



COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

May 2023 Newsletter

www.meridencon.wordpress.com

Activities in May

Thurs 4 th : North Meriden City Park	7pm St Peter and Paul Church
Sat 6 th FREE Bulky Disposal Waste Day	7am-Noon Transfer Station Evansville Ave
Sun 14 th HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!	
Tues 16: Meriden Senior Ctr Building Committee Mtg/Update	6:00pm Edison Middle School
Wed 17 th Dutch Hill ECHO Lower Eastside Veterans Hillside Gardens	6:30pm First Baptist Church
Thurs 18 th Action 13 Westiders Lewis Ave	6:30pm Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sat 20 th : Mayors Clean Up Day	9am Meriden Green
Thurs 25 th : South Meriden Glen Hills Crown Village Stage Coach Riders	6:30pm Tom's Place
Mon 29 th Meriden's Memorial Day Parade	10am Curtis St-Broad St-E Main St-Meriden Green

Meriden Police Dept Tip Lines

If you have any information or tips regarding crime, narcotics, or shootings you can report them anonymously to the Meriden Police Department by either calling or emailing the following:

Major Crime Tips: Telephone (203) 630-6253 Email: mpdtips@meridenct.gov

Narcotic Tips: Telephone (203) 630-6273 Email: m narcoticsunit@meridenct.gov

Meriden's FREE Bulky Waste Disposal Day: Sat May 6th 7am-12pm

FREE Bulky Waste Disposal Day at the Transfer Station on Evansville Ave. Take advantage of this event to get rid of bulky waste items in your home. The event is for Meriden residents only. ID/proof of residency will be required. For a full list of accepted items please visit city's website and view the public works/transfer station page. For any questions or further information please call 203-630-4018 or email: publicworks@meridenct.gov

Mayor's Clean Up Day: Sat May 20th

Mayor Scarpati in partnership with the Council of Neighborhoods and Ball Headz will be having the annual Clean Up Day on Saturday May 20th 9am to Noon at the Meriden Green. Volunteers are needed! Be a part of the community of fellow volunteers to help clean up neighborhoods across the City! For more information, please contact Rob Kosienki at 203-639-6595 or email rkosienki@meridenct.gov.

City of Meriden's Memorial Day Parade: Mon May 29th

Meriden's Memorial Parade will take place on Monday May 29th at 10am. The parade will be starting from Curtis St to Broad St to East Main St to the Meriden Green. There will be a ceremony at the Green at the conclusion of the parade. If there are any organizations that would like to participate in the parade are asked to call City Councilor Bob Williams at (203) 641-4622.

Meriden Police Dept: Calls for Service & Interactive Reports

The Meriden Police Dept is offering a new tool to keep residents apprised of the Department's activities including the calls for service the police department responds to daily. The department is rolling out the first of the interactive reports which will be accessible on the City of Meriden website at:

www.meridenct.gov/city-services/police/interactive-reports

It will be announced as new reports are released and become available on the site.

Reporting of Bulky Waste and Graffiti

If you see any bulky waste or graffiti in the neighborhood please report it by completing a Citizen Service Request form on the City of Meriden's website. The form is very easy to fill out and only takes a few minutes to complete and submit to the city. Please improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods and help keep our neighborhoods clean by reporting these matters to the city.

Reporting Potholes on City's streets

Potholes originate by freezing and thawing of the roads. If rain, sleet, or snow fall into cracks in the roads it will also freeze and expand disturbing the road's bottom layers causing the potholes to form. If you see any potholes as you are driving you can report them by completing a Citizen Service Request form on the City of Meriden's website.

Meriden Little Free Libraries

Meriden Little Free Libraries is gearing up for a fabulous summer season of reading and fun! Several fun activities and giveaways are in the works to have adults and children visit any one or more of the 25 Libraries located throughout Meriden. (Check out our Facebook page for an updated list of Libraries near you!) These Libraries were created to encourage everyone, young and old alike, to have easy and local access to books, especially throughout the summer months. Feel free to add books to any one of the Libraries as there is always a need for books. Now us a great time to go through your collection and donate to the Libraries, just in time for warmer weather when people are out and about. There is also the little free puzzle library which is located near the entrance to the kids playground at Hubbard Park. Feel free to stop by and take a puzzle or return a puzzle, as it's one of our most frequented libraries. For more information and updates please visit Meriden Little Free Libraries on Facebook.

South Meriden Community Garden

South Meriden Residents will have another year community gardening located at Veterans' Park on Main Street. There will be twelve 10' x 5' plots available on a first come, first serve basis. Additional space will be used to grow food for the community. Please note that the water supply is limited and you may be required to bring your own. If you are interested in growing your own fruits and veggies this year, please email joanne.grabinski@gmail.com for an application, with Garden Application in the subject line. This garden is sponsored and organized by South Meriden Festivals Inc.



News from the Meriden Department of Health and Human Services – May 2023

165 Miller Street * 203-630-4226 * www.meridenhealth.com

COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Ended April 10, 2023

On Monday, April 10, 2023, the President signed into law H.J. Res. 7, which terminates the national emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here is how this will affect our local COVID-19 response:

- Contact Tracing will be ending May 27, 2023. Staff will still investigate clusters and outbreaks of COVID-19 in our community, and will continue to provide isolation guidance to those individuals and organizations that call our office.
- Homebound vaccination services through Community Health Center, Inc. will be ending June 30, 2023.
- Griffin Van mobile vaccination clinics will end June 30, 2023.
- Our office will have very limited COVID-19 home test kits available. They will be available by request - call 203-630-4221.
- Starting June 30, 2023, schools will no longer need to report positive tests to the State Department of Education. Therefore, this section of the report will not be updated after June 30.
- Starting June 1, 2023, CT Dept. of Public Health will stop issuing daily reports and the extended weekly data report via the open data portal; they will also archive underlying data tables. We will still have access to data and will report out via this newsletter and at <https://www.meridenct.gov/covid-19-information/>

CT Food Share Mobile Pantry

The CT Food Share Mobile Pantry in partnership with New Opportunities of Greater Meriden will be in the parking lot on the corners of Center and Miller Streets (next to our building) every other Thursday 1:00 – 2:00 PM. In May, the Mobile Food Pantry will be there on May 11 and May 25.

Public Health Education

Virtual Narcan Training

YOU can save a life and reverse an opioid overdose by administering Narcan. Please join us in partnership with Rushford for our monthly virtual Community Narcan Training! Trainings in 2023 will be offered on:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • May 2, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM | • September 6, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM |
| • June 7, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM | • October 4, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM |
| • July 5, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM | • November 1, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM |
| • August 2, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM | • December 6, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM |

Participants will receive a Narcan kit, CPR face shield, medication disposal bag, medication lock box, and more! Please register for this training by emailing Elizabeth DeMerchant at edemerchant@meridenct.gov or calling (203) 630-4288.

In-Person QPR Suicide Prevention Training In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, join the Meriden Department of Health and Human Services on Friday, May 19, 2023 from 10:00 – 11:00 AM for an in-person suicide prevention training where you will learn:

- How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis.
- How to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

The training will be held at 165 Miller Street on the 2nd floor in the Teen Conference Room. Space is limited so registration is **REQUIRED**. For more information and to register please contact: Elizabeth DeMerchant, Public Health Educator at edemerchant@meridenct.gov or (203) 630-4288.

In Honor of Mental Health Awareness Month...

FREE In-Person QPR Suicide Prevention Training

Friday, May 19, 2023
10:00 – 11:00 AM

Meriden Health Department
165 Miller Street
2nd Floor - Teen Conference Room



What You'll Learn:

- How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis.
- How to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

Participants will receive a certification as a QPR Gatekeeper upon completing the training.

Space is limited, so registration is **REQUIRED**.
For more information and to register please contact:
Elizabeth DeMerchant, Public Health Educator
edemerchant@meridenct.gov or (203) 630-4288



Meriden Senior Center

Renters' Rebate Program

The City of Meriden is accepting applications for the Renters' Rebate program now through September 29, 2023. This program is for Connecticut Renters who are elderly or disabled, and whose income does not exceed certain limits, income has to be under \$40,300 for a single person and under \$49,100 for a married couple. Person renting an apartment or room, or living in cooperative housing or mobile homes may be eligible for this program.

Recipient or spouse must be 65 years of age or older, or be 50 years of age or older and the surviving spouse of a renter who at the time of the renter's death had qualified and was entitled to tax relief provided such spouse was domiciled with such renter at the time of the renters' death, or 18 years of age or older and eligible to receive Social Security Disability benefits. Must meet a one-year state residency requirement. If legally married you must file the application together and bring all documentation for both even if you live in separate households. Rebates may be up to \$900 for married couples or \$700 for single persons depending on income and expenses.

Appointments can be made by calling (203) 630-4708.

Meriden Senior Center Building Committee Meeting

The public is invited to hear an update from the Senior Center Building Committee on Tuesday, May 16 at 6:00 PM at Edison Middle School (1355 North Broad Street). Potential site drawings and site evaluation results will be shared by EDM, the architect and design firm working with the City on this project.



Meriden Senior Center Building Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

6:00 PM

Edison Middle School

1355 North Broad Street

The public is invited to hear an update from the Senior Center Building Committee.

Potential site drawings and site evaluation results will be shared by EDM, the architect and design firm working with the City on this project.



Environmental Health

Storm Drains: Where Does the Water Go?

Do you know that difference between a "storm drain" and a "sewer drain"? Most people don't realize that these are two separate systems. The sewer drain carries sewage waste from your house and is processed and treated at the Meriden Water Pollution Control Facility. The large circular plates you see in the middle of the street are actually manhole covers for the sewer lines.

Storm drains or catch basins are the open or grated drains you see at the sides of the road by the curb. These drains collect all the water run-off from street to help in flood control. The big difference between these systems is that this water is NOT processed or treated. Storm water goes directly to streams, brooks and rivers. Some of these water sources are actually part of the public drinking water system.

Many people ask, "So why put a storm drain in areas that have the potential to directly pollute our water ways". The answer is that storm drains are designed to reduce the potential for road flooding, including parking lots and highways. It is the responsibility of all residents to protect the water, both drinking and recreational.



How do we do this? Simple: Don't put anything directly into the storm drains that could pollute the water. Some examples include waste oil or other auto fluids generated from routine car maintenance, leaves that you remove from your property, litter and dog feces. These items are also called "non-point source pollution".

So what do you do with your auto fluids, leaves and dog feces? Auto fluids and yard waste should be properly recycled, contact Meriden Public Works Dept. (203-630-4018) concerning the location and operation times of hazardous waste recycle centers for auto fluids and our transfer station for leaves. Dog feces should be bagged and placed with your normal household garbage. Teach young children not to throw gum wrappers or other litter into the street.

What should you do if you see someone dumping in a catch basin? First, try to educate the person; maybe they don't realize that they are polluting the water. Also, you can contact the Meriden Health and Human Services Department (203) 630-4282 so that we may educate the person dumping. If the person continues to dump, they may face legal action. You should also contact Meriden Public Works Department if you notice a catch basin in need of cleaning.

Safe and clean water is everyone's responsibility.