The Town Hall is open to the public with safety procedures in place. Masks are required. Please be patient and respectful while we keep residents and staff safe. I encourage you to do your Town Hall business by mail or virtually. Many services can be done online, by phone, fax, or email.

COVID-19 UPDATE

There have been 51 (33 female, 18 male) confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Essex and 8 fatalities since the beginning of the pandemic. Click Here

Data on nursing homes in CT as of July 7, 2020

The State of Connecticut has released a comprehensive plan that will serve as a roadmap for districts as they plan to reopen schools this fall. Click Here

Connecticut Travel Advisory in Effect

How to get tested for COVID-19 FAQs


TOWN OF ESSEX SURVEY

The Town of Essex developed a survey to better understand how to assist residents during the COVID-19 health pandemic.

Please submit ONLY one survey per household.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GR83632

Your feedback is very important.

Thank you for participating in our survey,

Norm

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS WENT OUT

By now, you should have received your absentee ballot application, mailed by the Secretary of the State's office so all eligible Connecticut voters (those registered as Republican or Democrat) can vote safely in the August 11 primary. It's very simple -- check off the "Covid-19" reason at the top, unless one of the other reasons pertains to you.
You'll need to mail the application back in order to receive the actual absentee ballot itself, which will be mailed to you later. No stamp is needed. Remember, this ballot is for the primary only. You will need a different ballot for the November presidential (general) election.

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STATE OFFICIALS Warn Residents to Be Aware of Hurricane Season and Natural Disaster Related Scams Over This Summer

July 15, 2020 (Hartford, CT)- The Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, The Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) and Better Business Bureau Serving Connecticut are advising consumers and families to remain aware of disaster related scams as we enter the height of Connecticut’s traditional Hurricane Season (August-November).

Warmer weather brings increased potential for flooding, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and tropical storm or hurricane activity that can cause damage to personal property, homes and business. Storm damage often requires consumers and business owners to make expensive repairs quickly - making them vulnerable to scam artists.

Before hurricane season starts - we’re urging all Connecticut residents to be aware of these types of scams:

- **Clean up and Repair Scams**: Scammers often offer cleanup or repair services at a low price you’re willing to pay upfront, and get the work done without a contract. By law, home owners must have work completed by contractors who are licensed by the state. If the work is not done properly, the homeowner cannot sue the contractor for work done that is not up to par. Be wary of anyone who offers to do the work for a lump sum or low price, unless the contractor has a reputation for doing good work. If you’re still not sure, ask to see permits and witnesses to make sure repairs are being done properly.

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APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

You are requesting this application for an absentee ballot because, due to COVID-19, the Secretary of the State has not sent an application to every eligible voter in the state. Pursuant to Executive Order No. QQ, COVID-19 may be used as a valid reason for requesting a ballot.

Section I - Applicant's Information

Name:________________________ Date of Birth:________________________

Home Address: ______________________ Zip Code: ______________________

Telephone No.: ______________________ Email Address:____________________

Mailing Address: ______________________

(Used only if the mailing address is different from the address above.)

Date of Primary: AUGUST 11, 2020 Republican___ Democratic___

Section II - Statement of Applicant

I, the undersigned applicant, believe that I am eligible to vote at the primary indicated above. Pursuant to Executive Order No. QQ, I expect to be unable to appear at the polling place during the hours of voting and hereby apply for an absentee ballot (check only one)

COVID-19 - All voters are able to check this box, pursuant to Executive Order QQ
don't click.

1) I'm active service in the Armed Forces of the United States

2) I'm absent from the state during all of the hours of voting

3) I'm ill

4) I'm religious duties forbid secular activity on the day of the election, primary or referendum

5) I'm absent as a primary, election or referendum official at a polling place other than my own during all of the hours of voting

6) My physical disability

Section III - Applicant's Declaration

Under the penalties of false statement in absentee ballots, that the above statements are true and correct, and that I am the applicant named above. (Sign your name, not just initials. You and the person witnessing your signature are subject to the same penalties.)

Signature of Applicant:________________________ Date Signed:________________________

Section IV - Declaration of person providing assistance

I sign this application under penalties of false statement in an absentee ballot.

Signature:________________________ Printed Name:________________________ Tel. No.:________________________

Residence Address: ______________________

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Connecticut law allows you to receive an absentee ballot if you cannot appear at your assigned polling place on primary day because of active service in the military, absence from the town during all of the hours of voting, illness, religious duties forbidden secular activity on the day of the primary, duties as a primary official at a polling place other than your own during all of the hours of voting, or physical disability. The State of Connecticut, via Executive Order QQ, as interpreted by the Secretary of the State pursuant to CDS 6-9, has determined that having a pre-existing illness allows you to vote by absentee ballot because you are pre-existing illness would prevent you from appearing at your designated polling place or that absent a whole available vaccine, the existence of the COVID-19 virus allows you to vote by absentee ballot if you so choose for your own safety. To receive your absentee ballot please complete and sign this application; be sure to check "Illness" for reason (1) or "COVID-19" for reason (2) above and return it to your Town Clerk using the enclosed postage prepaid envelope. Your absentee ballot will be mailed to you. If you do not receive your absentee ballot within one week contact your local Town Clerk's office.
Improvement projects must have a contract. It's important to take a little time, and research potential contractors before making a decision. You should ask for credential information, identification, proof of insurance, and make sure there is a written signed contract detailing the work that will be done. You can verify credentials by visiting http://www.elicense.ct.gov.

- **Charity Scams:** In the aftermath of large natural disasters you may want to donate money to support the recovery process. Scammers take advantage of our good nature - and will create fake charities and advertise them to potential donors. Always research a charity before giving by visiting sites like www.CharityNavigator.org, www.GuideStar.org, or www.give.org, and ask questions about how your donation will be used. Any charity soliciting in the State of Connecticut must be registered with DCP.

- **Job Scams:** Natural disasters sometimes cause unemployment, and job scams can become more common. These scammers can be very convincing and often advertise on legitimate platforms. Remember that you should never have to pay to apply for a job, or to start a job - and if a job posting guarantees employment, you should be suspicious.

- **Used Car Scams:** During hurricanes and severe storms, vehicles can be destroyed or have severe water damage. Scammers may try to cover up this damage and sell these cars out of state. Be wary of buying used cars after natural disasters, and always do a thorough inspection and ask for the cars history.

"With one named tropical storm having already impacted Connecticut this season, now is the time to prepare and learn about different types of scams associated with storms and disasters", said Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Commissioner James Rovella. "Remain vigilant and contact the appropriate officials if you suspect fraud or something raises a red flag."

"Scam artists take advantage of us when we're most vulnerable, and need support most," said Consumer Protection Commissioner Michelle H. Seagull, "That's why during challenging times, it's more important than ever to do your research, and follow your instincts. Remember that if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is, and spending a little bit of extra time doing research can save you time and money in the long run."

"Unfortunately, natural disasters are a popular trigger for many different scams," said BBB Connecticut CEO Paulette Scarpetti, "Scammers always seize an opportunity to take advantage of people when they are desperate and in need of help. If you've been the victim of a natural disaster and want to avoid scams, take a moment to do your homework before you pay or hire anyone. If you want to help victims of a natural disaster, always give wisely and visit give.org to find a trustworthy charity."

If you believe you have fallen victim to a scam, or if you notice a scam, you should report it to DCP by visiting www.ct.gov/DCP/complaint or to the Better Business Bureau's Scamtracker at www.bbb.org/scamtracker

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LATEST COVID-19 FACTS

- COVID-19 Testing Sites Locator
- COVID-19 Self Checker
- Center for Disease Control
- State of CT Coronavirus Information
- Governor Lamont Frequently Asked Questions
- Emergency Orders Issued by Governor Lamont

Have more questions about Coronavirus?

Ask the CT Virtual Assistant now:
(833) 250-7633

Or call the 2-1-1 Connecticut Hotline
- For guests who are deaf or hard of hearing, relay services are available at 7-1-1
- Out of state? Use our toll-free number: 1-800-203-1234

The CT Virtual Assistant and 2-1-1 info hotline are available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

*These services are for general questions about COVID-19. If you’re experiencing symptoms, contact your medical provider.*

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**Sign up for Safer Essex Emergency Alerts**

Receive alerts about critical community information directly to your cell phone or email. Go to [www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov) and search "Safer Essex" or call 860-760-4340 x112.

**Sign up for Essex News**

Encourage your friends and neighbors to receive this newsletter. [CLICK HERE](http://www.essexct.gov) to subscribe!

**Sign up for Weekly Check-In Call**

Residents age 62+ are encouraged to sign up for a weekly check-in call from a volunteer. Please call Essex Social Services Department at 860-767-4340 x201.