section 4.15 – Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.

The PZC is also responsible for processing subdivision, site plan, special permit, and other development applications. With technical and administrative support from its staff, the PZC ensures developments comply with applicable regulations and approved plans. This is accomplished through plan review, site inspections, issuance of zoning permits and certificates of zoning compliance, and enforcement actions. Additionally, the PZC provides recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding improvements to public infrastructure and land transfers for consistency with long-term land use goals and objectives.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Six (6) subdivision applications.
- Six (6) special permits pursuant to 3.1.3 Accessory Uses/ Structures of the Ellington Zoning Regulations equating to 11,960 +/- sf of new residential construction.
- Three (3) Special Permits: retail gaming at 90 Lower Butcher Road, office space at 3 Jobs Hill Road, and a farm store at 80 Meadow Brook Road.
- Modification to existing Special Permit to change the hours of operation for athletic field lighting at 45 Sadds Mill Road, Ellington Little League.
- One (1) site development plan approval for new buildings for contractor storage space at 3 Jobs Hill Road.
- Three (3) renewals of earth excavation permits.
- One hundred and fifty-two (152) zoning permit applications were processed.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CC)

The CC focuses on conservation planning. This includes planning for open space, farmland preservation, and other conservation areas. The commission is advisory and does not issue permits for development, rather its members make recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), Board of Selectmen, and others regarding planned open spaces, acquisition of farmland development rights, and other conservation strategies.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Implemented strategies to raise awareness about open space and farmland preservation.
- Attended the Ellington Farmer's Market to expand community outreach.
- Facilitated the creation of a town-wide Historic Resources Inventory through the State Historic Preservation Office.
- Reviewed and ranked priority parcels for Open Space Preservation.
- Supported the Ellington Trails Committee and efforts to create, maintain, and enhance trails throughout town.
- Reviewed two (2) subdivisions for open space recommendations.
- Supported a prospective land acquisition through CT DEEP's Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program for a 20-acre property off Somers Road that abuts the Shenipsit State Forest.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (DRB)

The DRB is advisory to the Planning and Zoning Commission and provides recommendations for exterior design elements for commercial, industrial, mixed-use, multi-family, and special permit uses in residential zones.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Reviewed development plans for the construction of a 5,600-sf building for contractor rental space, 3 Jobs Hill Road.

ETHICS COMMISSION

The Ethics Commission is an independent Commission established to hear, review and evaluate complaints under the Code of Ethics, as well as respond to requests to render advisory opinions concerning the applicability of the Code regarding specific situations or circumstances.

The Commission is tasked to provide and maintain the Code in order to guide elected officials, appointed officials and employees in the proper discharge of their official responsibilities, and to prevent the misuse of an official position for personal financial gain. The Code, which was last revised in Fiscal Year 2022 with the review and advice of the Connecticut Office of State Ethics and the Town Attorney, is a critical link between persons subject to the Code and our residents' confidence in ethical Town governance.

The Commission received no complaints or requests for advisory opinions during the past Fiscal Year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)

The EDC is committed to fostering a pro-business environment which encourages a growing, sustainable, and diverse tax base. The EDC continuously looks to facilitate communication between businesses and town officials. The EDC adopts policies consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development and strives to improve the quality of life in Ellington.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosted the sixth annual Shop Ellington Event: a two-week long campaign promoting local businesses in conjunction with Small Business Saturday and the holiday shopping season. Twenty-five (25) businesses and twenty-one (21) patrons participated, resulting in one hundred and twenty-nine (129) business visits.
- Member of the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce with representation on the Chamber's Economic Development Committee.
- Representation at the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards Event and presentation of award to The Ivy of Ellington for Corporate Citizen for 2025.
- Awarded Silver Certified Community for Best Practices in Economic Development and Land Use Planning by the Connecticut Economic Development Association.
- Recommended tax abatement for the construction of a 13,225-sf free stall barn and milk house and an 18,504-sf manure storage facility at 18 Meadow Brook Road for Roaring Brook & Aborn Farms, LLC.
- Held Ellington Business to Business Networking Meetings in September 2025 at Anytime Fitness, in January 2026 at Marc's Appliance Warehouse, March at Skips Wastewater Services, and June of 2026 at Ellington Depot Café and Market.

PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE (PBC)

The Permanent Building Committee consists of eleven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee is responsible for investigating sites for future public buildings and making recommendations, as authorized by Town Meeting, regarding the acquisition, design, and construction of building projects and other work with construction costs exceeding $40,000. At the request of the Board of Selectmen, the Committee may also undertake similar responsibilities for projects costing less than $40,000.

The Committee's responsibilities may include evaluating and recommending sites for acquisition; overseeing the preparation and disposition of sites and buildings; engaging architects, engineers, and other professional consultants through a qualifications-based selection process; reviewing and approving plans; overseeing the procurement of construction bids and contracts; monitoring construction; and accepting completed work as authorized and delegated by Town Meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS

During Fiscal Year 2025–26, the Permanent Building Committee continued its oversight of several significant capital improvement projects for the Town and Ellington Public Schools. Construction and renovation work at Windermere Elementary School progressed substantially throughout the year. Following completion and occupancy of the new addition, work continued on the renovation of the existing school, including classroom and instructional areas, building systems, and the band and chorus spaces. Work also advanced on building connectors, the new vestibule, site improvements, and other exterior areas. By the end of the fiscal year, commissioning and punch-list activities were underway in several completed areas, the former 1966 south building had been demolished following asbestos abatement, and preparations continued for remaining site, playground, landscaping, and finish work. The Committee also continued oversight of the Board of Education HVAC improvement project at Center School, Ellington Middle School, and Ellington High School. Work during the fiscal year advanced from initial mobilization, demolition, and submittal activities into continued construction and coordination of building-system improvements at the three schools. Throughout the year, the Committee worked closely with Town and Board of Education staff, architects, engineers, construction managers, contractors, and other project professionals to review project schedules, budgets, change orders, payment applications, commissioning activities, and construction progress.

INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY (IWA)

The wetlands and watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to an adequate supply of surface and underground water; to hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion; to the recharging and purification of groundwater; and to the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life. Wetlands are defined by state law, and include certain soils that are poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial (found along a watercourse or water body), and floodplain soils. The IWA regulates direct-impact activity and activity within either one hundred (100) feet of a regulated area or two-hundred and fifty (250) feet to a mapped watershed. The IWA does this by way of approving permits in accordance with the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, and enforcing the regulations through field inspections, permit suspensions or revocations, notices of violation, cease and desist orders, and if necessary, by fines. The regulations also permit some operations and uses as of right or as nonregulated however the IWA must be notified to make this determination prior to the commencement of the activity.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Three (3) Agency permit applications approved/approved with modifications or conditions.
- One (1) request accepted for uses permitted as of right and nonregulated uses.
- One (1) positive referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §8-26(e) for subdivision or re-subdivision.
- Six (6) Administrative Agent permit applications approved/approved with modifications or conditions.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The Water Pollution Control Authority is a five-member board with the responsibility for the administration and maintenance of the two sewer systems in the Town, the Hockanum Sewer System that collects residential and commercial sewage for treatment at the Vernon Sewer Plant and the Crystal Lake Sewer System that collects residential sewage for treatment at the Stafford Sewer Treatment Plant. All town sewer maintenance is handled by the Water Pollution Control Authority in conjunction with the Public Works Department.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Approved the 2026-27 Budget which is funded by user fees and included in the Town's budget reporting process.
- Set Sewer User Fees 2026-2027 for Hockanum and Crystal Lake systems:

Hockanum Sewer System

- Hockanum annual fixed fees (all users) $254.00
- Hockanum annual variable fees (well users) $402.00
- Hockanum price per 1000 gallons of water (CT Water Users) $8.0166

Crystal Lake Sewer System

- Crystal Lake annual fixed fees (all users) $274.00
- Crystal Lake annual variable fees (full-year users) $812.00
- Crystal Lake annual variable fees (seasonal users) $543.00

**Said charges will be effective October 1, 2026.*

- Began User Fee Rate Study project.
- Continued to update AppGeo Sewer Layer for Ellington GIS MapGeo.
- Continued to monitor H2S levels at Pump Stations.
- Maintained all infrastructure as required and necessary, responding to emergency situations as needed.
- Received new WPCA Crane Truck.
- Fuss & O'Neill projects:
  - -Vernon Pump Station upgrade 100% complete.
  - - INI studying and repair planning ongoing.
  - - New development and connection reviews ongoing.
  - - Held bid opening and awarded Windermere Avenue sanitary sewer extension project.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)

The ZBA is a statutory required commission comprised of local volunteers who consider applicant's claims that they cannot comply with local zoning regulations because a regulation affects their land in some unique way. This land-based hardship can be the basis for granting a variance and allowing a standard of the zoning regulations to be modified. In addition, the ZBA considers appeals from people who feel the enforcement officer made an error in interpreting and applying a provision of the zoning regulations.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Twelve (12) variance applications approved/approved with conditions.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

The two registrars are responsible for organizing and conducting elections, primaries and referenda, as well as registering new voters and maintaining accurate voter records for the town. These activities include annually canvassing town residents who are on the voter rolls but have not exercised their right to vote in several past consecutive elections with the objective of updating active voter files.

The Republican Registrar, Wanda DeLand, has served the town in this capacity for two decades and Democratic Registrar, Lois Timms-Ferrara, has held the position since 2018. Both registrars have fulfilled all educational and training requirements and are certified by Connecticut's Secretary of the State. They are members of the Tolland County Registrars organization and are active with committee positions in the state-wide Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut (ROVAC).

Budget Referenda take place in late May each year, and a November election is always held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month.

REGISTERED VOTERS

The number of registered voters in town dipped very slightly over the last twelve months. Unaffiliated voters continue to make up the majority of those registered and the distribution across political parties has remained steady over the last several years.

ELLINGTON ACTIVE VOTERS BY MAJOR PARTY

	July 2025	%	July 2026	%
Democrats	2,789	23.6%	2,798	23.8%
Republicans	3,210	27.2%	3,176	27.0%
Unaffiliated	5,593	47.4%	5,606	47.6%
Other	199	1.7%	189	1.6%
Total	**11,791**		**11,769**	

VOTER PARTICIPATION AND WHERE ELLINGTON VOTES

When voting on the day of an Election or Primary, town voters cast their ballots at either Ellington High School or Crystal Lake School. There are three voting districts in Ellington, Districts 1 and 3 vote at Ellington High School and District 2 residents vote at Crystal Lake School for the day of the election or primary. If you are unsure where to vote, there is a lookup available on the town website, or visit: https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx.

EARLY VOTING: THE TOWN HALL ANNEX

First introduced in 2024, Early Voting has become a welcome alternative to voting on the day of the Election. Eligible voters may participate at the Town Hall Annex, 57 Main Street, and the Annex shares the parking lot with Town Hall.

November General Elections in Connecticut assure a period of two weeks prior to the election to be designated for the purpose of Early Voting. The lines tend to be shorter, parking is close, and it is convenient to select the day you wish to vote.

Primaries have different rules as to how many days (seven) of Early Voting, but are still held at the Town Annex.

REFERENDA: THE SENIOR CENTER

Every May there is a Budget Referendum held for all voters across the town at the Ellington Senior Center. There is no Early Voting for Referenda.

TURNOUT

Ellington voters are engaged in their civic duties and the privilege to participate in voting. Below are the percentages of registered voters in town who have taken part in these opportunities for voting:

Elections	Turnout
2025 Municipal Election	40%
2024 Presidential Election	81%
2023 Municipal Election	35%
2022 Gubernatorial Election	63%

Recent Budget Referenda	Turnout
May 27, 2026	17%
June 9, 2026	18%
June 23, 2026	21%
June 10, 2025	16%
May 27, 2025	9%

2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

With a higher turnout than most local elections, about 40 percent of Ellington voters participated in the Municipal Election that changed the political landscape in town. For the first time in well over a decade, Democrats took control of the Board of Selectmen, the office of the First Selectman, and the Board of Finance.

THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 3, 2026 is the date for the Gubernatorial Election where voters will make their selections for the Connecticut Governor and representatives in Congress, as well as, the delegation to the Connecticut Senate and General Assembly. Please, mark your calendars and plan to make your voice heard. There will be a 14-day period of early voting held from October 19 through November 1 at the Annex building across from Town Hall. The hours are 10 am to 6 pm, and on the last Tuesday (October 27) and Thursday, (October 29) the hours are 8 am to 8 pm. Curbside voting is available if you are unable to come into the polls, simply call the number listed on the sign in the handicapped parking location.

If you are interested in registering to vote or wish to modify your registration file, you may do so online at voterregistration.ct.gov or stop in town hall at 55 Main Street to complete a registration card. There are also registration cards available at Hall Memorial Library that may be dropped off or mailed to the Registrar's Office. To learn about more election-related information, the Secretary of the State's website goes into detail on several topics: www.sots.ct.gov.

OUR ELECTIONS OFFICIALS

The democratic process is made possible in Ellington by the hard work of so many. The registrars wish to thank the polling officials who make the time to train and work at the polls ensuring that qualified, bonafide voters are allowed to make their voices heard during election time. Please, show appreciation and kindness when interacting with our polling officials who uphold our national and state laws. Many neighbors have answered the call to serve our community in this way, if you have an interest in becoming part of this team, please reach out to our office.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

As the end of our tenure approaches, we, Wanda and Lois, wish to express our deep appreciation for the honor and privilege to serve the town of Ellington in this capacity. We are eternally grateful for all those officials who have worked alongside us through the years to ensure and protect the integrity of the elections in our town. To our committed deputies, especially Lois Goodin, we thank you for your commitment and strong work ethic. We also extend our best wishes to our successors serving in this capacity as Registrars of Voters, Joann Scott and Jen Dzen.

AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE

SUCTION HARVESTING

The Ad Hoc Milfoil Committee received an ARPA Grant for the 2025 Suction Harvesting of Milfoil (Myriophyllum heterophyllum) in Crystal Lake. The Grant is not part of the FY 2025-2026 Town Budget, but the work accomplished to date is summarized herein for clarity. The Grant was for 246 hours of Suction Harvesting of Milfoil, three (3) plant surveys and a summary report.

June 2025 ARPA Grant and Town Funding: The ARPA Suction Harvesting was performed by New England Aquatic Services (NEAS) in June and August of 2025. In June, 100 ARPA hours resulted in the harvesting of 336 bags of Milfoil. This was supplemented by 25 hours funded by the Town of Ellington and the Crystal Lake Association resulting in 63 bags of Pondweed (Potamogeton epihydrus). This work was summarized in our FY 2024-2025 Annual Report.

August 2025 ARPA Grant: In August, 146.25 hours of ARPA Suction Harvesting were performed resulting in the removal of 568 bags of Milfoil and 7.14 acres cleared. The breakdown follows:

Location	Total Hours	Acres Cleared	# of Bags
Dam Area	51	0.90	131
Northeast Cove	26.25	1.25	270
Town Beach	26	3.33	102
Western Shore	43	1.66	65

August 2025 Town Funding: In August, 160 hours of Town funded Suction Harvesting were performed resulting in the removal of 268 bags of Pondweed, 70.2 acres cleared and 18 bentic barriers (mats) relocated in the Dam Area. The breakdown is as follows:

Location	Total Hours	Acres Cleared	# of Bags
Dam Area	26.5	(Relocate 18 mats)	5
Eastern Shore and Northeast Cove	41.5	34.9	71
Town Beach and Aborn Cove	32	15.8	102
Western Shore	60	19.5	90

2025 Report: The report titled "2025 Crystal Lake Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting, Funded by the Town of Ellington and the American Rescue Plan Action of 2021 (ARPA)", Prepared by the Town of Ellington Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee, March 2026, summarizes all of the Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting performed in 2025 (listed above) and the Plant Surveys performed for the ARPA Grant. That report has been filed with the Town and can also be found on the Crystal Lake Association website.

2025 experienced an exponential growth of Milfoil and Pondweed. The divers stated that all of the lakes and ponds in Connecticut and the northeast that they worked experienced similar growth. The Divers removed 1,009 bags of Milfoil and 233 bags of Pondweed for a total of 1,242 bags. Milfoil was removed from 15.9 acres and Pondweed from 70 acres. Comparing this to the 2020-2022 period the volume of plants

removed and the area of Milfoil worked increased by roughly five times. 90% of the Milfoil removed (904 bags) was removed using the ARPA funding. The remaining 10% of Milfoil and the Pondweed was removed using Town Funding with assistance from the Crystal Lake Association. Table 1 at the end of this report summarizes the 2025 Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting.

The ARPA Suction Harvesting Grant allowed the Milfoil Committee to double the amount of Suction Harvesting hours performed in a one-year period. However, the invasive plant growth has significantly increased. Without the ARPA and Town funding the Ad Hoc Milfoil Committee feels that these plants would have overtaken Crystal Lake and its use for swimming, boating, fishing and recreational activities would have been adversely impacted and severely compromised. A concerted effort must continue to protect and preserve the Town of Ellington's valuable resource of Crystal Lake.

June 2026 Town Funding: In June, 99.5 hours of Suction Harvesting removed 195 bags of Milfoil from 17.06 acres. The exact breakdown of hours and bags removed was not available at the time of the writing of this report, but the areas worked were: Annual Maintenance / Western Shore (10.4 acres), the Dam Area (0.85 acres), the Northeast Cove (2.36 acres) and the Town Beach Area (3.45 acres). The Divers are scheduled to return in August 2026 to continue Suction Harvesting.

IN LAKE WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Water Quality monitoring was performed monthly by the Crystal Lake Association (CLA) and evaluated by Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR) from April to November in 2025 in the open water areas of the lake. Parameters being tested are water clarity, phosphorous, dissolved oxygen and temperature. NEAR Annual Reports are submitted to the Town and posted on the Crystal Lake Association website.

Water Clarity: Water clarity in 2025 was acceptable in that it remained below the 3m depth threshold. However, the 2025 Secchi disk depth was worse than the long-term average every month April through October (May 2025 not recorded). The poorest Secchi disk measurement of the 2025 season was 3.4m in September. This is the second poorest September Secchi measurement that NEAR has recorded, the worst being a 3.1m measurement recorded in 2021.

Water Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen: The water temperature profiles in 2025 showed fully mixed conditions in April, moving to stratified conditions through the remainder of the sampling period. The upper mixed layer progressed from 2m in early June to 4m in July and August, 6m in September, and 9m in October. The October profile shows that the mixed layer of the lake had reached the anoxic boundary.

Dissolved oxygen followed a similar pattern. The bottom 2m of water were anoxic (devoid of oxygen) in June, and the bottom water remained anoxic through the last sampling event of the season in early October. The anoxic boundary rose from June through October, reaching a maximum height of 9.7m, meaning the bottom approximately 4m of water were anoxic. The trend of the anoxic boundary in 2025 was similar to trends in prior years, with the exception of 2021, when the anoxic boundary reached much higher in the water column than all other years on record.

In-Lake Nutrients: During the April sampling date, the water column was fully mixed, so all the samples (top, middle and bottom) should have the same phosphorus concentrations. However, in Crystal Lake, total phosphorous concentrations were elevated at the top and bottom. Ideally, total phosphorous concentrations should be less than or equal to 10ppb in Crystal Lake. TP remained low in the middle and bottom of the water column from June through October. The water at the top of the water column (1m below the surface) was notably elevated at 40ppb in June, following 1.7" of rain between July 9th and 13th. The drastic increase in TP following rain suggests that watershed nutrient loading remains an issue. By mid-July, surface water TP had dropped to 3ppb and remained low for the remainder of the season.

Total nitrogen remained low at the top and middle of the water column in 2025, but TN in the bottom water increased steadily from May through October.

Bottom water ammonia nitrogen (NH3) increased dramatically over the course of the season from a low of 57 ppb in April to a high of 688ppb in October. This was consistent with the increase in the anoxic boundary over the same period. Ammonia made up the majority of the increase in total nitrogen over the season; this is suggestive of internal loading.

INLET AND STORMWATER SAMPLING

Three inlets, Cemetery Road, Route 140 Pond, and Aborn Brook were sampled on five occasions: April 15th, June 9th, July 10th, August 7th, and September 10th.

Total phosphorous and total nitrogen remained relatively low in the Cemetery Road inlet in 2025. The Route 140 Pond inlet had low TP and TN in June, July and August, and slightly elevated TP and TN in April and September. The Aborn Brook inlet had low TP and TN concentrations in April, July and September, but spiked in June and August to 147ppb and 398ppb respectively. The August concentration of 400ppb is extremely high and a serious issue in the watershed in this area.

Watershed sampling was conducted at the tail end of a large (greater than 1") rain event on July 10th. Water samples were collected from inlets 8, 9, 11, 13, and 19. Total phosphorous concentrations were no higher than 28ppb at each inlet. Total nitrogen were elevated at inlets 11 and 13. These are inlets that historically had elevated nutrient concentrations (Ref: Map 1 and Table 5: December 17th, 2025, Crystal Lake Water Quality and Aquatic Plant Results, NEAR).

LONG TERM WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

NEAR conducted a long-term water quality assessment from available data for Crystal Lake. Data used included TP and Secchi disk readings for many Connecticut lakes from 1973 to 1980. 1979 data for TP and Secchi disk readings collected by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. A University of Connecticut graduate student, Thomas Murray, collected intense physical/ chemical limnological data on Crystal Lake during 1988 and 1989, for a master's degree thesis. TP and Secchi disk data from 1991, 1992 and 1993 collected by the Connecticut College. Data collected by the Crystal Lake Association and evaluated by NEAR in 1991 and continuously from 1996 to the present for TP, Secchi disk readings, bottom water TP and trends in the anoxic boundary.

In summary, Total Phosphorous in the upper water averaged approximately 8ppb for many years but now averages 12ppb. Bottom water TP is higher each season with an average in recent

years of approximately 20ppb. Bottom water peaks each season, reaching concentrations of 40 – 60 ppb. There is no overwhelming evidence that bottom water TP concentration is increasing over time, in fact bottom water TP appeared to reach higher peaks during the 2007 – 2013, than the lake does now. The water clarity has varied between approximately 2.5m and 6m, with a few values over 6m and one value over 8m. The clarity has been better after about 2007, with no values reported less than 3m, and regular values near or better than 6m. Long - term average clarity is 4.4m. The pattern of oxygen loss and the height of the anoxic boundary have remained steady over the sampling period. There is no indication of worsening anoxia.

AQUATIC PLANT RESULTS

Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR) performed an ARPA funded comprehensive aquatic plant survey of the lake on August 1, 2025. They documented 21 native aquatic plant species. Only two were dominant (occurred at over 20% frequency): Waterweed (Elodea nuttallii) and Floating Bladderwort (Utricularia radiate). Of the remaining 19 species, 4 occurred at between 10 and 20% frequency, while 17 had frequencies of less than 10%. Essentially, there are only a few common species in the lake, all the rest are uncommon to scarce.

Quill-leaved Arrowhead (Sagittaria teres) is a State-listed Endangered species with a history of presence in Crystal Lake. During the survey, Quill-leaved Arrowhead was abundant (13% frequency), present at several locations along the lake's shoreline.

Two invasive species were found: *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* (variable-leaf milfoil) and *Glossostigma cleistanthum* (mudmat).

Myriophyllum heterophyllum (Variable-leaf Milfoil) was once again present in the lake's three coves. It was particularly dense and widespread in the northern part of the lake in the Dam Area and offshore of the Northeast Cove where abundant beds were large and dense, spanning nearly 30' from the shore to nearly 7' deep. Two patches of Variable–leaf Milfoil were found offshore of the Town Beach. New plants were found scattered along the eastern and western shorelines. Ribbon-leaf Pondweed, which has been targeted by suction harvesting, occurred at a frequency of 11% and was present at many docks.

A final post-management Milfoil assessment, funded by ARPA, was conducted on September 12th. This involved returning to all locations where Milfoil removal efforts were conducted to assess the density and frequency of remaining plants. The scattered plants that were found offshore of the eastern and western shore were gone. Milfoil at the Town Beach was greatly reduced. The two primary patches (where Milfoil was originally discovered in Crystal Lake) at the Dam Area and the Northeast Cove were experiencing dense regrowth but the plants were much lower due to the suction harvesting efforts.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) GRANT APPLICATION

The Connecticut DEEP has an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant program. The Ad Hoc Milfoil Committee applied for a $25,000 grant (75% State and 25% Town). The Grant would allow the Town to address the persistent Milfoil regrowth areas by purchasing 15 new benthic barriers (bottom mats) for the Northeast Cove to supplement the existing 18 mats in the Dam Area. The mats would be in place during 2026 and 2027 and relocated annually. Our Grant Application was not funded.

SEDIMENT IN CRYSTAL LAKE

The Ad Hoc Milfoil Committee is concerned about degradation of water clarity and water quality caused by sediment in the stormwater runoff entering Crystal Lake. We applied for and received a grant through the Town and ARPA to update the 2002 Crystal Lake Drainage Study. Cardinal Engineering Associates of Meriden is presently working on this update. The goal of the study is to identify and propose cost effective solutions to minimize and mitigate adverse impacts caused by the stormwater runoff entering Crystal Lake. This study will be completed by the end of 2026.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2026-2027

- CLA volunteers to continue water sampling and testing of the lake waters from March through November
- CLA volunteers to sample inlet waters at 3 locations (Aborn Brook, Route 140 Pond and Cemetery Road Culvert) during 6 sampling months.
- Continue the Annual Maintenance in the main body of the lake
- Continue Milfoil removal from the Dam Area at the north end of the lake.
- Continue Milfoil removal in the Town Beach Area
- Continue Milfoil and Pondweed removal off of the Northeast Cove.
- Remove Pondweed at various locations in the lake.
- Continue the bottom barrier placement to control Milfoil in the Dam Area.
- Conduct a post- harvest plant survey.
- CLA volunteers to collect stormwater samples from five locations during two major storms for analysis.
- Coordinate stormwater sampling and results with Town DPW for their MS4

2025-26 DIVER ASSISTED SUCTION HARVESTING CRYSTAL LAKE

	ARPA Milfoil		FY 2025-26 & CLA		FY 2025-2026			
Date	**Milfoil Hours**	**Milfoil Bags**	**Pond-weed Hours**	**Pond-weed Bags**	**Milfoil Hours**	**Milfoil Bags**	**Pond-weed Bags**	**Totals**
June-July 2025	100	336	25	63	-	-	-	
August 2025	146	568	-	-	160	105	170	
Total Hours	**246**	**-**	**25**	**-**	**160**	**-**	**-**	**431**
Bags of Milfoil	-	904	-	-	-	105	-	1,009
Bags of Pond-weed	-	-	-	63	-	-	170	223
Total Bags	**-**	**904**	**-**	**63**	**-**	**105**	**170**	**1,242**

AD HOC ELLINGTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

The Ellington Trails Committee had another busy year highlighted by our partnership with Vernon Greenways Volunteers to lead a hike from Ellington to Vernon on CT Trails Day. With close to 30 participants, we hiked from the Windermere Trail to the Hockanum River Trail. Everyone had their choice of a two-mile hike to and from the suspension bridge (so cool!) or a five-mile hike that went further along the Hockanum River and woods. We hope to partner again with the Vernon Greenway Volunteers.

As a matter of fact, our new and continued partnerships are a key part of our work. Many of those partnerships are highlighted below. A very special shout out to our Committee Chair Linda Anderson for the work she does developing, maintaining, and enriching these collaborations that benefit our Ellington trails! And, of course many thanks to our growing list of partners!

For more information and maps of all our trails, go to the Town of Ellington website at https://parkrec.ellington-ct.gov/facilities-parks/hiking-trails-information.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND HIKES

The Committee continued to partner with the Hall Memorial Library on several programs and hikes including a talk and hike on pollinators, a talk on hummingbirds, a hike at Ellington Highlands to try to find part of nature you cannot normally see (magnifying glasses were on hand!), and three talks and a walk about the geology of Connecticut. Led by Ray and Mary Ann Schaefer, the geology talk in January was interactive with participants bringing in their own rocks for Ray to identify.

In August, the Committee held its very popular star gazing event at Pinney Field hosted by the CT Astronomy Club. This continues to be one of our most well-attended events and this year, attendees were able to see the moon, Saturn's rings, and Perseid meteor showers. Our traditional hike around Snipsic Lake was held over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE OF ELLINGTON TRAILS

Many, many thanks to our Committee members, Town of Ellington Department of Public Works, Ellington Fire Dept., Ellington Public Schools' Green Earth Club, local Girl Scouts and Scout Troop 96 (Eagle Scouts), and several volunteers for their work.

- **Batz:** Installation of new pollinator signs at the Batz property pollinator garden by Ellington Public Works; new handles and spring on outhouse; general maintenance
- **Crystal Ridge:** Scout Troop 96 helped with general clean-up; placing stones on wet spot at Quartz bridge, installing five posts with ropes on a steep section of orange trail making it easier to go up and down, and tying ropes to a steep section of Zach's trail
- Eagle Scout Divija Adhikary blazed a new (blue marked) trail and installed a viewing bench on the Crystal Ridge property.
- **Ellington Highlands:** Thank you to David Bidwell for always keeping the trails maintained and Public Works for mowing the fields
- **Kimball:** General clean-up and review of future improvements needed
- **Windermere:** Fixed a section of one of the bridges; new pavers installed on a low wet spot on the trail (many thanks to Scout Troop 96 for donating the pavers); continued removal of invasive knotweed near pond; general clean-up

COMMUNICATING ABOUT OUR GREAT TRAILS

This year, we worked with UConn (through its CT Trails Program, UConn Extension, and UConn CLEAR) to place all Ellington trails on the CT Trail Finder website (www.cttrailfinder.com). This is an amazing website which consolidates outdoor activities on one site. It is dependent on being populated by each community in Connecticut. For our businesses – if you want a link on the Ellington page, so that outdoor enthusiasts can visit your business, go to cttrailfinder.com and use Services drop down box and open Add A Service.

In an effort to continue to get the word out on our trails, the Committee had a table with maps and information about our trails at the Town's Earth Day event in April, Hall Memorial Library Mini Golf event in January, and the Ellington Farmer's Market in August. The Trails Committee continued to assist the Ellington Centennial Lions Club with the traditional Trail of Treats in October.

This year, we worked with the Northern CT Land Trust to promote their hikes in several of our newsletters. These local trails are beautiful and well worth a try!

Through the Town newsletter and our Facebook page, we provided information to the public on keeping your eyes out for the spotted lantern flies from last fall, coyotes, and bears seen locally.

Finally, thank you so much to our dedicated Committee members! Our team works so well together as everyone has their niche which fits their great talents.

We look forward to seeing everyone out on Ellington's trails.

For an updated list of happenings, go to our Facebook page or the Town of Ellington website under the Calendar of Events section. Or email Linda Anderson at andylin49@earthlink.net if you would like to volunteer, receive email updates or if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

ELLINGTON AD HOC PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE



The Ellington Patriotic Committee is an all-volunteer, non-partisan, non-politically-affiliated organization of local citizens with the goal of promoting PATRIOTISM, in various forms, among the residents of Ellington. Some of our members are veterans of America's Armed Forces; some are members of various civic organizations. Some are regular, everyday people. All of the members share a desire to be involved in our community: Ellington, the place we call home.

Our agenda is simple: to promote patriotism in all manners and means, to support and honor America's veterans and their families, remembering their sacrifice, so that we, as Americans, can live free, and to foster a sense of pride and belonging among all of Ellington's residents.

What We Do: The Ellington Patriotic Committee is involved in many events and observances in our town dedicated to promoting Patriotism, and remembering the sacrifice of our active-duty military personnel and veterans, both living and those who have fallen. Chief among these are:

- Flag Retirement Ceremony (in cooperation with the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department)
- Memorial Day Observance and Parade
- Wreaths Across America
- Placement of Veteran Medallions and Flags at Cemeteries

Members are appointed for one-year terms. We are currently seeking new members; please join us in our efforts. For more information and to become a member, please contact the First Selectman's Office at 860-870-3100 or email info@ellington-ct.gov.

Our Mission Statement: "To develop, plan, arrange, supervise, and conduct programs and activities that foster pride and patriotism among the citizens of the Town, and to make recommendations for such programs and activities to the Board of Selectmen for approval."

PUBLIC SAFETY

RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS

The Ellington Resident State Troopers Office serves as the primary Law Enforcement contingency for the Town of Ellington. The State Police team consists of Resident State Trooper Supervisor Sergeant Timothy Merrill #225, TFC Tyler Burnell #1091, Trooper Kelly Mazza #1079, Trooper Joseph Fratini #899, and Trooper Mason Hoover #597. The Ellington Town Police Officer team consists of thirteen sworn Police Officers. Officer Joseph Decker CC25 serves additionally as the Police Support Specialist. The Resident State Troopers' Office also provides Marine Patrol support on Crystal Lake using three Marine Vessel Operators. The Resident State Troopers' Office is supported by Troop C in Tolland for all daily operations. The team is backed up by the entire State Police Department and its specialists which include Major Crime Squad, Forensic Laboratory, Fire Marshals Unit, Emergency Services Unit(s), Statewide Narcotics/Gangs Unit, Canine Unit, Bomb Squad, Traffic and Truck Squads.

JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD

The Ellington RTO serves as host and lead agency for the Tri-Town (Ellington, Stafford and Somers) Juvenile Review Board (JRB). The JRB consists of TFC Burnell (Ellington RTO), sworn member of Somers RTO, sworn member of Stafford RTO, member of Youth Services and a member of State DCF. The JRB is intended to divert from Juvenile Court children who have committed minor delinquent acts or whose behavior at home or school indicates they are at risk of delinquency. The board meets the first Thursday of each month in Somers.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COLLECTION

Prescription medications are collected from the Prescription Drug Collection Box and transported to the State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) for destruction. Over 1000 lbs. of prescription drugs have been collected for destruction.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

The Resident State Troopers Office continues to staff the Ellington Public School system with a School Resource Officer. For the 2026/2027 School year Officer Jeff Duda will fill the SRO position.

DARE PROGRAM

The Resident State Troopers Office continues to provide three DARE Officers for the 2026/2027 School Year. Trooper Fratini #899 and Trooper Hoover #597 have been selected to teach the DARE curriculum.

MAJOR ACTIVITY (August 2025 - August 2026)

Totals Calls	**7,160**
Accidents	181
DUIs	5
Burglaries	4
Alarms	309
Larceny	23
Traffic Stops	681
Medical	144
Disturbances	64
Weapons	12
Suspicious Incident	123
Patrol Checks	3,677

BUILDING OFFICIAL

The Building Official is responsible for public safety, health, and welfare as it relates to the use and occupancy of all town buildings and structures.

The Building Official's office is located in the Town Hall Annex.

Building inspections are generally completed within one or two days of an inspection request.

ACTIVITY REPORT

	2023-2024	**2024-2025**	**2025-2026**
New Single-Family Homes	13	20	11
New Commercial Buildings	8	3	3
New Multi-Family Buildings	0	0	0
Residential Alterations & Additions	87	94	89
Repairs/Replacements to Existing	279	294	335
Mechanical/Electrical	658	660	628
Other	63	103	68
Totals	**1,108**	**1,174**	**1,134**
Field Inspections	1,116	1,210	1,229
Estimated Construction Value	$92,091,450	$49,575,726	$22,330,060
Permit Fees Collected	$499,838	$705,616	$386,383

FIRE MARSHAL

FIRE MARSHAL: James S. York II
DEPUTY MARSHAL: Sydney C. Kern
FIRE INSPECTOR: Gary Buzzell

The Department of Town Fire Marshal performs both investigative and code enforcement roles within our community. Direct responsibility for the investigation of all fires, explosions and hazardous materials incidents and code compliance inspections of most properties (single and two-family residential properties are exempt) are mandated by Connecticut General Statutes. Applications for administrative and criminal search warrants and for arrest warrants are filed with the court system when determined by investigation to be appropriate.

Annual code compliance inspections are conducted of special events and all permanent or temporary buildings, occupancies, facilities, whether new, existing or under construction or renovation.

In cooperation with the appropriate state agencies, permits are processed for liquor establishments, day care centers, group homes, explosives operations and open burning.

Construction plans for buildings and occupancies regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety Code are examined for approval prior to the issuance of building permits and certificates of occupancy are approved following completion of that construction.

In late 2022, Connecticut adopted a new State Fire Code. This new code enacted stringent requirements for existing buildings including a 10-year lifespan for smoke alarms. These changes have increased the number of enforcement citations in certain occupancies. The Department of Town Fire Marshal also participates in public outreach programs to promote fire safety throughout our community. These include the Annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest and events such as Earth Day and the Trail of Treats.

In the Poster Contest, elementary school students design posters with fire safety messages and compete at the town, county, and state levels. Winning posters are then featured in calendars and fire prevention media in the next year. One of Ellington's winning posters in 2025 received recognition at the state level for its exceptional design, quality, and message.

The Department of Town Fire Marshal has been continually involved in the Windermere School construction project. Frequent site assessments and open communication with faculty/staff and project managers ensure fire safety and code compliance during this multi-phased project.

Comparison statistics are provided below as an aid in determining the effects of the past twenty years of town growth and the Town's ability to meet its lawful obligations to fire investigation and code enforcement functions.



Fires can happen anywhere, anytime. This portable power pack exploded when charging using an aftermarket power cord. Always use the original or manufacturer's recommended cable when recharging devices. (Photo Credit: Ellington Department of Town Fire Marshal)

SUMMARY OF FIRE MARSHAL SERVICES

	2005-2006	2015-2016	2025-2026
Investigations	63	52	53
Criminal (Felony and Misdemeanor[1])	23	25	0
Non-Criminal	39	22	51
Undetermined	0	6	2
Fire Casualties: Fatal	0	0	0
Non-Fatal	2	0	4
Building Fires	15	8	5
Motor Vehicle Fires	1	3	7
All Other Fires	20	33	9
Non-fire Incidents	--[2]	--[2]	26
Hazardous Materials Incidents	18	5	6
Fire Losses, Total (X $1000)	$40.5	$24.53	$140*
Criminal	$2.5	$0.03	$0
Non-criminal	$37.6	$22.5	$115*
Undetermined	$0	$2	$25*
Value of All Properties Exposed to Loss (X $1000)	$1,391.3	$491.8	$6,303
Enforcement Inspections	546	1,993	1,916
Commercial	211	198	186
Public Assembly	39	52	64
Educational	19	21	40
Residential (Multi-family)	194	1,696	1,410
Hazardous Materials	51	6	27
Other	19	20	55
Life Safety Systems	--[2]	--[2]	23
Drills	--[2]	--[2]	45
Burn Permit Inspections	--[2]	--[2]	9
Enforcement Citations Issued (Misdemeanor)	491	210	376
State Licenses and Permits Approved	62	55	31
Open Burning Permits Processed/Approved	31	11	9
Arrests or Referrals	0	0	2

[1]*Misdemeanor violations cited as a result of code enforcement inspections are not included here; they are shown at Enforcement Inspections.*
[2]*Not administered or recorded by this department at that time.*
**Loss data unable to be obtained for certain investigations. Number presented is lower than actual loss values.*

ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

OFFICERS
CHIEF: Cole R. Prato
ASSISTANT CHIEF: Brendan L. Burke
DEPUTY CHIEFS: Karl S. Neubecker, Thomas B. Adams
CAPTAINS: Katie R. Prato, Regan Toomey
SECRETARY: Michael D. Varney
TREASURER: Adam D'Agostino*

MEMBERS

Valerie Adams	Vince Gambacorta	Daniel Parisi
Frederick Bird (A)	Brandon Hill	Robert Smith
Dominick Cristelli	John Hogan	Randy Smith
Steven Dzen	Greg Larensen	Meagan Turley*
Elizabeth Feldman	Dominick Lattanzio	Aaron Virkler
Gary T. Feldman, Sr.	Noel McCabe	Frederica Weeks
Kieran Foster	Kaila Morrow	Chris Wheeler
Michael Gallagher	Tom Palshaw (A)	Jim Wheeler

**2025 Firefighter of the Year*

LIFE MEMBERS

Jonathan Allen	Richard Daugherty	Jack A. Rich
Bryan Blotniski	Leonard Descheneaux, Sr.	Jack Rich, II
Steven Breault, Sr.	Kevin Gambacorta	John W. Turner
Arthur Caldwell	Kimberly Gambacorta	Allen Smith
Daniel Connors	Allan Lawrence, Jr.	Frederick Bird
	Robert Levandoski	

CADET MEMBERS

Cayden Herrick	Landon Herrick	Tyler Owen
Logan Herrick	Kashish Koul	

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. was organized in 1928. We are proud to recognize 98 years of providing the Town of Ellington and its citizens with the finest possible volunteer emergency fire and rescue services.

MEMBERSHIP

The EVFD is made up of approximately 25 dedicated volunteers who bring a wide range of expertise from all walks of life. They are incredible assets to our town and continue to contribute across a variety of community activities. This year, we welcomed four new volunteers—three of whom are slated to start training in the fall of 2026 and join active response once complete.

In May 2026, the EVFD underwent a leadership transition and welcomed Chief Cole Prato to lead the department. We would like to extend a special thank you to Chief Robert Smith, who served as Chief from May 2024 to May 2026, and express our deep appreciation for his dedicated years of service as an officer prior to that role.

This transition led to additional leadership changes across the department:

- Brendan Burke – Assistant Chief
- Karl Neubecker – Deputy Chief of Training
- Tom Adams – Deputy Chief of Logistics
- Regan Toomey & Katie Prato – Captains

Our members respond to calls at all hours of the day—from assisting with medical emergencies to fighting structure fires—and none of this would be possible without their selfless service.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department's mission is the protection and preservation of life and property during fire and other emergencies in the Town of Ellington; to honor all emergency calls, and to support fire prevention education activities. Currently the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department is rated by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) as a class 5/8B. During the past several years, the types of incidents, their added frequency and growth within the town, has demanded increased

levels of training, equipment and expertise in new technologies by our volunteers.

The greatest care and concern are given to those who become sick or injured. The most up to date rescue tools and techniques are used to extricate those who have become injured as the result of a motor vehicle or industrial accidents. Our EMS personnel work with the Ellington Ambulance to provide the best possible care for the sick and injured. For those patients in need of advanced life support or trauma team services, multiple area paramedic programs are used, and supported by the Life Star Helicopter transport team, are requested.

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. formally signed a multi-year agreement to provide services to the Town of Ellington as outlined in the Town of Ellington Charter as revised.

INCIDENT REPORT SUMMARY

From 7/1/25 to 6/30/26 the EVFD responded to 1,105 emergency calls. Among these, the department handled 339 fire-related calls, which included building fires, motor vehicle accidents, fire alarms, and other emergency incidents.

We also responded to 776 medical calls in support of EVAC, assisting with scene logistics and direct patient care. Additionally, our members provided initial emergency care when responding directly from within the community or while awaiting a mutual aid ambulance.

Over the past several years, the EVFD has experienced a steady increase in overall call volume. This growing demand reflects broader regional trends and highlights the expanding needs of our community. We continue to adapt our operational strategies to ensure rapid, dependable emergency response for our residents.

MEMBERSHIP TRAINING & ACTIVITIES

During the year, Ellington firefighters spent over 2,000 hours in departmental training activities. Several officer drills were conducted in the area of planning, management skills, interoperable communications, incident command and regional response plans. Training sessions were also conducted throughout the year with surrounding mutual aid fire and rescue departments in topics such as: National Incident Management System (NIMS), Rural Water Supply and Live Fire Training.

Attendance at regionally sponsored training programs included classes in the following skills; firefighting, hazardous materials, emergency medical training, incident command, live burn exercises, decontamination, management and planning, water rescue, and several areas of technical rescue. The Connecticut Fire Academy, Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, Office of Emergency Medical Services, National Fire Academy, or other recognized organization/agency, accredited all courses attended.

Members of our department also attended specialty courses held at the Fire Department Instructor's Conference in Indianapolis, IN.

Live burn exercises were conducted regionally by EVFD personnel for area departments utilizing the department's live burn trailer, which was funded by a federal grant. A new forcible entry training tool was placed into service a couple years ago and still continues to support firefighter training. We continue to look at future solutions for our burn trailer as it begins to have large maintenance costs.

We are extremely proud of our high levels of training and certifications held by our members in Ellington. Several of our members are adjunct faculty for many of the area regional fire schools as well as the State Fire and Emergency Medical Training programs.

Members currently hold many national certifications in the following levels: Firefighter I,II, Fire Service Instructor I, II, III, Fire Officer I, II, III, IV, Pump Operator, Aerial Operator, Health and Safety Officer, Hazardous Materials Technician, Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), and Emergency Medical Services Instructor (EMSI).

EQUIPMENT

All safety inspections for apparatus and equipment were conducted as required by DOT, DMV, OSHA and NFPA. It should be noted that extensive efforts were necessary to meet these regulations due to the age of the front line apparatus. Examples of specific annual tests include: annual apparatus safety inspections, ladder, hose, pump, SCBA, SCBA cylinders, and all fire extinguishers.

This year we continued a program with the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps to consolidate the purchase of our respective agencies' emergency medical service equipment and supplies. This promotes standardization of equipment and the leverage of bulk purchases.

The EVFD also utilized funds from our Capital Improvements Program to partner with the DPW for the remodel of the bathroom at Station 43. This has been a great partnership to get the project completed.

The EVFD is also planning to replace the Station 243 HVAC system. After experiencing numerous maintenance issues in FY25/26, its replacement was approved and is scheduled to start shortly.

FACILITY

The center fire house located at 29 Main Street houses 6 vehicles, several trailers and most department offices, equipment and records. Department meetings and trainings are also conducted at this facility. During this year we continued with our regular maintenance and safety inspections. This facility has had, and continues to receive, renovations to address upgrades and storage issues.

The departments south end station located at 6 Nutmeg Drive houses 5 vehicles including the departments aerial, two engines, two service vehicles with the Hazard Materials trailer, and UTV. This year there was an additional hydrant put in along the driveway that allows for greater training opportunities.

SPECIALTY TEAMS

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department members are active participants in several regional and statewide teams supporting regional emergency service activities. Members participate on Incident Management Teams in addition to the Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service Dive Team and Search and Rescue Team. The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department also actively participates in several capacities with the State Fire Rescue Disaster Plan, Coordinators, Strike Teams, and Task Forces. Responses of our members of these teams over the past few years has included several incident management team activations around the state, hazardous materials incidents in the capitol region, dive team responses throughout the Tolland County area as well as Strike Team and Task Force deployments in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

CADET FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM

The Cadet Program is open to youths between the ages of fourteen and nineteen. Cadets have the opportunity to participate in the same programs and training as the regular membership in addition to their own dedicated training and activities. Their participation at emergency incidents is restricted to assure they are not exposed to hazardous activities. The insights and support they bring to the fire department represent a valuable part of our organization. As they grow in experience and age they are brought into the organization where their training continues.

FIRE PREVENTION & PUBLIC FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

The Fire Prevention and Public Education Team had another busy year. Over 12 public education programs were conducted including presentations at Kindergarten through Grade 2 elementary schools, Pre-K programs in addition to other area nursery schools. The presentations were designed for younger children with the emphasis on attempting to build a comprehensive understanding about fire and awareness of safety. During the year we also provided several tours to groups at our firehouse and spoke to other organizations on fire and safety related issues. Please contact us at publiceducation@ellingtonfire.org if you would like to set up an appointment for us to host or speak to your organization.

INCENTIVE PROGRAM

It is essential that we continue to support the volunteer character of the emergency services that protect our community. To aid in this effort the Town of Ellington's emergency services instituted a program to provide funds to run a volunteer incentive program in an attempt to attract new volunteers as well as increase the activity of the current members. Members are paid a monetary stipend based on their activity levels. Since the inception of the program, the program has benefited the town by attracting more members and increasing the activity of the existing staff.

PAID STAFFING

This year brings an exciting milestone for the EVFD as we transition to incorporating paid staff. We want to thank our residents and town boards for supporting this initiative to provide paid staffing for weekday daytime coverage—the hours that prove most difficult for volunteer response. As volunteerism shifts nationwide, this added support will strengthen our response times and prove to be a vital asset to our community. We look forward to working closely with the town as we continue planning for the future.

FUTURE PLANNING

The Town of Ellington continues to experience a steady growth rate, and the EVFD remains committed to planning for the evolving needs of our community. Among our most immediate concerns are the need to improve existing facilities, the potential addition of a third fire station, and the replacement and relocation of aging apparatus to ensure effective and timely emergency response.

In recent years, the demand for volunteer firefighters has grown significantly, while the number of available volunteers has continued to decline—a challenge faced by departments across the state. Balancing today's employment demands and family commitments makes it increasingly difficult for individuals to commit the many hours of training and service required to be a part of our emergency response team.

If you are interested in learning more about your local emergency services—or if you are considering becoming a volunteer firefighter—we invite you to visit the Ellington Center Fire House on Main Street, go online at www.ellingtonfire.org, find us on Facebook at facebook.com/ellingtonfd, or leave us a message at 860-870-3190 or contact chief@ellingtonfire.org. Your support and involvement help us continue to serve and protect our community.

Thank you for your continued support, respect and help in making this, the 99th year of our service to the community, a safe and successful year for everyone.

CRYSTAL LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS

CHIEF: Timothy Seitz
ASSISTANT CHIEF: Robert Edwards
DEPUTY CHIEF: Michael D'Averso
FIRE CAPTAIN: Annmarie Seitz
EMS CAPTAIN: Douglas Gebhardt Jr.
1ST LIEUTENANT: Bryan Harvell
2ND LIEUTENANT: John Streiber
3RD LIEUTENANT: Fred Sharpe Jr.
SECRETARY: Annmarie Seitz
TREASURER: Bryan Harvell

MEMBERS

James Adkins	Richard Elkhatib	Douglas Rogala
Michael Allen	Douglas Gebhardt Jr.	Annmarie Seitz
Brett Cowhey	Douglas Gebhardt Sr.	Timothy Seitz
Michael D'Averso	Bryan Harvell	Fred Sharpe Jr.
Britney Edwards	Shane Johansen	Scott Small
Robert Edwards	Alberto Rivera	John Streiber
	Cindy Rivera	

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Jessica Harvell — Krystina Adkins

LIFE MEMBERS

William Morrison — Charles Pippin

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairmen: Mike Discenza
Co-Chairmen: Patricia Wendell
Clerk: Annmarie Seitz
Board: Annmarie Seitz, Ken Wendell, Robert Edwards

The Crystal Lake Fire Department (CLFD) continues to serve the Crystal Lake Community with premier fire and emergency medical services while also aiding surrounding communities through a county mutual aid agreement. The department members have proudly volunteered to serve their community for the last 92 years. The primary mission of CLFD will always be the protection and preservation of life and property during each fire, medical, or rescue related emergency. The department is staffed by trained volunteers who are state and nationally certified Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Emergency Medical Responders. All members operate out of "Station 42", which is located at 316 Sandy Beach Road, and is home to all the department's apparatus and equipment. Annually the members volunteer thousands of hours of their personal time, which is time away from their homes and families, to keep their neighbors and community safe. The success of the department is testament of the dedication and commitment of the membership and their families.

The Crystal Lake Fire Department responded to a total of 368 calls for service, totaling 2,440 hours volunteered to fulfill the emergency needs of the community. The Crystal Lake Fire District continues to provide automatic mutual aid to the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department. CLFD provides this response Monday-Friday from 6am-6pm to add increased manpower and equipment needed for mitigating certain incidents. This has been great for both departments as we have been able to work together more often, making us a stronger and more collaborative team. CLFD remains prepared to respond to and mitigate numerous types of emergencies, including structure fires, vehicle fires, hazardous materials emergencies,

motor vehicle accidents, emergency medical incidents, water emergencies, and technical rescues.

To effectively operate at various emergency scenes each member must maintain, often exceeding, the strict skills and certifications required by the State of CT and the department. This is done through in-house training drills/classes and by attending courses offered by the Connecticut Fire Academy, Hartford County Regional Fire School, Eastern Connecticut Fire School, Department of Environmental Protection, and the Office of Emergency Medical Services. Our members participated in a total of 1,943 hours of training during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Some of the courses that our members typically complete include Fire Officer, Fire Service Instructor, Firefighting, Hazardous Materials, Emergency Medical Services, Incident Command, Incident Safety Officer, Live Burn Exercises, Rapid Intervention Team, Extrication, Search and Rescue, Scuba Diving, and Technical Rescue.

This year we returned to Crystal Lake Elementary School and did our annual fire safety presentation for the kids. This is a time when the members get to interact with the youth of the town and shed some light on what the fire department does for the community and allows the youth to bring some fire safety tips home. We delivered the program to approximately 350 children from pre-K- 4th grade. This is always a treat for the kids of the community and for our membership.

Medical emergencies make up the largest portion of our call volume in district. Crystal Lake residents have become accustomed to receiving a quick response from a trained professional providing the best care possible whenever a 911 call must be made. This is what we always strive to provide at every call, every time. Our highly trained medical personnel, consisting of Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Responders, work seamlessly with multiple agencies, including Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, to ensure the best pre-hospital medical care possible. If a patient should require a more advanced level of care, members will work closely with an Advanced Life Support provider, known as a Paramedic, usually provided by American Medical Response (AMR) or Ambulance Service of Manchester (ASM). At times, CLFD will request a Life Star Helicopter should a patient sustain an injury or illness requiring rapid transport to a specialized facility that provides a higher level of care. Our main concern is always making sure our patients receive the best pre-hospital care possible in a timely manner.

Station 42 continues to be dispatched by Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service (TN), where they handle all of its emergency communications. The department also continues to participate in the county wide emergency task force through our mutual aid agreements providing manpower, equipment, and water to our surrounding communities should the need arise.

The dedicated Fire Officers of the Crystal Lake Fire Department have completed 5,818 hours of administrative and support work including, completing all incident reports, equipment testing, and town required paperwork. The Officers serve the department in a supervisory role at all emergencies in and out of district and oversee running meetings and routine operations at the station. The Officers are also responsible for making sure there are always members available to provide proper coverage of the Crystal Lake district, ensuring the residents receive immediate service when they are in need.







The Crystal Lake Fire Department currently has 18 members and is always looking to expand its membership with new residents who take an active interest in the fire or medical services. Training is provided by the department for new dedicated volunteers! If you would like to receive more information about volunteering, please stop into the fire station on Mondays at 7pm and speak with a member, visit www.crystallakefire.org, or call (860)870-3174. CLFD offers a junior membership program to the youth of the community. This provides a perfect avenue for the youth of the community to learn about fire and medical services. In addition to the training they receive they also will assist in operations at the scene of emergency incidents while under the supervision of an advisor.

While we hope that the residents will never need our assistance in the upcoming year, we continue to remain prepared to respond to emergencies for the residents of the Crystal Lake Fire District and any surrounding communities that need us.

SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS

Fires	**33**
Construction Waste	1
Other Outside Fire	4
Trash or Rubbish Fire	1
Vegetation or Grass Fire	2
Dumpster or Outdoor Container Fire	2
Structural Involvement	14
Room and Contents Fire	1
Chimney Fire	3
Vehicle Fire - Passenger	2
Vehicle Fire - Commercial	3
Hazardous Situation	**39**
Gas Leak/ Gas Odor	5
Carbon Monoxide Release	4
Electrical Power Line Down/Arching/Malfunction	16
Motor Vehicle Collision	10
Smoke Investigation	2
Hazardous Materials Release	2
Medical/ EMS Calls	**157**
No Emergency	**94**
Cancelled	79
Accidental Alarm	8
No Incident Found Upon Arrival/ Location Error	3
Smoke from Nonhostile Source	4
Public Service	**41**
Fire/ Smoke Alarm	15
Gas Alarm	1
CO Alarm	6
Citizen Assist/ Service Call	8
Lift Assist	6
Standby	5
Rescue	**4**
Motor Vehicle Collision Extrication/ Entrapment	2
Water Rescue/ Person in Water	2
Call Total	**368**

TRASH & RECYCLING
2027 COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Recyclables are collected every other week. Shaded weeks = Recycling pick-up weeks

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					D	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY

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28						

MARCH

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APRIL

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MAY

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30	D					

JUNE

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JULY

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AUGUST

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29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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D = One-day delay in pickup
(New Years Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving)

All items must be placed outside by 6:00 am on pick-up day for curbside collection.

Bulky Waste Pickup: 860-289-7850

Ellington Trails Committee
























EAGLE PROJECT
this way



ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT/CHIEF: Peter Hany, Sr.
VICE PRES./ASSIST. CHIEF: Bruce Hoffman
TRAINING/DEPUTY CHIEF: Ed Landsberg
SECRETARY/CAPTAIN: Melissa McCann
TREASURER/CAPTAIN: Averi Stebbins
SCHEDULER/LIEUTENANT: Alisa Smith
SUPPLY: Jim O'Donnell
MAINTENANCE: Peter Hany, Sr.
PUBLIC RELATIONS/LIEUTENANT: Vikas Kumar

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Steve Abraham
Nicole Caron
Holden Crane
Lakshmi Devaraj
Dorata Gdula
Isaac Gonzalez
Lori Hall
Peter Hany
Bruce Hoffman
Anusha Ivaturi
Vikas Kumar
Mitchell Laforge
Justine Laliberte
Edward Landsberg
Mark Mahler
Melissa McCann
Olivia McFarlane
James O'Donnell
Joshua Rosenfeld
Alisa Smith
Averi Stebbins
John Streiber
Nikolas Supczak

ACTIVE PAID STAFF

Chad Adams
Collin Altamira
Megan Audet
Cameron Bourbeau
Megan Bradway
Megan Camperlengo
Kerri Cushing
Carson Gaines
Aiden Ghiroli
Mike Girard
Jayden Holt
Deborah Landry-Schiessl
Harlie Locke
Daniel Noone
Ivan Panchyshyn
April Phelps
Leslie Prior
Caitlin Sutyak
Caelyn Utz
Jennifer Wells

LIFE MEMBERS

Ray Close
Doreen Connor
Jean-Marie Currier
Renee Cyr
Dan Flanagan
Bruce Hoffman
Steve Kratzke
Denise Rioux
Angela Sandberg
Krista Schulz
Alisa Smith
John Streiber
Greg York

HONORARY MEMBERS

Kim Courville
Tonya Glomboske
Tom Palshaw
Noah Welti

LAST CALL

None

PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS

The Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC) has been providing emergency medical services to the Town of Ellington and its surrounding communities for the past 64 years. All crews and equipment meet or exceed the State of Connecticut requirements and remain fully licensed through examination and inspection.

An active first response system allows EVAC and both fire departments to render immediate lifesaving care when it is needed most. All EVAC members that live in Ellington are provided with first responder medical supplies and are encouraged to respond whenever possible. Where necessary, EVAC works with regional paramedic providers and aeromedical response services.

In this past fiscal year alone, EVAC responded to approximately 1,740 calls. We strive to provide the best possible care and are always training for the next call.

EVAC continues its commitment to continuing medical education with online training assignments and monthly training drills, at which both fire departments are now invited so we can train together. There are many opportunities for additional training and courses with local hospitals and our partners in the region.

In early 2026 the Town of Ellington and EVAC welcomed Craig Webb as the EMS Director.

EVAC not only has American Heart Association CPR and First Aid qualified instructors on staff to offer training to various organizations and individuals in our community, but also has 6 State of CT certified EMS Instructors, who can teach a magnitude of knowledge to our members as well as individuals and the community. EVAC personnel are also trained as state examiners for skills testing. This year, EVAC EMS Instructors ran an EMR class for local high school students. 100% of students in the class passed both their state practical exams and national written exams. Many students from that class are part of Rescue Post 512 and now serve alongside our members on the ambulance during the day. Two of these EMRs have bridged over to their EMT.

As a responsible municipal member of the Town of Ellington, EVAC is working in conjunction with the other emergency departments to streamline services and reduce costs to taxpayers whenever possible. EVAC is the central purchasing point for all EMS supplies for the town-wide fire and rescue services, as well as for AEDs and supplies within municipal buildings. EVAC further provides CPR and First Aid training to town employees "at cost," ensuring our colleagues within public works, recreation, public schools, and more are prepared for emergencies, while keeping costs for the town low. Additionally, money generated by ambulance billing fees help offset the annual town budget, in addition to funding the purchasing of vehicles like our ambulances, resulting in no cost to the taxpayer.

EVAC, along with Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Crystal Lake Fire Department, Ellington CERT, Connecticut State Police, and Ellington Police continue to train annually for Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response. Members across all three Ellington emergency service departments, alongside our law enforcement partners, are trained in Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC). TECC, a civilian adaptation of Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) from the US military, is designed to ensure those affected by a high-threat event receive prompt, quality medical care even while the event is still unfolding. While we hope to never require these skills, we remain committed to being ready when we are called.

EVAC participates in the national awareness campaign called Stop The Bleed, which trains bystanders in the basics of bleeding control. Classes have been completed for all of our current members, offered to all new providers, and are available to the community as needed. We have also equipped our Rescue Post 512 members with stop the bleed kits to carry within Ellington High School.

EVAC was also one of many recipients of The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Grant. This funding was used for training equipment.

EVAC members also maintain a presence on the national Emergency Medical Services stage by serving on various national committees, including the National Association of EMTs, International College of Advanced Practice Paramedics, and the American Heart Association. Members are also involved locally, within the CT OEMS Region 3 Committee and the Tolland Windham County Mutual Aid Ambulance Association. Members are engaged in speaking activities at a wide array of local and national conferences.

EVAC would like to congratulate the 2025 Volunteer of the Year, James O'Donnell, for his exceptional service, and to all our members reaching milestones of 5, 10, 20, and more years of service.

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our families, friends, neighbors, and the Town of Ellington for your continued support throughout the year. We are always appreciative of the many businesses, individuals, houses of worship, and other organizations that have been very generous in providing monetary donations, meals, and many words of encouragement. We have been extremely lucky to have such a generous community and cannot thank each of you enough. Your support is so important to us as we strive to make our community a safer place to live.

Like any active organization, EVAC is always looking for new motivated members. Prospective members must be committed to providing high quality emergency care. EVAC provides uniforms, continuing education, and equipment to all members at no cost. Not yet an EMT? EVAC has programs to cover the cost of initial training as well.

For additional information, please call us at 860-870-3170 visit our website at ellingtonambulance.org, or email us at information@ellingtonambulance.org. Check out our Instagram@ ellingtonambulance or Facebook@ellingtonamb to learn more about us and all of the exciting things that we do!

ELLINGTON ANIMAL CONTROL

PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS

Ellington Animal Control is responsible for the enforcement of the Connecticut State Laws pertaining to domestic animals. This department responds to complaints about violations of animal control laws, maintains the animal control facility as well as enforcing the State dog licensing regulations. The officers also investigate complaints of vicious, diseased or neglected and abused animals as well as impounding stray and roaming dogs. Impounded animals are cared for at the animal control facility by the officers. Unclaimed animals are carefully evaluated before being placed for adoption.

Following the month of June, when all dog owners must renew their dog licenses for the year, a search for unlicensed dogs and any delinquent dog licenses begins. There is a penalty for failure to license under CT. Statue 22-349 which is a $75 fine per dog. The penalty for failure to vaccinate for rabies is $136.00 under the CT. Statue 22-339b*.

The Officers do assist the police and the public with animal emergencies. The Animal Control Department makes every effort to ensure that all functions of this department and the operation of the shelter are carried out in the most economical manner with cost savings in mind, while providing the highest degree of professional service to the townspeople.

The Animal Control Department consists of Animal Control Officer, Barbara Murdach, Assistant Animal Control Officers, Kathy DiBacco and Karen Picard and per diem Assistant, Shannon Esslinger. The shelter is open to the public seven days a week but since we do work part-time, we require appointments to see the animals available for adoption or to redeem your dog. To reach Animal Control, please call (860) 870-3155. The Animal Control Facility, which is located on Main Street. behind the Fire Station, is the holding quarters for stray, roaming and relinquished dogs and for quarantined dogs and cats.

Nuisance wildlife calls are handled through the State of CT D.E.E.P. Wildlife Department. That phone number is (860)424-3011. They also have a website that gives information on wildlife rehabilitators and nuisance wildlife. Our department does respond to sick or injured wildlife and any wildlife that exhibits signs of rabies. We also advise the public on ways to resolve issues with wildlife living in their neighborhood.

Ellington Animal Control helps the community so that pets and people can co-exist safely. An important role of this department is to work closely with the public to educate about laws, solve problems and offer advice on the care and concerns of pet ownership.

Ellington Animal Control has a Facebook page with animal care information, lost & found animals and pets available for adoption. We are very grateful for the support and help we get through our network of friends. Keeping the community involved and up to date on current events and news is extremely important for our department. We do ask that you please contact our office directly by telephone for complaints and reports of lost & found animals, so we can attend to them properly.

HIGHLIGHTS

Animal Control has remained dedicated to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of both the animals and residents of our community. Whether responding to calls, reuniting lost pets with their families, investigating animal welfare concerns, or providing education and assistance to pet owners, our goal has always been to serve our town with compassion, professionalism, and care.

Our Animal Control Officers are also committed to continuing their education through ongoing training and professional development. By staying current on changes in animal welfare laws, animal behavior, emergency response, and best practices, we are better equipped to provide the highest level of service to our community and ensure the safety and well-being of both residents and the animals in our care.

As we look to the future, we face an important challenge. By January 1, 2029, the State of Connecticut will require our animal control facility meet updated standards. To comply with these requirements, our facility will need significant improvements and renovations.

Over the next two years, we will be actively pursuing grant opportunities while also looking to our community for support through fundraising efforts. Without these necessary upgrades, our Animal Control facility could be relocated to a shared towns facility, resulting in the loss of this vital local resource.

Keeping our Animal Control facility in our town benefits everyone. A local facility means quicker response times for emergencies, faster reunification of lost pets with their families, better protection for neglected and abused animals, and continued access to a trusted resource for residents. It also reduces stress on animals by keeping them close to home.

This is more than a building—it is a service that protects our neighborhoods, supports responsible pet ownership, and provides a safe place for animals in need. With the support of our residents, businesses, and community organizations, we believe we can preserve this essential service for future generations.

As fundraising opportunities become available, we encourage everyone to get involved in whatever way they can. Every donation, community support, and shared message will help us work toward keeping our Animal Control facility where it belongs—in the heart of the community it serves.

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support us. Together, we can ensure that our Animal Control facility remains a local resource that continues to protect both the people and animals of our town for many years to come.

Dogs do speak, but only to those who know how to listen.

—Orhan Pamuk

E911 MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

John W. Turner

This office has several key functions that help to deliver efficient emergency services to the citizens of Ellington. Since the start of the statewide E911 emergency network your local coordinator has maintained a Master Street Address Guide, MSAG, for the telephone computer database. This ensures that all streets and all street numbers assigned to properties on those streets are within the parameters of the E911 database guide. New streets are added to the database at the time of construction. Existing streets are adjusted for extensions or additional lots. Several times during a year, conflicts will arise and need to be reviewed by this office. I also consult with the Planning Department and Building Official concerning street names and house numbering.

In cooperation with the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the Connecticut State Police Resident Troopers Office, this office ensures the efficient handling of all 911 calls for assistance. As a member town, of a regional dispatch center that serves as our Primary Service Answering Point, PSAP, the Town of Ellington can provide a professional answering and dispatch service at a very economical rate.

Legislated financial support for regional dispatch centers and 911 PSAP's distributes funds for the continued operation of these vital communication centers. Funds collected from telephone user fees are distributed to all eligible dispatch centers across the State of Connecticut. The funding formula for distribution of this revenue supplements operating expenses, capital improvements and dispatcher training.

The member towns of the regional dispatch center supplement the operational expenses for the dispatching and communication services. The municipal assessment for dispatching and communication services is now based on the previous 12 month per call for service basis. The town population is no longer part of the assessment formula. Ellington has seen an approximate 5% increase in call volume requesting emergency services over the past year.

Increased usage of the system, communications coverage and inter-operability between jurisdictions and agencies continues to be a priority and a challenge for the county planning committee as they move forward to implement a long-range plan. Dispatch software upgrades, base radio replacements, communication links across the region and working through the sunsetting of the low band communications network are challenges that are being addressed. A Bond Grant from the State of Connecticut will facilitate some of the infrastructure up-grades. All of the infrastructure upgrades are in progress.

We continue to encourage property owners to clearly mark their assigned street number on their residence or driveway entrance.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Department of Public Works continued its mission of maintaining and improving the Town's infrastructure, facilities, parks, fleet, and environmental systems while supporting public safety and quality of life throughout Ellington. During the reporting period, DPW staff completed significant roadway improvements, advanced sidewalk connectivity projects, renovated municipal facilities, expanded environmental initiatives, maintained critical public assets, and supported Water Pollution Control Authority operations.

The department also successfully managed winter operations, public outreach programs, recycling initiatives, grant administration, and numerous capital improvement projects while serving residents, businesses, and other Town departments.

The Department maintains:

- Approximately 100 miles of roadway
- Approximately 101 miles of storm drainage piping
- More than 1,500 catch basins
- Municipal buildings and grounds
- Athletic fields and parks
- Fleet vehicles and equipment
- Sewer collection infrastructure through WPCA operations

HIGHLIGHTS

ROADWAY AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Major roadway improvements completed during FY26 included:

- Edgewood Road reconstruction
- East Porter Road reconstruction
- Pennfield Road milling and paving
- Westland Road milling and paving
- Crescent Road milling and paving
- Hayes Avenue milling and paving
- Hillsdale Drive milling and paving
- Field Road milling and paving
- Egypt Road milling and paving
- Frog Hollow Road paving and chip seal application
- Teaberry Ridge Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Angel Trace Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Gabriel Drive Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Gasek Farms Road Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Allen Ridge Drive Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Anthony Way Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Cantor Knoll Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- Ridgeview Way Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course
- 100+ catch basin reconstruction projects
- Crack sealing operations on numerous roadways and parking lots
- Dirt road grading and maintenance
- Webster Road Charter's Brook culvert lining and headwall repair

By July 2026, many projects were completed while one remained underway. In total DPW impacted just over 12 miles of paved roadway or 12% of our paved network. Additional funding from Connecticut Water projects allowed additional mileage completion this year. The 4.5 miles of gravel roads see constant maintenance and repair throughout the year.

FUTURE CAPITAL PLANNING

Engineering and planning efforts continued for future roadway improvements throughout numerous neighborhoods shown in the DPW Capital Improvements 5-Year Road Plan, available online. This road plan is developed utilizing multiple

data sets including historical tracking, Lidar road scan and scoring report, current conditions analysis, imminent utility work, and drainage improvement needs.

SIDEWALK EXPANSION AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

The department continued expanding pedestrian infrastructure throughout Town.

- **Completed New Installations:** Market Park Sidewalk
- **Completed Repair Areas:** Ellsworth; Angel Trace, Miller; Ketchbrook; Flanders; Rothe; Robinson; Gasek; Allen Ridge; Anthony Way; Main; Maple; Wells; Windmill; Hall Memorial Library
- **Planned and Ongoing:** Route 83 Sidewalk Extension; Windermere Avenue Sidewalk; Windsorville/Abbott/Pinney Road Sidewalk; Crystal Lake sidewalk

These projects advance pedestrian connectivity and public safety objectives throughout the community.

STATE, UTILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

The department coordinated with Connecticut DOT regarding:

- **Project 0047-0122**
  - Pinnacle Road realignment
  - Hopkins Road realignment
  - Route 140 Improvements (Softening of the "S" curves and sightline improvements)
- **Connecticut Water Company Projects:** Major utility projects included:
  - Hayes & Hillsdale Water Main Replacement
  - Egypt Road Water System Improvements
  - Windermere Avenue Water Main Extension

STORMWATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Environmental initiatives focused on:

- **MS4 Compliance:** Ongoing stormwater monitoring and permit compliance efforts.
- **Waterway Maintenance:** Routine cleaning and maintenance of waterways and drainage structures.
- **Beaver Mitigation:** Active management of nuisance beaver activity at Ladd Road and Tripp Road
- **Tree Inventory Program:** Launch of a grant-funded community tree inventory initiative with support from USDA and DEEP.

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS

Several major facility projects were completed or advanced.

- **Hall Memorial Library:** Reading Garden: Completed a new outdoor Reading Garden for residents. Book Cellar Renovation: Renovated and waterproofed the basement "Book Cellar" space.
- **Town Hall:** Completed Stair tread and landing replacement; ADA-compliant graspable handrails; Painting of the steel framework for the stairs and railings
- **Center Fire Department (Station 43):** Completed men's bathroom renovation.
- **Human Services Facility:** Completed improvements to Reception area and Food pantry operations

FLEET OPERATIONS

- **The Fleet Division maintained and repaired vehicles serving:** DPW; Police; Fire Marshal; Town Hall; Senior Center; WPCA
- **Major projects included:** Truck repairs and engine work; Loader repairs and engine work; Kubota tractor front axle rebuild; Large Mower engine work; GPS fleet deployment; Winter equipment preparation

PARKS & GROUNDS

- **The Grounds Division continued extensive maintenance of:** Athletic fields; Parks; Beaches; Irrigation systems
- **Key accomplishments included:**
  - Athletic field preparation
  - Playground and park maintenance
  - Beach operations
  - Field renovations
  - Irrigation improvements
  - Winterization activities
  - Blue Light Emergency Call Station Deployment

RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY

The department continued to expand resident recycling services and sustainability programs. Year-Round Focuses on:

- Recycling contamination inspections
- Mattress recycling
- Paint recycling
- Hazardous waste collection
- Electronics recycling
- Refrigerant recovery
- Recycling education
- Farmers Market outreach
- New resident materials development
- Swap Shop operations

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (WPCA)

WPCA operations continued to provide reliable wastewater collection and maintenance services.

- **System Supported**
  - 57 miles of sewer mains
  - 7 pump stations
  - Approximately 110 grinder pumps
  - Approximately 1,500 manholes
- **Major Initiatives**
  - Inflow & Infiltration (I&I): Continued engineering, investigation, monitoring, and repair activities.
  - Windermere Avenue Sewer Extension: Advanced planning and public engagement activities.
  - Pump Station Improvements: Ketchbrook Station generator replacement.
  - Grinder Pump Program: Ongoing inspection, repair, and maintenance efforts.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The department expanded public engagement through:

- Monthly public newsletters
- Resident outreach programs
- Annual Open House event
- Recycling education
- Tree inventory public meetings
- Service line homeowner education initiatives

LOOKING AHEAD

Key priorities moving forward include:

- Continued roadway reconstruction and paving
- Completion of planned sidewalk network expansions
- Windermere Avenue sewer extension
- Ongoing tree inventory implementation
- Facility modernization projects
- Stormwater compliance initiatives
- Fleet replacement and maintenance programs
- Continued environmental sustainability efforts

The Department of Public Works remains committed to delivering efficient, reliable, and professional services while maintaining and improving the infrastructure that supports the Town of Ellington's residents, businesses, and visitors.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The office of the EMS Director is responsible for oversight, strategic direction and operational management of the Town of Ellington's and Ellington EMS. Ellington EMS is the dedicated town division that includes 4 full-time EMTs (strength effective January 1, 2027) and an additional 18 part-time and per-diem clinicians. Ellington EMS provides staffing across multiple units and works closely with the volunteer members of the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC) and Ellington Rescue Post 512 (ERP512). Originally created in 2025 and formally initiated in February 2026, the EMS director's position focuses on overall system effectiveness, clinical excellence and fiscal responsibility. As the Town of Ellington continues to grow, the requirements of our EMS system continue to change and evolve. By tailoring the system to Ellington's unique and dynamic needs, we ensure that access to high-quality, effective pre-hospital care is always available at the greatest possible value to the town.

2026 was committed to the evaluation of the EMS system (present day and historical), data collection, and establishing performance metrics. The Local EMS Plan was completed and filed with the DPH Office of Emergency Medical Services, and the townwide ambulance response time standard was formally defined at 9 minutes. A real time data metric was created, tracking response volume and times, chronological data, mutual aid requests (received and given) as well as trending incident types and address volumes. This data was evaluated retrospectively, and Ellington's peak system demand times were identified, leading to the deployment of a new, volume concentrated second ambulance shift. By tailoring EMS coverage to systemic demand, Ellington will be able to meet over 97% of its service requests and significantly reduce system demand across Tolland County, all while maintaining consistent response times.

With the anticipated August 2026 delivery of a new ambulance (replacing Ambulance 643), the decision was made to keep and maintain the existing Ambulance 643 as a third unit. Application was made to State of Connecticut OEMS and an additional license for a third ambulance was granted. The existing 2019 ambulance will be re-designated as Ambulance 743 and will be housed at the EMS station at 41 Maple St. The integration and maintenance of Ambulance 743 will allow for two primary units to be staffed and a third available as a backup unit or to provide front line coverage when another unit is down for maintenance. In addition, Ambulance 743 will provide for system surge capacity, a dedicated training and simulation platform, and a highly visible option for public relations events. By having three available ambulances in the service rotation, we can collectively reduce the accumulating mileage on each, extending service life and increasing replacement intervals, ultimately saving on long term capital expenditures.

Fiscally, the office of the EMS Director set about making aggressive budget cuts both in operations and upcoming capital expenditures, while simultaneously enhancing services. Through combinations of vendor re-negotiations, purchasing collaboratives, alternative equipment options, and systemic efficiencies, the upcoming capital budget for FY26-27 was reduced by 67% and expenditures for the operations budget for FY25-26 were reduced by 20%. Through enhancements in policy, training, and revenue recovery, operational income will continue to increase in future fiscal years, further reducing the budgetary obligation funded by tax revenue.

In preparation for hiring additional full time and per diem EMT's (staffing to 4 full time and 18 part-time and per-diem), the job description was revised and recently approved by the Board of Selectman. With a renewed focus on clinical excellence, community stewardship and agency mentoring, Ellington EMS is well poised to recruit the next generation of prehospital clinicians, providing consistent staffing on all units, community engagement and ample cooperative training and mentoring opportunities with members of EVAC and ERP 512. Clinical excellence is fostered by an aggressive quality assurance program, ample upcoming high quality training opportunities (real world and digital), better integration with our local healthcare systems, and future interagency drills, training and collaboration. Our technicians' skill set includes advanced BLS therapies such as BLS 12 lead EKGs with PCI center transmission capability, CPAP, manually injectable Epinephrine and blood glucose monitoring. Ellington's prehospital care is supplemented by a robust network of Paramedic partner agencies, as well as the Hartford Healthcare Lifestar helicopter program, all ensuring rapid evaluation, excellent care and timely transportation to definitive centers for all matters of medical emergencies, including trauma, stroke and acute coronary syndromes.

In the interest of both operational and municipal efficiencies, the office of the EMS Director strives to develop and implement shared services initiatives and other collaborative efforts between EMS and other Town departments. Initiatives such as town wide Narcan acquisition, central EMS supply purchasing and central emergency personnel scheduling create immediate savings and efficiencies, while programs such as the upcoming Ellington High School EMT program collaboration and the future integration of Ellington's first paid firefighters provide long term value and opportunities townwide.

Looking forward, our goal is to ensure Ellington's EMS system remains resilient, highly prepared, and fiscally sustainable. Combining data-driven staffing models, strategic fleet management, and aggressive budget controls allows us to maximize local emergency coverage while protecting the town's capital resources and funds. Guided by clinical excellence and strong partnerships with EVAC and ERP 512, we will continue to deliver an efficient, and exceptionally effective system of pre-hospital care that meets the changing needs of our community today, and in the years to come.

PARKS & RECREATION

PARKS & FACILITIES GUIDE

CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOL HOUSE

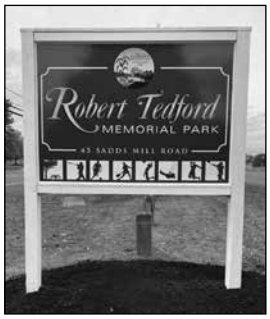
Located across from Sandy Beach, the Crystal Lake School House continues to serve as an active hub for the Parks and Recreation Department. The facility remains open during the summer and is used for various preschool programs.

ARBOR PARK

Arbor Park, centrally located on Main Street, offers a scenic setting for walking and quiet enjoyment. While not managed by the Recreation Department, reservations may be coordinated through the Office of the First Selectman. The park features a modern outdoor fitness center, complete with accessible functional training equipment, a full-length sail-shade canopy, poured-in-place safety surfacing, and QR code signage to guide users on form and workout routines. The equipment is free to use and open daily from dawn to dusk.

BATZ PROPERTY

Situated at 97 Shenipsit Street, the Batz Property encompasses nearly 45 acres of natural landscape, including a sensory garden, community garden plots, and an outdoor amphitheater. This unique space blends natural beauty with opportunities for learning and engagement.



ROBERT TEDFORD MEMORIAL PARK

Just two miles from the town center on Route 140, Robert Tedford Memorial Park remains a cornerstone of Ellington's recreational offerings. The park includes fields for baseball, softball, football, and soccer, as well as pickleball courts, a tennis court, a dek hockey rink, a playground, volleyball court, and a covered pavilion available for rental. Newly added athletic field lighting enhances usability into the evening hours.

PINNEY STREET FIELDS

Pinney Street Fields is a 20-acre multi-use athletic park that plays a central role in supporting Ellington's vibrant youth sports programs. In the spring, the park serves as the home of the town's growing youth lacrosse program, featuring three full-sized lacrosse fields. As the seasons shift, the space is transformed to accommodate four soccer fields for the department's robust fall soccer offerings. Recent upgrades to the facility include a newly installed scoreboard and athletic field lighting that illuminates all playing surfaces, greatly enhancing evening play. In addition to athletic amenities, the park also provides access to a scenic and well-maintained hiking trail, offering recreational opportunities beyond the fields.

ELLINGTON SCHOOL FACILITIES

Ellington Public Schools continue to provide essential space for recreational programs throughout the year. Gymnasiums accommodate basketball, volleyball, and other indoor activities, while outdoor fields support spring and summer athletics.

SANDY BEACH

Sandy Beach, located on Crystal Lake along Route 140, is a favorite summer destination for swimming and relaxing. The beach offers seasonal recreational opportunities for residents of all ages.

SCHWARTZ PARK

Located at Ellington High School, Schwartz Park offers four regulation tennis courts and a shaded gazebo, providing a peaceful and convenient space for casual recreation.

For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 860-870-3118.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Parks and Recreation Commission, together with department staff, remains committed to delivering high-quality recreational programming year-round. Our goal is to provide inclusive, engaging activities that meet the interests and needs of residents of all ages, from youth to seniors.

STAFFING

The department is comprised of four full-time recreation professionals and one part-time administrative staff member. Seasonal and program-generated part-time positions include athletic officials, special skills instructors, lifeguards, day camp counselors, and program supervisors. Employment applications are available at the Parks and Recreation office during business hours and online at the department's website.

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE

Volunteers continue to play a vital role in the success of our programs. Each year, the department coordinates more than 300 community volunteers who contribute their time and talents to a wide range of activities and events.

PROGRAMS

A full calendar of indoor and outdoor activities is offered throughout the year, utilizing key locations such as Robert Tedford Memorial Park, Sandy Beach, Pinney Street Fields, and local school facilities. Programs include youth and adult athletics, fitness classes, enrichment workshops, special events, and early childhood programming. Recently installed field lighting at Pinney Street Fields further expands access for evening programming.

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

The department offers a range of instructional, recreational, and travel-level athletic programs. These leagues promote physical fitness, skill development, and teamwork while emphasizing sportsmanship among coaches, participants, and spectators.

SHARED SERVICES

We continue to benefit from close collaboration with the Board of Education's business office, school and custodial staff, and the Department of Public Works. Their partnership is essential to the success of our programs. Special thanks also go to Hall Memorial Library for its ongoing support of our early childhood offerings.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 860-870-3118. Visit us online at parkrec.ellington-ct.gov or follow us on Facebook. The department office is located at 31 Arbor Way, adjacent to Arbor Park and the Ellington Center Fire Department. Office hours are Monday 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., and Tuesday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. You may also reach us via email at recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

LIBRARY



HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

MISSION

The Hall Memorial Library provides diverse opportunities through services, resources and experiences for enrichment, education and community engagement for all Ellington residents.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Hall Memorial Library is a welcoming community resource for all residents seeking reading materials in various formats, research materials for school projects and life-long learning, items for leisure and entertainment, access to computers and the internet, opportunities for arts and cultural experiences, and other great programming for all ages. The friendly staff provides personalized services to aid in research, assist with computer skills or find that just-right book. But there is so much more that happens here!

The Library has long served as the community center for Ellington. Residents come to the library for more than just the items on the shelves or even the programs offered here. Community groups hold their meetings here, tutors teach their students here, students of all ages work on their group projects here, and friends and neighbors meet and catch up here. They use and enjoy the library as a space to collaborate, interact and connect.

No matter how you choose to use your library we hope you visit often and leave with a smile on your face!

SERVICES

The Hall Memorial Library, as the principal public library for the Town of Ellington, provides all residents with materials and opportunities for education and entertainment. The collection consists of items in many formats, including books, periodicals, newspapers, eBooks and eaudiobooks, digital magazines, music and audiobooks on CDs, DVDs, puzzles, puppets, online databases and reference materials. The Library of Things collection features specialty items such as hotspots, cake pans, lawn games, a telescope and an ice cream maker. For materials not found in these collections there is an interlibrary loan service that facilitates loans from libraries around the state or the country, including multiple copies of titles for book discussion groups and materials for genealogy research. Also available are computers for word processing and Internet access, black and white and color photocopiers and printers, digital scanners, fax machine, digital microfilm reader/printer, poster printer and laminator, computer lab, notary service, passport acceptance service, exam proctoring, and meeting spaces for formal and informal gatherings. The friendly, well-trained staff is available to help find information, recommend reading materials, and assist with usage of computers.

The Library provides a variety of programs for residents of all ages. Story time sessions are offered for children from birth to 5 years old. Activities for children include the annual summer reading program, movies, craft workshops, and various entertaining and educational events. Young adults may participate in book discussions, contests, creative projects and their own summer reading program. For adults, there are book discussion series, reading challenges, cultural programs, crafts and hands-on learning experiences, concerts, movies, and speakers on a range of topics, both informative and entertaining. Delivery service is offered for those who are homebound or residents of the senior housing facilities, and programs offered at offsite venues.

The Library staff continues to work hard to provide the best library services and be a welcoming and vital resource for our community.

HIGHLIGHTS

Programs and Services

A full range of programming for all ages was provided for our 74,367 visitors during FY24-25, with 9,484 happy patrons attending 467 events.

Summer programming, with the theme of "Color Our World" featured fun for all ages. The whole Library was very colorful and there were challenges, art, crafts, animals, music, cooking, sewing, magic, slime, meteors and much more. All summer programming was once again generously funded by the Friends of the Library.

Three Storytime sessions--Baby Time, Toddler Time and the Drop-in all-ages sessions were popular as always, introducing our youngest patrons and their caregivers to the joy of stories and song. For those a little older, the Reading to the Dogs program continued to be a hit. A new monthly program for ages 3-8, "Learn and Play", uses hands-on activities that engage the senses to build neural connections, boosting cognitive, motor (fine/gross), language, and emotional regulation skills. A series of programs for our home-school patrons was offered.

The annual Holiday Ornament Workshop was held on Winterfest weekend, and Santa's helpers answered children's letters to Santa. The Tolland County Lego Robotics League once again presented a multi-session program in which teams of students engaged in research, problem-solving, coding, and engineering as they built Lego robots. A series of programs for our home-school patrons was offered.

For adults, a variety of informational and entertaining programs were offered, both in person and virtually. Topics included various health and wellness topics, financial and retirement planning including Medicare, probate and financial security, cryptids in Connecticut, history of television, photo preservation and digitization, open mike night for National Poetry Month, and tai chi lessons! Collaborations with other libraries and the Road Scholar Library program expanded our offerings and provided programs virtually, including a monthly session Decluttering with Jamie Novack. The Historical Society presented an informative program, "The Diary of an Ellington School Boy 1862". Presentation of excerpts from this remarkable firsthand account from R.I. Young, a Pennsylvania student attending Edward Hall's Ellington Family School for Boys, offered a vivid, lively glimpse into daily life in Ellington more than 120 years ago.

Book Box program, movie showings, quilting project workshops, cooking and crafting classes, the creative writing group, and some Friday night Coffeehouse musical programs were offered. The garden seed swap was held again, as well as houseplant and garden plant swaps, and also a fabric swap. The Knit and Natter handcraft group and the Bridge Club met weekly, and the Veteran's Coffeehouse met monthly. The Mysteries and More Book Discussion group met monthly to enjoy an eclectic range of titles including a series in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth and another marking the 100th anniversary of the publication of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Great Gatsby". Copies of titles in both print and digital formats were provided for the 15 community book discussion groups that met throughout the year.

In celebration of America 250 the Library offered monthly exhibits and programming focusing on this time in history. Connecticut's experiences during the Revolution, life during this time, and discussions about Benedict Arnold, George Washington



Lovely new outdoor seating space



Renovated Book Cellar.

and other founding fathers were all held. Library staff were also part of the Town's America 250 Celebration committee.

New this year was "Hushed at Hall", a group silent reading club. Readers meet once per month for individual reading time, snacks and conversation.

In the Reference area the Librarians assisted patrons with their computer and internet needs, including navigating the unemployment benefits system, job searching and resumes, mastering Zoom meetings and ebooks, and the always challenging income tax filing season. Tech Tuesdays offered individual help with technology and devices. An area for patrons to conduct job interviews and meetings via Zoom was offered in the study room.

The Library of Things collection was expanded to include some new items such as an auto diagnostic code reader, bluetooth speakers and laser level.

The Volunteer program accommodated the many requests of patrons of all ages wishing to give back to the community by helping in the Library.

The Library continued to serve as a U.S Passport Acceptance Agency, guiding more than 250 area residents through the application process and accepting and submitting forms and documents. Notary Service was also offered.

The artistic endeavors of the High School art students hung in the Library hallway exhibit space in the spring. The Art Honor Society held their induction ceremony in the McKnight Room. Several community artists also shared their works.

Staff

Some of the smiling faces changed this year, as longtime staff members Lisa Kuraska and Cheryl Chamberlin retired. New smiles were welcomed as Ryan Young, Victoria Sierra, Jordan DeFreitas and Jessica Donovan joined the HML family. And sadly, we mourned the passing of long-time former staff member Gay Szumyk.

Building and Grounds

The long-planned outdoor seating area was completed in the spring. With ARPA funds received during the pandemic the Library had purchased outdoor furniture, including 4 park benches and three table/bench sets, one of which provides wheelchair access. Plans for a space were put on hold as the parking expansion project took precedence. With that complete, plans were made for a space on the Main Street side of the Library grounds near to the cemetery. The stamped concrete patio surrounded by granite curbstones was installed in fall 2025 and the furniture was placed in March 2026. Serendipitously the granite curb stones, placed in storage at DPW many years ago after a road work project, were identified as being some of the 120-year-old granite curbstones that were part of the original landscaping installed by the Hall brothers during the creation of the library grounds and green area.

The Friends of the Library Book Cellar, the used book selling space located in the basement, received a makeover during the winter months. The seeping groundwater problem was addressed, all surfaces were freshly painted and some new shelving installed. The area for children's books was named in memory of Dan Sclare, a long-time Friend of the Library and accomplished magician. Funds donated in his memory as well as other donations were used for the project.

The Library routinely serves as the community cooling or warming center during times of extreme weather. With the sporadic power outages caused by bouts of severe weather throughout the year, the Library also served as a work place, electronics charging place, fresh water source and community support place.

Collaborations

The Library is pleased to continue to collaborate with and host the activities of the Veteran's Coffeehouse, Ellington Unified, the Parks and Rec Department, the Board of Education, Youth Services Department, Human Services Department, Ellington Trails Committee, the local homeschool collective, as well as the wide variety of community groups and organizations who use the meeting rooms.

The Library continued to work with the school media specialists to provide both physical and digital materials for students and teachers, and to issue library cards for access. The first-grade classes from Crystal Lake School visited for a tour and students received library cards. Staff from the Human Services Department held office hours in the McKnight Room once a month. The Trails Committee and Library collaborated to sponsor speakers, hikes and a star-gazing event at Pinney Field.

Outreach

The Library took the show on the road and participated in the Ellington Historical Society Fall Festival, YMCA Healthy Kids Fair, Farmers' Market Community Day, and the Lions Club/Trails Committee Trail to Treats. At the Earth Day booth, participants practiced their recycling skills and planted sunflowers in recycled pots.

Several staff members shared their experiences of librarianship as a profession at careers day at the High School. Children's Services Librarian Trish Brudz held story hour sessions at Little Scribblers Day Care and the Recreation Department summer day camp.

Winterfest celebration was held on Saturday, December 4, and the Library once again served as an anchor point. The event drew a festive crowd on the Green and at the various venues around the town center, while the Library hosted performances by the high school music department and the Library Board served refreshments.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library continued to be an integral part of the library operation, funding the summer reading programs and subscriptions for passes to area cultural attractions, and maintaining the armillary planter. Their fundraising activities included the annual book sale, the Book Cellar Used book sale room and the book fair sale tables, and the ever-popular Minigolf in the Library event, that provided a great day of fun for more than 450 people.

STATISTICS 2025-2026

CIRCULATION

Adult Books and Periodicals	31,462
Young Adult Books and Periodicals	3,341
Children's Books and Periodicals	26,808
Audiovisual and Miscellaneous Materials	10,608
Digital (ebooks, eaudio, emagazines, etc.)	23,264
Museum Passes	584
TOTAL	96,067

COLLECTION

Adult Books and Periodicals	32,092
Young Adult Books and Periodicals	3,058
Children's Books and Periodicals	21,047
Audiovisual and Miscellaneous Materials	8,108
Databases	21
Museum Passes	21
TOTAL	64,347

REGISTERED BORROWERS

Adults	4,842
Young Adults	267
Children	919
TOTAL	6,028

SOCIAL SERVICES

HUMAN SERVICES

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

Ellington Human Services serves as the Town's primary resource for addressing the social service needs of individuals and families, children, adults, and seniors. The department provides a wide array of assistance, including energy and food support, seasonal programs, advocacy, referrals, elderly outreach, and help navigating state and federal benefits.

The department is staffed by a full-time Director, a full-time Elderly Outreach Social Worker, and a full-time Human Services Coordinator.

DIRECT SERVICES

Human Services delivers hands-on support by processing applications and determining eligibility for a variety of programs. These include:

- Energy Assistance
- Renters Rebate
- Food Bank, including summer CSA Fresh Produce program
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Fuel Bank (emergency fuel delivery and shut-off prevention)
- Benefits Counseling (Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security)
- Back-to-School Assistance
- Holiday Gift Assistance
- Camperships
- Discretionary Assistance Programs

Most services require proof of income and Ellington residency, and in some cases, asset documentation.

COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

In addition to in-house programs, Human Services connects residents with regional partners for broader support. Services may include legal advocacy, domestic violence intervention, case management, shelter, transportation, and health education. Key partner agencies include:

- **Hockanum Valley Community Council** – Transportation, counseling, and food pantry
- **Interval House** – Domestic violence shelter and services
- **YWCA** – Sexual assault crisis counseling
- **Cornerstone Foundation** – Homeless shelter, soup kitchen, and food pantry
- **Amplify, Inc.** – Mental health and addiction services
- **Access Community Action Agency** - Nutrition Programs, Affordable Housing Programs, and Job Readiness

ELDERLY OUTREACH

The department's Elderly Outreach Social Worker provides direct support to older adults and their caregivers by connecting them with local, state, and federal resources. Weekly office hours at the Senior Center enhance accessibility.

The Human Services Director also serves as the state-mandated **Municipal Agent for the Elderly**, reporting to the town's chief executive and the Connecticut State Department of Aging and Disability Services. The Director's role includes identifying needs, advocating for services, and recommending improvements.

ELLINGTON FOOD BANK

Located in the Human Services Building, the **Ellington Food Bank** provides groceries, hygiene items, and household supplies to residents in need. Monthly shopping hours are offered, with emergency food available as needed. The Food Bank is supported by community donations and a partnership with the Midwest Food Bank in Manchester.

GRANDMA'S PANTRY (24/7 Little Free Pantry)



Named in honor of longtime Ellington resident and advocate Estelle Williamson, **Grandma's Pantry** is open year-round and available 24/7 for emergency nonperishable food needs. The pantry's high level of usage underscores its value. Human Services deeply appreciates the residents and volunteers who continuously restock this important resource.



SUMMER PRODUCE STAND

Ellington Human Services also offers a seasonal **Summer Produce Stand**, which provides residents with access to fresh fruits and vegetables donated by generous community members and local gardeners. This initiative ensures individuals and families can enjoy healthy, farm-fresh options during the growing season.

VETERANS COFFEEHOUSE

The **Veterans Coffeehouse** is a monthly gathering offering veterans from all service branches a place to enjoy camaraderie and conversation. Each meeting features a guest speaker covering topics of interest to the veteran community. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 AM at Hall Memorial Library. Coffee and pastries are generously donated by LuAnn's Café & Bakery.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

As outlined in the Town Charter, the **Human Services Commission** is responsible for identifying and addressing the community's health and social service needs. The Commission collaborates with both public and private organizations to enhance service delivery and reviews annual funding requests to support qualified service providers.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (Ellington for Everyone)

This committee's mission is to foster a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment for all Ellington residents. In June 2026, the committee hosted its fourth annual **Signing Day** at Ellington High School—a celebration of students' post-graduation plans, including college, military, trade school, or workforce entry.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE

The mission of the **Opioid Settlement Committee** is to provide recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding the use of the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund. The committee focuses on harm reduction and prevention by identifying community needs through public events, educational initiatives, and collaborative efforts with local schools, agencies, and neighboring municipalities. Some of the initiatives the committee has undertaken include a summer resource concert series, now in its 3rd year. Educational programs at Ellington High School, overdose education, and resources to the community.

NOTABLE STATISTICS FOR 2025-2026

- **Food Bank Usage:** An average of 55 households utilize the Food Bank monthly.
- **Thanksgiving Support:** 95 households received food baskets and a grocery gift card.
- **Holiday Assistance:** 65 children/ 29 households received department store gift cards, and 162 families/individuals received grocery gift cards. The Adopt a Senior/Disabled program had 42 participants.
- **Energy Assistance:** 188 applications processed.
- **Renters Rebate:** 95 applications processed.
- **Community Outreach Events:** Earth Day, Farmer's Market, Trail of Treats, Medicare Seminars, Snipsic Village Outreach Events, Monthly Veteran Coffeehouse Meetings, A Salute in Banners ~ Veteran Banner Program, Senior Hood Resource Fair

ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER

It has been another year of growth, innovation, and continued dedication to enhancing the quality of life for older adults in our community. Through the commitment of our staff, volunteers, community partners, and supporters, the Ellington Senior Center has expanded programs, increased participation, strengthened transportation services, and continued to provide opportunities that help older adults remain healthy, active, independent, and socially connected.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Ellington Senior Center welcomes individuals from Ellington and surrounding towns to join us who are at least 55 years old. Our mission is to help participants maintain their independence, dignity and self-respect and productivity through participation in recreational, social, nutritional, educational, and Wellness programs that promote healthy aging.

CONTACT US

Please contact the Senior Center at (860) 870-3133 for further information. Monday: 8:30am-6:00pm, Tuesday-Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm, Friday: 8:30am-12:30pm.

The monthly newsletter and calendar, "Maple Street Monthly is available on the town's website http://seniorcenter.ellington-ct.gov. If residents do not have access to the website, please call us to request a copy mailed to you. Copies are also available at the Senior Center during business hours or in a drop box in the front of the center. You may also find us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Ellington Senior Center continued to experience significant growth in participation and services during Fiscal Year 2025–2026. The Center maintained funding through the North Central Area Agency on Aging for both the transportation program and the Maple Street Café nutrition program while continuing to receive support through the Municipal Grant Program.

Programming continued to expand with new educational seminars, Ask the Dementia Specialist sessions, intergenerational initiatives with Ellington High School, fall prevention programming, health screenings, expanded travel opportunities, and partnerships with numerous community organizations. The Maple Street Café remained a vibrant gathering place, serving nutritious meals while fostering social connections among participants.

STAFFING

The Senior Center is staffed by a full-time Director, Assistant Director, and Administrative Secretary/Transportation Coordinator. Part-time staff include a Program Assistant, Kitchen Coordinator, Lead Driver, Transportation Drivers, and per diem transportation staff. During the year, recruitment efforts continued to strengthen the transportation program through the addition of a Transportation Assistant position to support the growing demand for transportation services. More than sixty dedicated volunteers also contributed thousands of hours assisting with meal service, reception, fitness programs, gardening, transportation support, special events, and numerous daily operations.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Door-to-door transportation is available for eligible residents age 55 and older and adults with qualifying disabilities. Rides are provided for medical appointments, grocery shopping, pharmacies, banking, nutrition programs, educational opportunities, recreational activities, and other essential destinations. The transportation program continued to experience record demand during FY 2025–2026, providing over 3,100 rides while preparing to expand services through the purchase of a new wheelchair-accessible vehicle funded through the Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services.

NUTRITION

The Maple Street Café is open September – June and serves lunch three days a week on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Meals are cooked in house by staff and volunteers. All meals are cooked to order and are a $6.00 suggested donation. During the month of July and August the Senior Center does weekly ice cream socials and pizza parties. Le Petit Café is a standalone self-service venue that allows individuals to purchase items at a low-cost fee. The Senior Center also offers breakfast Friday mornings. The Garden Program supplies assorted produce to distribute to seniors. The Senior Center has a holiday dinner and St. Patrick's Day dinner, and a summer cookout every year which provides a meal and entertainment. The Senior During FY 2025–2026, nearly 4,700 meals were served through the nutrition program.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS

The Ellington Senior Center remains committed to promoting healthy aging by offering a wide variety of programs and services that support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of older adults. Throughout the year, members had access to monthly podiatry clinics, blood pressure screenings, hearing screenings, vaccination clinics, fall risk screenings, health education seminars, and the Medical Loan Closet, which provides durable medical equipment to residents at no cost. New and expanded wellness initiatives included Ask the Dementia Specialist, caregiver education programs, Reiki sessions, therapeutic massage clinics, and additional wellness presentations designed to help older adults improve their overall quality of life.

FITNESS PROGRAMS

Walking, hiking, meditation, yoga, chair yoga, chair exercises, balance classes, chair volleyball, stretch and strengthen exercises, cardio drumming, pickleball lessons and open play, Silver Sneaker classes and Tai Chi are offered. Forever Fit Fitness Center is located on the facility. The Forever Fit Fitness Center continues to provide members with opportunities to remain physically active through insurance-supported memberships including Silver Sneakers and Renew Active. The fitness facility has 11 pieces of cardio. These include treadmills, ellipticals, Peloton bike, Nu-Steps and a rower. There are 4 standalone weight stations and a free weight, band and stretch station. Outdoor fitness stations and a Pickleball court are located on the grounds of the Senior Center.

SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Senior Center offers more than 250 programs each month, providing opportunities for members to remain socially active and engaged. Popular activities include billiards, bridge, setback, knitting, woodworking, arts and crafts, Mah Jongg, movies, book club, creative writing, concerts, gardening, shuffleboard, board games simply strumming, acrylics on canvas, WII Bowling, and adult coloring, The Ellington Singers, Spring Musical and Winterfest performances special events, educational presentations, and seasonal celebrations. Monthly Lunch Bunch. Trips are offered for day outings, overnight excursions, and cruises. Concerts and cookouts are held during the summer along with pizza and ice cream socials. Bring your own lunch program happens during the summer months where individuals can bring their own lunch to enjoy and socialize with others. Intergenerational programming also expanded during the year through partnerships with Ellington High School and other community organizations.

Travel continues to be one of the Center's most popular offerings, with approximately 24 day trips and 12 extended trips offered annually through partnerships with Friendship Tours and other travel providers.

EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMS

State Legislative Informational Updates, Elderly Social Worker Informational Sessions, AARP Smart Driver Education Classes, AARP Income Tax Preparation, and TED (Technology, Education, and Design) Talks. Lending Library, Ask the Realtor, Ask the Financial Advisor, Ask the Insurance Agent and Ask the Lawyer, Ask The Dementia Specialist, Medicare Seminars, Will and Estate Seminars, IPAD Lending Program, One-on-One Technology assistance. Book Signings by local authors. Book Club, Representatives from town departments present programs on services offered by the town.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

More than 60 active volunteers contributed countless hours throughout the year supporting nearly every aspect of the Senior Center's operations. Volunteers assist with meal preparation and service, reception, transportation support, gardening, fitness programs, special events, office assistance, and numerous recreational activities. Their dedication continues to be essential to the success of the Center and greatly enhances the quality of services provided to the community.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Senior Center works in close collaboration with a variety of community partners to enhance the quality of services provided to our members. These partnerships include local attorneys, AARP, assisted living communities, real estate professionals, financial institutions and local banks, healthcare facilities, state and local lawmakers, town departments, The Opioid Committee which puts on Concerts in The Park, and community presenters. The Senior Center takes part in Senior Hood a resource fair for Tolland County seniors that is put forth by The Tolland County Interdisciplinary Team. By working together with these organizations, the Senior Center can expand resources, provide educational opportunities, and ensure that older adults and their families have access to comprehensive support and information.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Category	Duplicated	Unduplicated	Hours
Arts & Crafts	1,035	101	2,279
Cards & Games	4,804	250	16,059
Educational	170	67	288
Fitness, Health & Wellness	9,759	567	25,964
Information Sharing	99	87	495
Language Arts	213	39	251
Music	1,333	134	2,064
Nutrition	4,791	565	6,498
Recreation	244	12	366
Social	657	259	366
Special Event	1,620	324	2,550
Technology Classes	25	18	25
Trip	223	97	1,856
TOTAL EVENT SIGN INS	**24,973**	**1,268**	**62,762**

YOUTH SERVICES

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

Ellington Youth Services' mission is to provide programs and services, while building relationships which bond youth in a positive way to their families, schools, peers, and community. The staff of Youth Services is here to support and assist children from birth to young adults through their life transitions. Youth Services provide programs that strengthen and develop life skills needed to succeed in the many challenges facing the youth of today. The staff of youth services consists of a full-time director, a full-time youth assistant director, a full-time program and prevention coordinator, a part-time program specialist, playgroup instructors, program instructors, Ellington Unified advisors, and volunteers.

HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Services provides a wide range of programs in areas of community services activities, after-school programs, mental health services (individual, family and group), and volunteerism. For the year 2025-2026, Youth Services and The Council for Developing a Positive Youth Culture (DPYC) had a total of approximately 14,000 children and their families participate in the following programs in school presentations, after school programs, outreach, and other events.

Programs: We provided 300 programs for 2025-2026 with about 4800 participants and 21 large group events throughout the year with approximately 3800 participants.

In-school Services: We worked with eighteen K-2 classrooms utilizing our Kind Farm program that helps students learn to cope with everyday feelings as well as self-regulation tools. The Gizmo program, which is a mental health awareness program, was presented to all 3rd grade students in the Ellington School District which has about 190 students. Our Empower program was completed in four 4th grade classrooms. This program continues the conversation of understanding our own emotions and the emotions of those around us. Mind Up, which helps promote and develop mindful attention by learning about the brain and how it functions, was completed in nine 5th and 6th grade classrooms. Additionally, the SOS Program, Suicide Prevention Program was presented to students in 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades about 1200 students. We also continued our Mindful Monday group at the middle school working with 7th and 8th graders weekly during lunch. We were able to expand our vaping education program in partnership with EHS for students as well as our second prevention fair at the high school. We tabled at EMS and EHS for Red Ribbon Week, Mental Health Awareness Month, and Prevention week activities.

Outreach to the Community is a very strong component of Youth Services. This past year we had tables at Farmer Markets to distribute resources, Pride Bridge in Arbor Park, You are Not Alone Mural, Earth Day, Social Media Campaigns and Screenagers viewings. We had many of our materials shared and used by community members. We were at open houses at middle and high school giving out about 300 informational bags, parenting roundtable series including topics of anxiety, marijuana, screentime, and vaping. In addition, we continued to work with athletics to focus on mental health in athletics through Change the Game. EYS Staff is also a part of the Opioid Settlement Committee, working with other departments and community members to bring awareness to the Ellington community.

Juvenile Review Board and Truancy Board: The Youth Services director is a member of Youth Diversion and Truancy Boards. These boards meet once a month to help members of the Ellington Community in assessment, case management and referrals. Additional EYS Staff work with the YDT to conduct prevention sessions throughout the school year. The EYS Staff work on approximately 20 case management and referrals this year.

Ellington Unified believes that everyone should have a sense of belonging and a part of our community. By connecting families, schools, and community through activities, advocacy, and support. Our hope is to strengthen the Ellington Community for youth with disabilities and their families. This year we welcomed a new Unified Advisor, and we were able to offer several holiday gatherings, social skills classes, family activities, dance and basketball. We had about 75 participants throughout all our programming.

The Ellington Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture (DPYC) is a long-standing group that has been coordinating prevention services for the youth of Ellington for over 20 years. The group's mission is to create and sustain a positive youth culture for Ellington's youth through collaboration among the community, schools, and town agencies. Membership includes key stakeholders in the community, including Ellington Youth Services, Ellington Human Services, Ellington Public Schools, Ellington Recreation Department, Resident State Troopers, faith and business community leaders, and student and parent representatives. This year we sponsored programs at the middle school, as well as sponsoring end of the year celebrations for Center School, and Windermere. We sponsored the Ellington Community Theatre program as well as the 6th Grade Ambassadors, and the EMS Field Day. We also partnered with the Ellington Recreation Department to offer the Knight Time Egg Hunt, Emerging Leaders, and are planning for the End of Summer Movie Night. In addition, this year we have a middle school and high school survey to determine the needs surrounding prevention in our community. Members of DPYC were also present at Farmers Markets and the towns Earth Day Event as well as the Opioid Settlement Concert Series.

EYS Alliance is a group of high school students in Ellington with a mission of offering high school students the opportunity to learn and apply leadership skills along with being role models to their peers and youth continued in its 14th year. This year the group ran activities at trail of treats and the annual middle school dodgeball tournament. This year there were over 100 middle school participants in the dodgeball tournament.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ellington schools, in partnership with parents and the broader community, worked hard to engage with all students in meaningful and rigorous learning this year. The following is a summary of action steps and strategies from the 2025-2026 school year.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- A partnership with TNTP supported an objective, third-party assessment of progress in implementation of new curricula aligned with the science of reading.
- Based on the TNTP walkthroughs and review of data, in Year 2 of implementation, students are highly engaged in lessons that align with grade-level foundational skills. They are also spending the majority of their ELA time with high-quality, complex texts. As we continue with CKLA, we need to ensure lessons allow for a variety of evidence-based instructional practices, prioritize higher-order thinking questions, monitor/adjust teaching based on need, and continue to build student agency.
- K-6 Literacy team used a TNTP tool to "unpack" units to improve pacing, select higher-order thinking questions, and add in varied instructional practices. Unpacking guides will be complete by the end of summer 2026
- Amplify ELA was launched in grade 6. Grade six sustained a 70% proficiency rate on SBA. Unpacking Guides created to focus on Priority standards and end-of-unit reading and writing expectations. By Unit 3, guides also incorporated digital vs, non-digital parts of the lesson to decrease screen time.
- Report card revision: Revised ELA standards for the new K-6 Report Card. Aligned to Common Core State standards and Amplify CKLA/ELA.
- Orton-Gillingham training for intensive remedial reading instruction–Ten additional teachers will be trained June 1-6.
- Grades 3, 4 & 5 - Continued to support the development of Illustrative Math collaborative planning sessions integrating Building Thinking Classrooms and rich tasks to promote deeper thinking and learning.
- Grades 6, 7, 8 - Coordinated and supported PD (by Compass Education Solutions consultant Melisa Grove) Building Thinking Classrooms strategies and teaching practices designed to strengthen instruction and promote more independent, engaged learning.
- High School – Coordinated and supported "Learning Lab" style collaborative work which allows for classroom visits, team planning, and lesson revisions
- Implemented strategies to deepen thinking by improving questioning
- Reworked note-taking to have more of an impact on learning
- Report card revision: Revised Math standards for the new K-6 Report Card. Aligned to Common Core State standards and Illustrative Math curriculum resources.
- Successfully implemented new OpenSciEd science units in Grade 4 at WES, CLS, and CES, and in Grade 5 at CLS and CES. Units included: 4.1 Energy Transfer: Collisions, 4.2 Energy Transfer: Electricity, 5.1 Ecosystems and Matter Cycling, and 5.2 Matter Properties. These units intentionally integrate grade-level ELA and mathematics skills with science.
- Rollout and implementation of 6th grade OpenSciEd Unit 6.4 Plate Tectonics and Rock Cycling
- Provided year-long, continuous instructional coaching in the classrooms to support teachers with OpenSciEd implementation. Coaching focused on student discourse, student sensemaking, and other high-quality instructional practices.
- Preliminary results show that OpenSciEd implementation is making a positive difference in elementary performance on state NGSS testing.
- Supported sixth-grade science teachers in implementing Building Thinking Classrooms strategies to strengthen student collaboration, reasoning, and problem-solving. Focusing on thin slicing in science, note taking, and use of vertical white boards.
- Created a new district STEM opportunity by writing and receiving grants to establish a drone program. This year launched middle school competitive drone competition teams who won Judges Award at two different competitions.
- Wrote science unit descriptions for the district website for grades 1–6 to support communication of curriculum and instructional goals to families and the community.
- Development of coversheets in science that align with report cards for grades implementing OpenSciEd grades 3-6.
- The inquiry group structures were enacted across all grade levels with a focus on instructional strategies to promote student engagement and thinking.
- New curricular resources were supported by K-12 content specialist teachers (see Literacy, Math, and Science above.)
- Principals noted changes in instructional practice connected to professional learning through informal classroom visits, evaluative visits, grade-level and department collaborative time conversations, individual teacher professional goals, and 1:1 conversations.
- The PDEC team and administrators met to process teacher feedback that suggest some changes for next year in how shifts in instruction are introduced, explained, supported, and monitored.
- The high school data focus shifted from use of broad measures to work to improve intervention or the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). School-wide "universal accommodations" were identified. This process promoted teacher ownership of accommodations (instead of referring students to external supports) and a "just in time" approach instead of "just in case" accommodations for specific students. With that in place, the process can become the entry point for use or extension of the platform developed at EMS.
- The model to extend the Data Visualization to lower grades (entry of major assessments into Infinite Campus) will also shift next year. There was greater focus on simplifying standards for report cards and using "cover sheets" to provide parents with detailed data at the time of assessments instead of waiting for report cards. A system was designed to collect assessment data as part of report card data in Campus for launch next year.
- Two full-day administrator workshops were held, led by our Partners for Educational Leadership consultant (Isobel Stevenson). The learning model provided a conceptual framework for the specific shifts in instruction referenced in the DIP.
- Administrators adopted the conceptual framework and used it to anchor work in inquiry groups and deeper implementation of new curricular resources.
- Administrators need additional time over the summer to adjust the professional learning for teachers to demonstrate the practical implications of the model and to connect the conceptual understanding to specific practices.

CONDITIONS FOR LEARNING

- Syllabi are in place at the middle and high school and have been reviewed for critical content, including units taught.
- Unit overviews are now provided for middle school classes in connection with the new unit-based grade report timelines.
- K-6 Report card standards (content) have been simplified and updated in line with new curriculum (Illustrative Math and CKLA), ready for a launch next year. "Over sheets" will accompany periodic assessments sent home to K-6 parents to provide more granular progress in skills and understandings.
- Administrative Council added time for finance and operations topics and work on culture and climate in the schools.
- AI committee met quarterly and refined the position statement

and guidance documents. The information was shared with staff, parents, and students starting in upper elementary grades.
- A summer workshop has been designed for teachers who can serve as leaders in AI application for planning and use with students. The twelve "AI Champs" will meet in August, led by Michael Nash and Arthur Biryakus, for training that will equip them to innovate and guide teachers across the schools in greater application of AI in planning and learning.
- Library Media Specialists have created four introductory AI lessons for library time and taught three of the four lessons to grades 4-6 so far.
- Unplugged and Seeds of Civility were part of the common expectations in the high school's "All In" theme for faculty. "All In" was also a strategy on increasing consistency of enforcement of the cell phone restrictions. There is more work needed on refining cell phone consistency and reducing screen time when the vast majority of curricular resources and texts are digital.
- The Middle school increased cell phone restrictions beyond classrooms. Teachers decreased screen time generally. Co-Principal Mike Nash, in collaboration with Ellington Youth and Family Services, launched the "Balance Project" to consider how to support parents in emphasizing face-to-face and outdoor experiences for students over screen-based ones.
- Elementary teachers developed and provided more non-digital learning activities during WIN block and flex block.
- Middle School and High School health classes embedded RULER lessons in their curriculum. Middle school administrator and counseling team attended training on restorative practices offered by Cooperative Education Services (CES). Restorative practices were employed to help solve peer conflicts, the bulk of challenging behaviors.
- Elementary schools piloted restorative practices at the admin level and Restorative Circles in some classrooms. Social skills groups piloted at Windermere.
- RULER approaches sustained at elementary level. Administrative Council met to assess compliance on culture and climate expectations and identified areas to work on for next year.

OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFRASTUCTURE

- Electronic onboarding has been set up and piloted with recent hires. Prototypes are in place for certified, non-certified, and at-will employees. System increases efficiency, accountability, and data tracking.
- Electronic time-keeping has replaced paper timesheets for hourly employees. This provides increased accountability and increased efficiency for the business office.
- HVAC project is complete at EMS and EHS, meeting new state air quality and refresh rate requirements.
- Center School is on track for summer completion. Work accessible from the building exterior is ongoing, as is interior work after school hours. Center will be offline for summer programming as the rest of the interior work is completed.
- AI was considered for calculating projections. AI was used to simplify the budget book format and re-design visuals.
- A one-pager was provided by the Acting Superintendent to all parents and staff in early May before the first referendum. Hot links to further detail were not included.
- Needs and talent pools were assessed. Administrative support for athletics were shifted from a part-time employee to an existing full-time position. Some duties were shifted within the executive assistants team. Additional recommendations are in hand for review by the entering Superintendent before adjustments are made for 2026-27.
- Acting Superintendent, Director of Facilities, and Interim Director of Finance and Operations attend bi-weekly Owner-Architect-Contractor meetings on site to review progress, raise issues, and ensure that punch list items are recorded and planned for.
- Walkthroughs with district staff and board members reviewed project progress. Project proceeded according to timeline and under budget overall. Funds were requested and received from the state to the town in a timely manner compared to previous projects.
- Punch list items from the first three phases were not addressed in a timely manner and concerns remain about punch list items that need to be addressed over the summer and into the Fall. Town PBC is aware and shares the concerns.

EPS VISION

Ellington Public Schools grows exceptional learners and leaders who are courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world.

EPS MISSION

Ellington Public Schools creates a culture of learning that challenges and inspires all students on their personalized educational journeys.

EPS CORE VALUES AND BELIEFS

- We empower students and staff with the skills to discover and pursue their own passions and to embrace opportunities to be courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world.
- We create an equitable, inclusive and supportive culture where people are safe, accepted, and valued.
- We value learning as an enlightening, lifelong process that happens in multiple ways.
- We believe that positive relationships among all stakeholders create synergy and are the foundation for our learning community.
- We celebrate innovation, collaboration, creativity and multiple forms of success.
- We ensure that our learning environments are flexible spaces that encourage interaction, co-creation, and independence.
- We have an unrelenting commitment to the belief that everyone can continually learn and grow.

ELLINGTON VISION OF THE LEARNER

Ellington Public Schools' Graduates will develop the skills that will allow them to be exceptional learners and leaders who are courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world.

Ellington Public Schools develop students who are:

Engaged Learners
- Participates actively and purposefully in learning
- Demonstrates perseverance and flexibility
- Improves understanding through reflection
- Makes meaningful connections to new learning

Active Community Members
- Collaborates effectively
- Recognizes similarities and values differences
- Assumes good intentions
- Builds positive relationships

Critical Thinkers
- Comprehends, analyzes and evaluates information from diverse sources, including Al
- Solves complex problems
- Thinks creatively
- Takes intellectual risks

Effective Communicators
- Advances learning through discourse
- Communicates ideas in compelling, impactful ways
- Listens for understanding
- Asks thoughtful questions

Ellington High School Graduates 2026



Ellington High School Class of 2026 graduated on Friday, June 12, 2026. Mr. Oliver Barton, Acting Superintendent of Schools, presented diplomas to 188 seniors. The statistics for the Class of 2026 are as follows: 115 graduates plan to attend four-year colleges, 34 plan to attend two-year colleges, 12 plan to attend technical school, 5 plan to join the military, 1 exchange student, 9 graduates plan to join the workforce, and 12 will pursue other opportunities or are undecided. The following class scholars represented the highest five percent of the Class of 2026: Andrew Boan–*Valedictorian*, Adhiti Parupalli–*Salutatorian*, Nicholas Bianchi, Nora Borst, Alyssa Corsino, Sai Nirmith Kapu, Joshua Kellam, Srija Narahari, Benjamin Platt, Remy Socha.

CLASS OFFICERS

Andrew Boan, Keisha Lorene Burce, Hannah Critchley, Julia Laughlin and Keegan Murray

Max Waylon Alexander
Fredrick Semazzi Anyah
Morgan Arnold
Bret M. Avery
Andrea Avalos
Kaylee Nicole Baj
Jacob Lionel Beaulieu
Oliver Henry Bellman
Nicholas Bianchi*
Evan Brody Blier
Andrew James Boan*
Emir Bojic
Emma J. Bontempo
Nora Borst*
Benjamin C. Brier
Drayton Michael Brindisi
Ayden V. L. Brown
Declan Conall Budd
Keisha Lorene Bierras Burce
Everitt S. Buss
Hailey A. Butler
Katelyn M. Callahan
Aliyah Rose Calo
Alexia L. Caporiccio
Megan Taylor Carcia
Madilyn L. Carter
Colby R. Casey
Landon G. Chapman
Marwa Chaudhry
Evann Clarke
Alyssa Jean Corsino*
Hannah Joan Critchley
Ceilidh Anne Cuthbert
Kha Dang
Anthony M. D'Antonio
Cornelia Nana-Yaa Darko
Yagnasenee Das
Caydance Kenya Deadwyler
Lillian Mary DeMarco
Elizabeth M. Dzen
Nicholas M. Dzen
Alexander Echard
Max Smith Eckhardt
Emma Rose Ferraro
Mia Helen Fiasconaro
Tatiana Joy Flores
Thomas Fuhlbrigge
Maribelle Elaine Galbraith
Lauren E. Galeota
Michael Padraic Galligan
Daveson Garcia
Isabelle Lynn Gardner
Jacob Gardner
Nandini Gaur
Riley Shea Gerhauser
Hailee Emma Gilman
Adrian Gomez Tully
David Goodreau
Evan Daniel Goric
Matthew Logan Grass
Karla Etta Greenwood
Michael Grimes
Kaden K. Gromek
Hayes Walker Hadden
Connor J. Hannon
Isabella M. Helin
Logan M. Herrick
Lauren A. Hoover
Gage A. Jablonowski
Olevier Jean Baptiste
Jacob G. Jenkins
Janiyah Johnson
Logan M. Joslin
Srida Kadari
Sai Nirmith Reddy Kapu*
Carly Lynn Kaufman
Joshua E. Kellam*
Tucker Edward Kerswell
Inaya Erum Khan
Dylan J. Killoran
Ananya Konda
Abigail H. Koshy
Anshul Ashish Kulkarni
Revaz Kvitaishvili
Aaron Ladr
Justin LaFleche
Clay Douglas LaPlante
Nancy Ann Larocque
Julia Patricia Laughlan
Kaitlin Ann Laughlan
Brayden Lavigne
Arianna Joanne Layaw
Jarrett A. Lohrman
Mackenzie Mary Lucey
Anderson Luginbuhl
Zoey Michaela Madore
Bryan Joseph Watson Margelony
Hannah K. Mattioli
Brady Christopher Matz
Lylah Alizabeth McCauley
Christopher James McGee Jr.
James McShane
Annalise Mead
Allison Marie Mentz
Rachel Elizabeth Milheiro
Alexander Douglas Minich
Benjamin B. Montanari
Sion Moon
Titus Moreau
Keegan L. Murray
Joanna Wamuyu Mutua
Srija Narahari*
Alexander K. Newhall
Jayla Lizzette Nieves
Zachary Noonan
Nancy Orta Guerra
Tyler K. Owens
Benjamin Pack
Tyler Anthony Pagani
Adhiti Parupalli*
Nathan William Pashe
Ariana M. Paternostro
Mason K. Pathammavong
Karina Peci
Bayron Edward Peguero
Kevin Pelletier
Madigan Rose Perkins
Madison G. Petkis
Nadia Serena Piazza
Benjamin Michael Platt*
Kaitlyn Jean Powers
Tristan D. Quinn
Joshua Redekas
Autumn Theresa Remillard
Zachary Richards
Adithi Routhu
Nicholas H. Ruddy
Victoria L. Sacchi
Om Sachdeva
Ava Camille Sackandy
Ryan Jay Sagendorf
Kylie Ann Sakos
Rakhshana Saravanakumar
Jackson Michael Scott
Nolan B. Shannon
Carter Shaw
Eamonn Shaw
Landon Shaw
Myles Thomas Shelley
Kaley E. Short
Lillian Denise Simonson
Matthew Sizer
Thomas James Slotter
Remy Grace Socha*
Cole Soler
Kaitlyn Isabella Soto
Alexandra Sousa
Ella Rose Sprague
Colton Stanley
Emilie Stavens
Jackson O. Stearns
Tyson Steele
Mariella Mercedes Strohmann
Ava Marie Sullivan
Nisha Thantry
Misthi Tomar
Noble Morgan Turney
Angelina Marie Twining-Castro
Jackson P. Vail
Scarlet Vazquez
David S. Virkler
Francesco A. Vono
Ashton Robert Walder
Austin M. Waldron
Jack Christopher Weigand
Kate L. Welch
Kenzie Laine Wiegand
Dylan Wilcox
Daniel Williams
Kloe Naomi Wziontko
Elizabeth A. York
Caleb M. Zahner
Maya M. Zahner
Chelsea O. Zalcman
Sadie Olivia Zaushny
Jah'ki Randell Zene
Niki Zhang
Addison Zurawek

* Class Scholar

Best Buddies - Bright Yellow/Bright Orange Cords • Best Buddies Chapter President and Vice President - Purple/White Cords
Members of the Société Honoraire de Francais - Blue/White/Red Honor Cords • Future Business Leaders of America - Royal Blue/Gold Cords
Graduate Capstone Project - Navy Blue/Light Blue Cords • Students who attained honor roll status each quarter during his/her high school career - Silver Honor Cords
Members of Troupe 5226 of the International Thespian Society - Black/White Honor Cords • National Latin Society - Purple/Gold Cords
Link Crew Members - Navy Cords • Members of the National Art Honor Society - Rainbow Honor Cords • Senior Class Officers - Black Honor Cords
La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica - Red/Gold/Black Cords • Student Ambassadors - White Stoles • Student Council Officers - White Honor Cords
Tri-M Music Honor Society members - Pink Honor Cords • UCONN Early College Experience - Navy/White Cords
Yearbook Leaders - Red Cords • YMCA Advisory Council - Bright Blue/Magenta Cords
Congratulations to Landon Chapman and Olevier Jean Baptiste for Enlistment in the United States Marine Corps.
Congratulations to Sion Moon – Ohio State University – Army ROTC

PEOPLE SERVING YOU

TOWN DEPARTMENTS 2025-2026*

ADMINISTRATION
First Selectman: Laurie E. Burstein
Town Administrator: Matthew D. Reed
Human Resources Director: Lori Caron
Executive Assistant/
Communications Coordinator: Julia Merriam
Administrative Assistant/
Recording Secretary: Rebecca Einsiedel

ANIMAL CONTROL
Animal Control Officer: Barbara Murdach
Assistant Animal Control Officer (PT): Kathy Kane-DiBacco
Assistant Animal Control Officer (PD): Karen Picard, Shannon Esslinger

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE
Assessor: Tyler Devine
Deputy Assessor: Laura Plona
Administrative Assessment Technician: Holly Petronella

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
Building Official: Raymond F. Martin, III
Administrative Secretary II: Ginger MacHattie

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
Ellington EMS Director: Craig Webb
Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc
Ellington Rescue Post 512

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Emergency & Risk Management Director: Matthew Reed
Deputy Directors: John Streiber, Frederica Weeks

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Finance Officer/Treasurer: Tiffany Pignataro
Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer: Felicia LaPlante
Accounting/Payroll Specialist: Scott Naylor
Staff Accountant: Jacob Bundy
Recording Secretary, Board of Finance: Elizabeth Luginbuhl

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
Fire Marshal: James York
Deputy Fire Marshal: Sydney Kern
Fire Inspector II: Gary Buzzell
Burning Officials: James York, Sydney Kern, Gary Buzzell

HUMAN SERVICES
Director of Human Services: Rebecca Stack
Elderly Outreach Social Worker: Stephen Clapp
Human Services Assistant: Kelly Luginbuhl

LIBRARY (Hall Memorial Library)
Director: Susan Phillips
Assistant Director/Head of Youth & Family Services: Ashley Dabbondanza
Children's Services Librarian: Trish Brudz
Adult Programming & Technical Services Librarian: Amanda Duhamel
Library Technical Assistant: Heather Nosack
Library Assistant II: Lisa Giaquinto, Victoria Sierra
Library Assistant II-Interlibrary Loan: Lauren Desrocher
Children's Library Assistant II: Ryan Young
Library Assistant I: Tara Clynch, Jordan DeFreitas, Jessica Donovan, Luci Pantuosco, Xavier Riddle, Laurie Wormstedt
Reference Librarian: Michelle Farella
Bookkeeper/Recording Secretary: Rhonda Villanova
Pages: Keisha Burce, Caroline Cuthbert

MUNICIPAL AGENT: Rebecca Stack

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Director of Health: Patrice Sulik, MPH, RS

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Director of Recreation: Mary Bartley
Assistant Director of Recreation: Kevin Barrett
Recreation Program & Event Specialist: Robert Gorman
Administrative Secretary I: Tina Modzelewski

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT
Town Planner: Lisa M. Houlihan
Assistant Town Planner and Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer: John D. Colonese
Land Use Assistant: Barbra Galovich
Recording Secretary: Ashley DuBois

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Resident Sergeant: Sgt. Tim Merrill (CT State Police)
Resident State Troopers: TFC. Tyler Burnell, Tpr. Joe Fratini, Tpr. Mason Hoover, Tpr. Kelly Mazza
Ellington Police Officers: Bart Alexander, John Barth, Aaron Blank, Donald Bridge, Arthur Carlson, III, Joe Decker, James Desso, Jeffrey Duda, SRO, Mark Estes, Stephen Estes, Kevin Furbush, James Keeney, Jose Martinez
School Resource Officer/Town Police Officer: Jeffrey Duda
Marine Patrol: Allen Bump, Sebastian Magnano, John Streiber
Police Support Administrator: Joe Decker

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Director of Public Works: Tom Modzelewski
Administrative Assistant II: Carolyn Kidney
Foreman: Taylor Olson
Assistant Foreman: Kevin Gambacorta
Crew Chief/Grounds: Bob Ouellette
Recycling and Refuse Manager: Samuel Saunders
Lead Mechanic: Brian Novak
Mechanic II: Perry Dikeman
Maintainer II: Patrick Roy, Ronald Moser
Maintainer I: Denis Giroux, John Hoffman, Spencer Hutchinson, Keith Jarvis, Gregory Miano, James Muratori, Benjamin Pare, Christopher Stanley, Jason Suchecki

WPCA Crew Chief: Phillip Kidney
WPCA Tech/Maintainer I: Samuel Hubbard, Robert Berthiaume
Facilities Crew Chief: Casey Lombardi
Custodian: Dana DiNallo, Gary Berube, David Spinelli
Laborer: Alexander Grossmann
Brush Drop-off Facility Attendant: Michael Messier

SENIOR CENTER
Senior Center Director: Sheila Grady
Senior Center Assistant Director: Samantha Baer
Senior Center Administrative Secretary II/ Transportation Coordinator: Erica Botti
Senior Center Program Assistant: Marjorie Richardson
Senior Center Kitchen Manager: Michael Castro
Senior Center Lead Van Driver: Louis Fleck
Senior Center Van Drivers: Eugene Allard, James Clyburn, Siobhan Kupferschmid, Kimberly Scofield-Gamboa

TAX DEPARTMENT
Tax and Revenue Collector: Carolina Feliz
Deputy Tax and Revenue Collector: Lindsey Bourque

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics: Donna G. Hosey
Assistant Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics: Margaret Schmidt
Assistant Town Clerks (Per Diem): Suzanne Litwin, Caitlin Trueb

TOWN COUNSEL
Dorian Reiser, Esq.,
Kahan Kerensky & Capossela LLP

SPECIAL COUNSEL
Day Pitney LLC *(Bond Counsel)*
Shipman & Goodman *(Special Ed Counsel for Board of Education)*
Kainen, Escalera & McHale *(Labor Counsel for General Government and the Board of Education)*

TOWN ENGINEER: J. R. Russo Surveyors • Engineers

TREE WARDEN: Tom Modzelewski

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (WPCA)
Administrator: Tom Modzelewski
Crew Chief/WPCA: Phillip Kidney
WPCA Technician/Maintainer I: Samuel Hubbard, Robert Berthiaume

YOUTH SERVICES
Youth Services Director: Kristen Harp
Assistant Youth Services Director: Olivia Catlett
Youth Program & Prevention Coordinator: Marque Mercure

***Please note:** This list reflects employees who served in these roles during the 2025–2026 fiscal year. Current staff assignments may have changed since the end of the reporting period.

TOWN ELECTED OFFICIALS

(as of June 30, 2026)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN	TERM EXPIRES
Laurie E. Burstein, *First Selectman*	December 2027
Mary B. Cardin, *Deputy First Selectman*	December 2027
Jamison J. Boucher	December 2027
James M. Prichard	December 2027
David E. Stavens	December 2027
Su Thanvanthri	December 2027
Charlotte Ward	December 2027

BOARD OF FINANCE	
Logan Johnson, *Chairman*	December 2027
Elizabeth Nord, *Vice Chairman*	December 2029
Maurice Blanchette	December 2027
Douglas Harding	December 2029
Daniel Keune	December 2027
Gomathi Ramachandran	December 2029

BOARD OF EDUCATION	
Kerry Socha, *Chairman*	November 2027
Miriam Underwood, *Vice Chairman*	November 2027
Megan Johnson	November 2029
Marcia Kupferschmid	November 2029
Angela Moser	November 2029
Jennifer Mullin	November 2027
Karl Stocker	November 2029
Steven Viens	November 2029
Lenora Williams	November 2027
Michael Young	November 2027

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS	
Wanda Deland *(Republican)*	January 2027
Lois Timms-Ferrara *(Democrat)*	January 2027

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
Peg Busse, *Chairman*	December 2027
Mary Blanchette	December 2027
John Halloran	December 2029
Christina Keune	December 2029
Anna Michalak	December 2029
Deanna Wambolt-Gulick	December 2027

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION	
Sean Kelly, *Chairman*	December 2027
Robert C. Sandberg, Jr., *Vice Chairman*	December 2027
F. Michael Francis	December 2029
William R. Hogan	December 2029
Jonathan Moser	December 2029
Subhra Roy	December 2029
Michael Swanson	December 2027

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
Eugene LeDuc, *Chairman*	December 2029
Katherine Heminway, *Vice Chairman*	December 2029
Miranda Graziani	December 2027
Sulakshana Thanvanthri	December 2027
Suren Thirumappan	December 2027

APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS **(as of June 30, 2026)**

(Term Length – Month of Reappointment)

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
(One year - September)

Brian Cocuzzo, *Chairman*
Anthea Grotton
Tammie Mangold
Lenora Williams

AD HOC COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPING POSITIVE YOUTH CULTURE *(One year - August)*

Kristen Harp
Mary Bartley
Julia Jasica
John Lally
Leanne Mason Doughty
Marque Mercure
Sgt. Tim Merrill
Tara Moule
Scott Raiola
Cassandra Schend
Alyssa Skewes

AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE
(One year - May)

David Arzt, *Chairman*
Jean Burns
Rodger Hosig
Victor Laptik
Leon Veretto

AD HOC ELLINGTON TRAILS COMMITTEE
(One year - April)

Linda Anderson, *Chairman*
Cynthia van Zelm, *Vice Chairman*
Donna Allen
Valerie Amsel
Steven Austin
Robert Barone
William Schultz
Ryan Bibeau
Dan Chamberlin
Ann Harford
Stuart Lanz
Lindsay Neubecker
Tom Palshaw
Deanna Wambolt-Gulick

AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
(One year - February/through December 2027)*

Jamison Boucher, *Board of Selectmen Representative**
Charlotte Ward, *Board of Selectmen Representative**
Logan Johnson, *Board of Finance Representative**
Robert Edwards, *Crystal Lake Fire Department Representative*
Karl Neubecker, *Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Representative*
Robert Smith, *Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Representative*
Timothy Seitz, *Crystal Lake Fire Department Representative*
Bruce Hoffman, *Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Representative*
Matthew Reed, *Emergency & Risk Manager*
Peter Hany, Sr., *Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Representative*

AD HOC PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE *(One year - December)*

Christian Sauer, *Chairman*
John Takach, *Vice Chairman*
Rhonda Villanova, *Secretary*
Joseph Boucher
Jacob Cawthorn
Christian Cuthbert
Paul Fiasconaro
Sara K. Landon
John O'Shaughnessy
Cheryl Samborski
Kashish Koul, Aarush Kumar, Logan Takach, *Student Reps*

TERM EXPIRES

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS *(Three years - January)*

Aston Blake	2027
Lisa Rice	2028
Suren Thirumappan	2029
Alternates *(2 years)*	
Joseph Malone	2028
Norman Perkins	2027

CENTRAL REGIONAL TOURISM DISTRICT
(Three years - June)

Position Vacant	2028

COMMUNITY VOICE CHANNEL ADVISORY COUNCIL
(Two years - June)

Marc Diwinsky	2028

CT WATER COMPANY CUSTOMER ADVISORY COUNCIL
(One year - August)

Carl Slicer	2026

CONSERVATION COMMISSION *(Four years - March)*

Rebecca A. Quarno, *Chairman*	2027
Robert E. Zielfelder, Jr., *Vice Chairman*	2030
Jamison Boucher	2029
Kathy Caton	2029
Sean Dwyer	2030
James Gage	2027
Kalagena Sullivan	2028
Alternates *(2 years)*	
Ann Harford	2027
Matthew Shea	2028

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD *(Four years - June)*

Landon Barlow	2028
Michele Beaulieu	2029
Gary Chaplin	2029
Katherine Heminway	2029
Ronald F. Stomberg	2028

DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS *(Four years - January)*

Lois Goodin *(Republican)*	2027
Joann Scott *(Democrat)*	2027

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(4 years – July)

Sean Kelly, *Chairman*	2028
Donna Resutek, *Vice Chairman*	2029
David Hurley	2026
Cynthia Soto	2026
Christopher Todd	2027
Alternates *(2 years - January)*	
Nicholas Pina	2027
Amos Smith	2027
Michael Swanson	2027

ETHICS COMMISSION *(Four years - January)*

Derek Reed, *Chairman*	2027
Deb Lynch, *Vice Chairman*	2028
Allan Lawrence	2029
Patience Turkson	2028
Madelina Williams	2030

TERM EXPIRES

HOUSING AUTHORITY *(Five years - June)*

Robert C. Sandberg, Jr., *Chairman*	2028
Michael Swanson, *Vice Chairman*	2027
Atherton "Joe" Ryan, *Secretary*	2030
Deborah Newton	2029
Amos Smith	2031

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION *(Four years - January)*

Patricia Szafir, *Chairman*	2030
Rajee Assudani	2028
Diane Harding	2028
Gayethri Narayanswamy	2028
Kalagena Sullivan	2030
Deanna Wambolt-Gulick	2028
Lenora Williams	2030

INLAND/WETLANDS AGENCY *(Four years - January)*

Jean Burns, *Chairman*	2029
Katherine Heminway, *Vice Chairman*	2027
Landon Barlow	2027
Ethan Biggs	2027
Steven J. Hoffman	2027
Jonathan Kaczmarek	2029
Divya Kataria	2029
Alternates *(2 years)*	
Juliet D'Antonio	2027
Eugene LeDuc	2028

INSURANCE ADVISORY BOARD *(Four years - April)*

Audrey Kubas, *Chairman*	2027
Mark Boone	2027
Elizabeth Nord	2029

MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL #15 *(Three years - January)*

John H. Lally	2028

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS *(Three years - June)*

Fred Journalist	2028
Dianne Trueb	2028

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION *(Four years - January)*

Gordon Oliver, *Chairman*	2028
Thomas Boscarino	2028
Cynthia Costanzo	2028
Shay Drake	2030
Kevin Hayes	2030
Tara Kozik	2030
Sherryl Kraus	2030
Cheri Murphy	2028
Christopher Weitz	2030

PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE
(Four years - February/through November/December 2027**)*

Peter W. Welti, *Chairman*	2030
Gary Magnuson, *Vice Chairman*	2028
Thomas Adams	2030
Brian Chamberlin	2028
Gary T. Feldman, Sr.	2030
Patrick Stavens	2030
Ronald Stomberg	2028
Liz Nord *(BOF Representative)***	2027
Mike Swanson *(P&Z Representative)***	2027
Su Thanvanthri *(BOS Representative)***	2027
Miriam Underwood *(BOE Representative)**	2027
Tom Modzelewski, Public Works Director *(Ex-officio)*	

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION ALTERNATES
(Two years - September)

Ryan Orszulak	2027
Jeremiah Williams	2027

SHARED SERVICES COMMISSION
(Three Years - October/through November/December 2027**)*

Christopher Socha, *Chairman*	2026
Peg Busse, *Vice Chairman*	2026
Gary Blanchette	2027
Sharon McLaughlin	2027
Jenn Mullin *(BOE Representative)**	2027
Daniel Keune *(BOF Representative)***	2027
David Stavens *(BOS Representative)***	2027

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
(Four years - April)

Daniel J. Parisi, *Chairman*	2029
Drew Gilbert	2030
Paul F. Gilbert	2030
Shawn Koehler	2028
Tom Walker	2027

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATES
(Two years - August)

Ronald Brown	2027
Rodger Hosig	2026
Ronald F. Stomberg	2026

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

DEMOCRAT
Cynthia Costanzo
Thomas Curtiss
Keith Durao
Rachel Durao
Donald R. Francois, Jr.
John M. Halloran, Jr.
Patricia Micari
Lois Timms-Ferrara

REPUBLICAN
Michael Agranoff
Nicole S. Albano
Christopher C. Davis
Sean C. Kelly
Daniel C. Keune
Lori L. Spielman
Ronald F. Stomberg
Rhonda Villanova

UNAFFILIATED
Howard E. Dewitt
Kenzy Lee
Christina Marie Morin
Sylvie Nadeau
Judita J. Sadlak
Elizabeth C. Waters

State and Federal Elected Officials

STATE

GOVERNOR

Ned Lamont
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 566-4840 • (800) 406-1527
Fax (860) 524-7397
www.portal.ct.gov/office-of-the-governor

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Susan Bysiewicz
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue, Room 304
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 524-7384
Fax (860) 524-7304
www.ct.gov/office-of-the-lt-governor

SECRETARY OF THE STATE

Stephanie Thomas
PO Box 150470
165 Capitol Avenue, Suite 1000
Hartford, CT 06115-0470
(860) 509-6200
Fax (860) 509-6209
www.ct.gov/sots

STATE TREASURER

Erick Russell
165 Capitol Avenue, 2nd floor
Hartford, CT 06106
(860)-702-3000
Fax (860) 618-3404
www.ott.ct.gov

ATTORNEY GENERAL

William Tong
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 808-5318
Fax (860) 808-5387
www.ct.gov/AG

REPRESENTATIVE (57th DISTRICT)

Jaime Foster
Legislative Office Building, Room 4009
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 240-8585 • (800) 842-8267
www.housedems.ct.gov/Foster

SENATOR (3rd DISTRICT)

Saud Anwar
Legislative Office Building, Room 3000
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 240-0347 • (860) 240-8600
www.senatedems.ct.gov/anwar

SENATOR (35th DISTRICT)

Jeff Gordon
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 240-8800 • (800) 842-1421
www.ctsenaterepublicans.com/home-gordon

SENATOR (7th DISTRICT)

John Kissel
Legislative Office Building, Room 2503
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 240-8800 • (800) 842-1421
www.ctsenaterepublicans.com/home-kissel

FEDERAL

SENATOR

Richard Blumenthal
90 State House Square, 10th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 258-6940
Fax (860) 258-6958

706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2823
Fax (202) 224-9673
www.blumenthal.senate.gov

SENATOR

Chris Murphy
120 Huyshope Avenue
Colt Gateway, Suite 401
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 549-8463
Fax (860) 524-5091

136 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4041
Fax (202) 224-9750
www.murphy.senate.gov

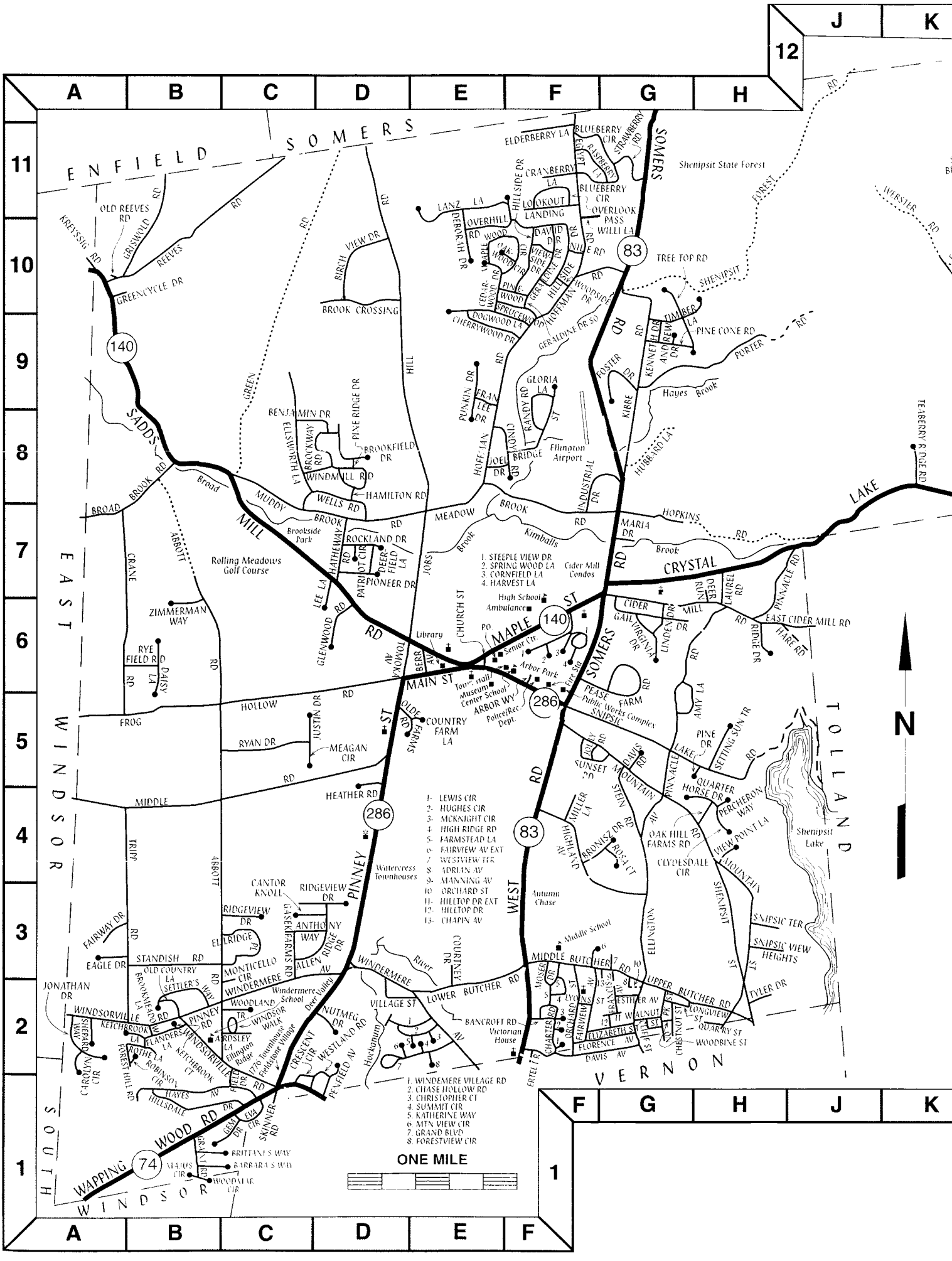
CONGRESSMAN (2nd District)

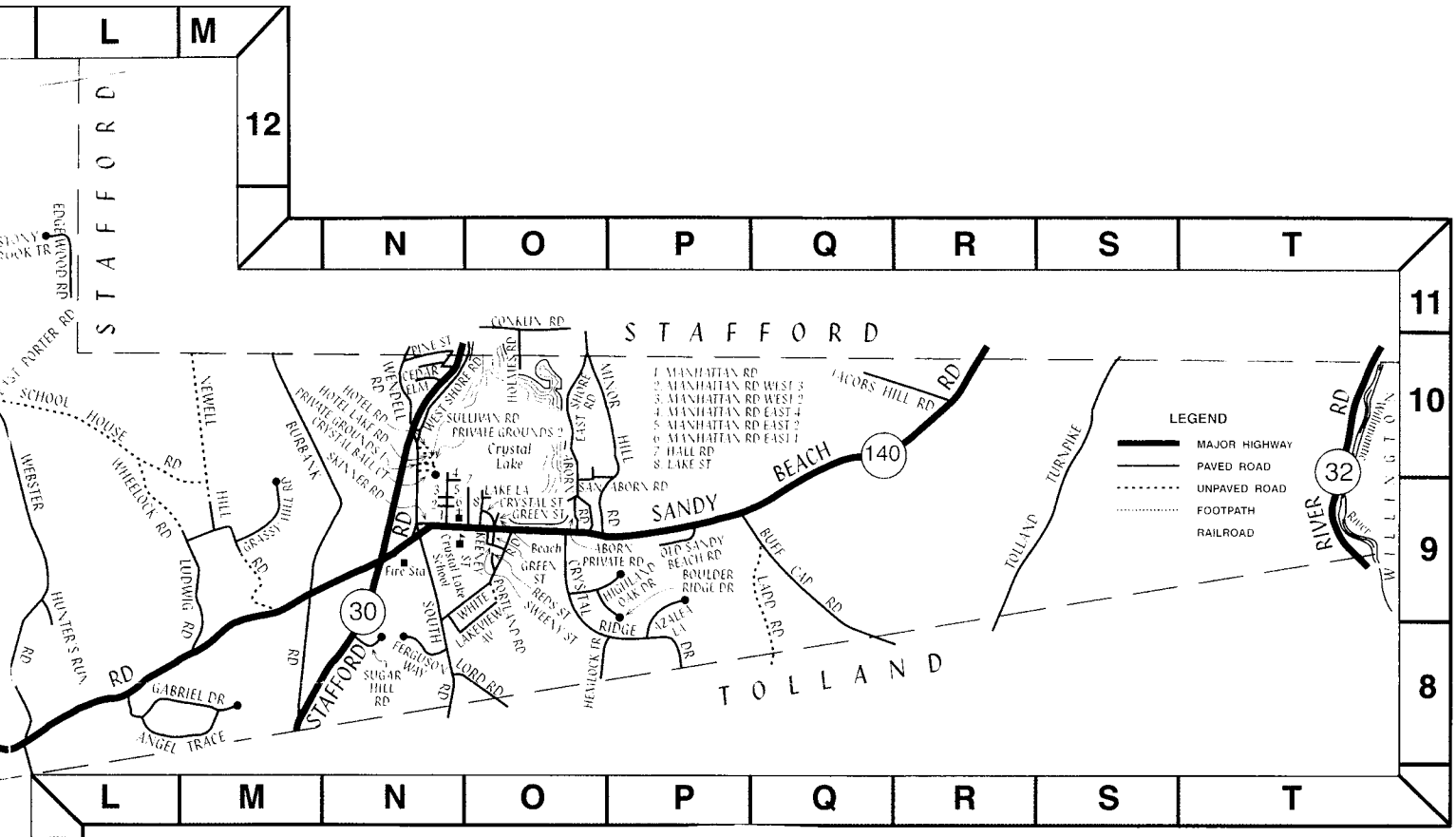
Joe Courtney
77 Hazard Avenue, Unit J
Enfield, CT 06082
(860) 741-6011
Fax (860) 886-6036

2332 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2076
Fax (202) 225-4977
www.courtney.house.gov

PRESIDENT

Donald Trump
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500
(202) 456-7041
www.whitehouse.gov


ENFIELD
SOMERS
EAST WINDSOR
SOUTH WINDSOR
VERNON
TOLLAND
Shenipsit State Forest
Shenipsit Lake
Rolling Meadows Golf Course
Brookside Park
Ellington Airport
Watercress Townhouses
Autumn Chase
Cider Mill Condos
Hayes Brook
Broad Brook
Muddy Brook
Meadow Brook
Kimballs Brook
Maria Brook
Tearberry Ridge Rd
1. STEEPLE VIEW DR
2. SPRING WOOD LA
3. CORNFIELD LA
4. HARVEST LA
1- LEWIS CIR
2- HUGHES CIR
3- MCKNIGHT CIR
4- HIGH RIDGE RD
5- FARMSTEAD LA
6- FAIRVIEW AV EXT
7- WESTVIEW TER
8- ADRIAN AV
9- MANNING AV
10- ORCHARD ST
11- HILLTOP DR EXT
12- HILLTOP DR
13- CHAPIN AV
1. WINDEMERE VILLAGE RD
2. CHASE HOLLOW RD
3. CHRISTOPHER CT
4. SUMMIT CIR
5. KATHERINE WAY
6. MTN VIEW CIR
7. GRAND BLVD
8. FORESTVIEW CIR
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STREET INDEX

Abbott Rd	B2
Aborn Rd	P9
*Aborn Private Rd	O9
Adrian Av	G2
Allen Ridge Dr	C3-D3
Amy La	G5
Andrew Dr	G9
Angel Trace	L8-M8
Anthony Way	C3-D3
Arbor Way	F6
*Ardsley La	C2
Azalea La	P9-P10
Bancroft Rd	F2
Barbara's Way	B1-C1
Benjamin Dr	C8-D8
Berr Av	E6
Birch View Dr	D10
Blueberry Cir	F11
Boulder Ridge Dr	O9-P9
Bridge St	F8
Brittani's Way	B1-C1
Broad Brook Rd	A7
Brockway Rd	D8
Bronisz Dr	F4-G4
Brook Crossing	D10
Brookfield Dr	D8
Brookmeadow La	A2-B2
Buff Cap Rd	Q9
Burbank Rd	M8-M10
Cantor Knoll	C3-D3
Carolyn Cir	A1
Cedarwood Dr	E10
Cedar St	N10
Chapin Av	G3
Charter Rd	F2
Chase Hollow Rd	D2-E2
Cherrywood Dr	E10
Chestnut St	G2
Christopher Ct	E2
Church St	E6
Cider Mill Rd	G6-J6
Cider Mill Condos	F7
Cindy Rd	E8
Cliff St	G2
Cornfield La	F6
Country Farm La	D5
Courtney Dr	E2-E3
Cranberry La	F11
Crane Rd	A5
Crescent Cir	C1
Crystal St	O9
Crystal Ball Ct	N10
Crystal Lake Rd	G7-M8
Crystal Ridge Dr	P8-O9
Clydesdale Cir	G4-H4
Daisy La	B6
David Dr	F10
Davis Rd	G5
Deborah Dr	E10
*Deer Run	H6-H7
Deer Valley	D2
Deerfield La	D7
Dogwood La	F10
Eagle Dr	A3
East Cider Mill Rd	H6-J6
East Porter Rd	K10-L11
*East Shore Rd	O9-O10
Edgewood Rd	L11
Egypt Rd	F10
Elderberry La	F11
Elizabeth St	G2
Ellington Av	G2
Ellington Ridge Condos	C2
Ellsworth La	C8
Ellridge Pl	C3
Elm St	N10
Ertel Dr	F2
Esther Av	G2
Eva Cir	C1
Fairview Av	F2
Fairview Av Ext	F3
Fairway Dr	A3
Farmstead La	F2
Ferguson Way	N8
Field Dr	C1
Fieldstone Village	C2
Flanders La	A2-B2
Florence Av	F2
Foster Dr	G9
Forest Hill Rd	A2
*Forestview Cir	E2
Francis Av	G2
Franlee Dr	E9
Frog Hollow Rd	A5
Gabriel Dr	L8-M8
Gail Dr	G6
Gasek Farms Rd	C3
Gem Dr	C1
Geraldine Dr	F10
Geraldine Dr So	F10
Glenwood Rd	D6
Gloria La	F9
*Grand Blvd	D2-E2
Grant Rd	B1
Grassy Hill Rd	M9-M10
Green Rd	C8
Green St	O9
*Greencycle Dr	A10-B10
Griswold Rd	B10
*Hall Rd	O9
Hamilton Rd	D8
Hare Rd	H6
Harvest La	F6
Hatheway Rd	D7
Hayes Av	B1
Heather Rd	D5
Hemlock Trail	O10
High Ridge Rd	F2
Highland Av	F4
Highland Oak Dr	O9-P9
Hillsdale Dr	B1
Hillside Dr	F10
Hilltop Dr	G2
Hilltop Dr Ext	G2
Hoffman Rd	E8-G10
Holmes Rd	O10-O11
Hopkins Rd	G7
*Hotel Lake Rd	N10
*Hotel Rd	N10
Hubbard La	G8
Hughes Cir	F2
*Hunter's Run	L8-L9
Industrial Dr	F8-G8
Jacobs Hill Rd	R10
Jobs Hill Rd	E6
Joel Dr	E8
Jolly Rd	F5
Jonathan Dr	A1
Justin Dr	C5-D5
Katherine Way	E2
Keeney St	O9
Kenneth Dr	G9
Ketchbrook Ct	B2
Ketchbrook La	A2-B2
Kibbe Rd	G8
Kreyssig Rd	A10
Ladd Rd	Q9
*Lake La	O9
Lake St	O9
Lakeview Av	O9
Lanz La	E11
Laurel Rd	H7
Lee La	D7
Lewis Cir	F2
Linden Dr	G6
Longview St	G2
Lookout Landing	F11
Lord Rd	O8
Lower Butcher Rd	E2
Ludwig Rd	M8-M9
Lyons St	F2
Main St	E6-F5
Majus Cir	B1
*Manhattan Rd	N9-N10
*Manhattan Rd East 1	N9
*Manhattan Rd East 2	N9
*Manhattan Rd East 4	N9
*Manhattan Rd West 2	N9
*Manhattan Rd West 3	N9
Manning Av	G3
Maple St	E6-G7
Maplewood Dr	F10
*Maria Dr	G7
McKnight Cir	F2
Meadow Brook Rd	E7
Meagan Cir	D5
Middle Rd	A4
Middle Butcher Rd	F3
Miller La	F4
Minor Hill Rd	P10
Monticello Cir	C2-C3
Moser Dr	F2
Mountain Rd	F5-H4
Mountain St	H4-F3
*Mountainview Cir	D2-E2
Muddy Brook Rd	C8
Newell Hill Rd	M9
Nile Rd	F10
North Park St	G5
Nutmeg Dr	D2
Oak Hill Farms Rd	G4-H4
Oakwood Cir	F10
Old Country La	B2
Old Reeves Rd	A10
Old Sandy Beach Rd	P9
Olde Farms Rd	D5
Orchard St	F2-F3
Orchard Av	G2-G3
Overhill Rd	E10
Overlook Pass	F11
Patriot Cir	D7
Pease Farm Rd	F6-G5
Penfield Av	D1
Percheron Way	H4
*Pine Dr	G5
Pine St	N10
Pine Cone Rd	G9
Pine Ridge Dr	D8
Pinewood La	F10
Pinnacle Rd	G5
Pinney Rd	B2
Pinney St	C1-D6
Pioneer Dr	D7
Porter Rd	G9-J10
Portland Rd	O9
*Private Grounds 1	N10
*Private Grounds 2	N10
Punkin Dr	E8
Quarry St	H2
Quarter Horse Dr	G4-H4
Randy Rd	F8
Raspberry La	F11
Reds St	O9
Reeves Rd	A10-C11
Ridge Dr	H6
Ridgeview Dr	C3, D3
River Rd	T9-T10
Robinson Cir	B2
Rockland Dr	D7
Rosa Ct	G4
Rothe La	A2-B2
Ryan Dr	C5
Rye Field Rd	B6
1776 Townhouses	C2
Sadds Mill Rd	A10-E6
*San Aborn Rd	O10
Sandy Beach Rd	N9-R10
School House Rd	L10
*Setting Sun Trail	H5
Settler's Way	B2
Shenipsit St	H3
Shenipsit Forest Rd	G10-J12
Shepard Way	A2
Skinner Rd	N9,C1
Snipsic Lake Rd	G5
Snipsic Ter	H3
Snipsic View Hgts	H3
Somers Rd	F6-G12
South Rd	N9
Springwood La	F6
Sprucewood Dr	E10
Stafford Rd	M8-N10
Standish Rd	B3
Steeple View Dr	F6
Stein Rd	G4
Stony Brook Trail	L11
Strawberry Rd	G11
Sugar Hill Rd	N8
*Sullivan Rd	N10
*Summit Cir	E2
Sunset Rd	F5
Sweeny St	O9
Teaberry Ridge Rd	K8
Timber La	G9
Tolland Tpk	S9
Tomoka Av	D6
Tree Top Rd	G9-G10
Tripp Rd	A2
*Tyler Dr	H2
Upper Butcher Rd	G2
Victorian House	F2
View Point La	H4
Viewside Dr	F10
Village St	D2
Virginia Dr	G6
Walnut St	G2
Wapping Wood Rd	A1-C1
Webster Rd	K8-K10
Wells Rd	D8
Wendell Rd	N10
West Rd	F2-F5
West Shore Rd	N9-O10
Westland Rd	C1
Westview Ter	G3
Wheelock Rd	L9
White Rd	O9
*Willi La	F11-G10
Windermere Av	C2-D3
Windemere Village Rd	D2-E2
Windmill Rd	C8-D8
*Windsor Walk	C2
Windsorville Rd	B2
Woodbine St	G2
Woodland Trail	C2
Woodmar Cir	B1-C1
Woodside Dr	F10
Zimmerman Way	B6
* Private	

INFORMATION GUIDE

AREA

Ellington is located 17 miles northeast of Hartford with 34.8 square miles of area.

ALTITUDE

The altitude ranges from 200 feet to 950 feet above sea level. Most of the town is approximately 450 feet above sea level.

CLIMATE

The average temperatures in the town are 74 degrees during the summer months and 25 degrees during the winter months. Wind directions are south to southwest in the summer, and north to west in the winter.

POPULATION

The population of the town has remained moderately stable over the past ten years. According to Department of Public Health estimates, the population was approximately 16,585 in 2024.

GOVERNMENT

The Town has a Selectman form of government, which operates under a charter adopted in 1975. The Town Meeting serves as the legislative arm of the government. The Board of Finance recommends the annual budget to the Town Meeting for approval and sets the tax rate.

STREETS

The Town has 94 miles of municipally maintained roads. The State of Connecticut maintains 24.62 miles of state roads which intersect the town. These are Routes 140, 286, 83, 30, 32, and 74.

TAXES

During 2025-2026, the Town had a tax rate of 37.1 mills applied to the 2024 Grand List at 70% of Fair Market Value of real estate and personal property. The tax rate for motor vehicles was 32.46 mills.

SEWERS

The Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority manages two major sewer systems: Hockanum River and Crystal Lake. Approximately 90% of the commercially zoned land has direct access to the sewer system. Windermere Industrial Park has either direct or reasonable access to the sewer system.

WATER

The Town is serviced by CT Water Co. which have the capacity of accommodating approximately 70% of the commercial and industrial zoned land. Shenipsit Lake is the largest local water source which spans the borders of two adjoining towns. Crystal Lake is located in Ellington and stretches over an area of 175 acres. The Hockanum River runs north-south and is located in the southern part of town.

SCHOOLS

Ellington boasts an exceptional school system. Ellington Public Schools set a standard for high educational outcomes in Connecticut. During 2025-2026, the district enrolled 2,515 students across three elementary schools, one middle school, one high school, and alternative programs. Within a 20-mile radius, students can access multiple higher education institutions, including the University of Connecticut and the Connecticut State Community College system.

INCOME

The Median income per household was $125,216.

HOUSING

According to the 2020 US Census report, the number of households in the Town of Ellington is 7,336, with 636 condos including PUDs. There are 11 apartment complexes, one of which provides subsidized housing.

AIRPORT

The Town has a privately-owned airport that is centrally located to provide air carrier service to both New York and Boston. The airport can accommodate both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

RECREATION

The Town provides beach facilities at Crystal Lake during the summer months, and the State of Connecticut maintains a public boat launch at the lake. The Pavilion at Robert Tedford Memorial Park was completed in 1991, equipped with restrooms and a concession stand, and is available for local groups to reserve through the Parks and Recreation Office. In 2026, a newer playscape was reconstructed for elementary children at Robert Tedford Park. In 2012, four new tennis courts were completed at Schwartz Field next to Ellington High School. The Pinney Street fields, which include lacrosse and soccer fields, were constructed and completed in 2015. In 2023, two outdoor pickleball courts were constructed at Robert Tedford Memorial Park, and the Ellington High School track was resurfaced, ensuring safer and more efficient use for athletes. In 2024, we enhanced our recreational facilities by adding state-of-the art athletic field lights to every facility in town, improving usability during evening hours. Additionally, publicly, and ADA-accessible outdoor fitness equipment was installed at Arbor Park, promoting health and wellness for all community members. Arbor Park, located on Main Street, features a walking course, two gazebos, picnic, and chess tables. The Ellington Board of Selectmen has also formally established *Market Park*, which now serves as the home of the Town's popular weekly farmers market series. The Town also maintains athletic facilities at each school, Robert Tedford Memorial Park, and Pinney Street Fields, ensuring well-maintained playing fields for our community..

LOCAL BUSINESS

The Ellington business community is a blend of agriculture and small commercial and industrial enterprises. The local dairy industry continues to be a major producer of goods. The top industries in Ellington include Manufacturing, Specialty Trades, Health Care and Social Assistance, and Retail. The Ellington Farmers Market runs Saturdays from May – October, 9am -12pm at 72 Maple Street and the Winter Market typically runs on select dates November thru February at Ellington High School.

SENIOR CENTER

The Ellington Senior Center is located at 40 Maple Street. The hours are Monday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

ELLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
District School Calendar

First Day: August 27, 2026
180th Day: June 11, 2027

2026 – 2027

AUGUST 2026 (2)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

24-26 Prof. Development

SEPTEMBER 2026 (22)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11★	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

7 Labor Day
11 Half Day – PD
11 Rosh Hashanah

OCTOBER 2026 (20)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9★	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27≈	28≈	29≈	30±	31

9 Half Day – PD
12 Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day
19 Full Day – PD

NOVEMBER 2026 (18)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12•	13µ	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25★	26	27	28
29	30					

3 Election Day
3 Full Day – PD
26-27 Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER 2026 (14)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2◊	3◊	4◊	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18★	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

24-25 Christmas Break
21-31 Winter Vacation

JANUARY 2027 (18)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

1 New Year's Day
4 Full Day – PD
18 MLK Jr. Day

FEBRUARY 2027 (18)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12★	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Half Day – PD 12
President's Day (obs.) 15
Full Day – PD 16

MARCH 2027 (22)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3◊	4◊	5◊	6
7	8	9★	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18≈	19≈	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Eid al Fitr 9
Half Day – PD 9
Good Friday 26

APRIL 2027 (17)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9★	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Half Day – PD 9
Spring Break 12-16

MAY 2027 (20)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28★	29
30	31					

Half Day – PD 28
Memorial Day 31

JUNE 2027 (9)

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11★	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Projected Last Day* 11
EHS Graduation* 11

JULY 2027

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Ind. Day Observance 5-6

- Schools Closed
- Schools/District Closed
- Professional Development Days/Schools Closed

◊ Early Dismissal Day – Elementary
• Early Dismissal – EHS
≈ Early Dismissal – EMS
± Late Opening – EMS
µ Late Opening - EHS
★ Early Dismissal Day

SEE REVERSE FOR A LIST OF SCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSAL/LATE ARRIVAL DAYS, INCLUDING A LIST OF 2026-2027 HOLIDAYS AND CULTURAL OBSERVANCES

*EHS Graduation will take place on June 11, 2027. This graduation date will remain June 11, 2027 in the event school closings push back the 180th day. *The last day for students will be on June 11, 2027 *In the event of excessive snow days, a decision regarding April vacation will be made as early in March as possible.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

(Area Code 860)

IN AN EMERGENCY (POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE) DIAL 911

Non-Emergency Calls		
Ambulance	**Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps** *41 Maple Street, P.O. Box 71*	870-3170
Fire	**Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department** *316 Sandy Beach Road*	870-3174
	Ellington Volunteer Fire Department *29 Main Street, P.O. Box 911*	870-3190
Police	**Resident State Troopers' Office** *33 Arbor Way, P.O. Box 187*	875-1522
	State Police Troop C *1320 Tolland Stage Road, Tolland CT*	896-3200

Visit the website at ellington-ct.gov

Town Hall

Address: 55 Main Street, Ellington, CT 06029
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 187, Ellington, CT 06029

Town Hall Hours

Monday	8:00 am to 6:30 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Friday	*Closed*

**Public Works, Hall Memorial Library, and the Senior Center have different operating hours; check the website for details.*

ADMINISTRATION, 55 Main Street, P.O. Box 187	**870-3100**
Laurie Burstein, First Selectman	870-3102 (Fax)
Matthew Reed, Town Administrator	
Lori Caron, Human Resources Director	
Julia Merriam, Executive Assistant/Communication Coordinator	
Rebecca Einsiedel, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary	
ANIMAL CONTROL, 21 Main Street	**870-3155**
Barbara Murdach, Animal Control Officer	870-3554 (Fax)
ASSESSOR, 55 Main Street, P.O. Box 199	**870-3109**
Tyler Devine, Assessor	870-3197 (Fax)
Laura Plona, Deputy Assessor	
Holly Petronella, Administrative Assessment Technician	
BUILDING DEPARTMENT, 57 Main Street	**870-3124**
Raymond Martin, Building Official	870-3122 (Fax)
Ginger MacHattie, Administrative Secretary	
BURNING PERMITS, 57 Main Street	**870-3126**
CEMETERIES, Rachel Dearborn	875-8204
ELDERLY OUTREACH, 31 Arbor Way	**870-3131**
Stephen Clapp, Elderly Outreach/Social Worker	
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTOR, Craig Webb	**870-3100**
EMERGENCY & RISK MANAGER, Matthew Reed	**870-3100**
FINANCE, 55 Main Street	**870-3115**
Matt Evans, Finance Officer/Treasurer	870-3158 (Fax)
Felicia LaPlante, Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer	
Jacob Bundy, Staff Accountant	
Scott Naylor, Accounting & Payroll Specialist	
FIRE MARSHAL, 57 Main Street	**870-3126**
James York, Fire Marshal	870-3122 (Fax)
Sydney Kern, Deputy Fire Marshal	
HEALTH-North Central District Health Department	**745-0383**
Patricia (Patrice) Sulik, M.P.H., R.S. Director of Health	
HOUSING AUTHORITY, 20 Main Street, PO Box 416	**872-6923**
HUMAN SERVICES, 31 Arbor Way	**870-3128**
Rebecca Stack, Director	870-3198 (Fax)
Stephen Clapp, Elderly Outreach/Social Worker	
Kelly Luginbuhl, Human Services Assistant	
LIBRARY, HALL MEMORIAL 93 Main St, PO Box 280	**870-3160**
Susan Phillips, Director	870-3163 (Fax)
MUNICIPAL AGENT, 31 Arbor Way	**870-3128**
POLICE, 33 Arbor Way	**870-1698**
Sgt. Tim Merrill, Resident State Troopers' Office	870-3152 (Fax)
POST OFFICE, 6 Church Street	**875-6391**
PROBATE COURT, 14 Park Place, Vernon	**872-0519**
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, 21 Main Street	**870-3140**
Tom Modzelewski, Director & WPCA Administrator	870-3147 (Fax)
Taylor Olson, Foreman	
Carolyn Kidney, Administrative Assistant	
RECREATION, 31 Arbor Way	**870-3118**
Mary Bartley, Director	871-3198 (Fax)
Kevin Barrett, Assistant Director	
Robert Gorman, Recreation Program & Event Specialist	
Tina Modzelewski, Administrative Secretary	

Recycling and Refuse 870-3140
Samuel Saunders, Recycling & Refuse Manager
Department of Public Works

SCHOOLS **website: ellingtonschools.org**	
Dr. Sue Nash, Superintendent, 47 Main Street	**896-2300**
Tracey Deptula, Assistant to the Superintendent	896-2312 (Fax)
Julie Warren, Human Resources Coordinator	896-2300
Special Education Services	896-2300
Center School (Michael Verderame, Principal)	896-2315
Crystal Lake School (John Powell, Principal)	896-2322
Ellington High School (Jon Mitchell, Principal)	896-2352
High School Guidance Office	896-2357
Ellington Middle School (Michele Murray and Michael Nash, Principals)	896-2339
Windermere School (Jennifer Hill, Principal)	896-2329
SENIOR CENTER, 40 Maple Street	**870-3133**
Sheila Grady, Director	870-3136 (Fax)
Samantha Baer, Assistant Director	
Erica Botti, Administrative Secretary	
Transportation	870-3133
SEWER ADMINISTRATION & MAINTENANCE	**870-3140**
Tom Modzelewski, Director & WPCA Administrator	
Emergency Sewer Maintenance Number	870-3145
STATE ROADS	
East Windsor DOT Garage	623-4473
Vernon DOT Garage	875-4993
TAX DEPARTMENT, 55 Main Street, P.O. Box 158	**870-3113**
Carolina Feliz, Tax and Revenue Collector	870-3704 (Fax)
Jennifer Bourque, Deputy Tax and Revenue Collector	
Tax Clerk	
TOWN CLERK/VITAL STATISTICS, 55 Main Street	**870-3105**
Donna G. Hosey, Town Clerk	870-3721 (Fax)
Margaret Schmidt, Assistant Town Clerk	
TOWN PLANNER, 57 Main Street	**870-3120**
Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner	870-3122 (Fax)
John Colonese, Assistant Town Planner	
Barbra Galovich, Land Use Assistant	
TREE WARDEN, 21 Main Street	**870-3140**
Tom Modzelewski, Tree Warden	
VETERANS' REPRESENTATIVE	**870-3128**
Rebecca Stack	870-3198 (Fax)
VOTING, (Registrars of Voters) 55 Main Street	**870-3107**
Lois Timms-Ferrara, Democrat, Registrar of Voters	870-3108 (Fax)
Wanda DeLand, Republican, Registrar of Voters	
YOUTH SERVICES, 31 Arbor Way	**870-3130**
Kristen Harp, Youth Services Director	870-3198 (Fax)
Olivia Catlett, Assistant Youth Services Director	
Marque Mercure, Program & Prevention Coordinator	
Sarah Blais, Program Specialist	
ZONING/WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT, 57 Main St.	870-3120
John Colonese, Zoning/Wetlands Enforcement Off.	870-3122 (Fax)

Trash or Bulky Waste Pickup Information
call **All American Waste (860) 289-7850**
Household Hazardous Waste call **CREOC (203) 747-4494**

www.Ellington-ct.gov **townofellington** **@townofellington** **townofellington**