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This Week at Giants Neck Beach

November 4, 2024

Upcoming Meetings/Events

The BOG will meet on November 6, 6:30 pm, at the Clubhouse. The agenda is [here](#).

Giants Neck Beach - A Natural Beauty!

The leaves are falling all around us—they are so pretty at this time of year. But with the drought we are experiencing, we know we should clean up the leaves, as they are a fire risk, and there are fires all over town. It's time to prepare our yards and gardens for winter.

Usually, I leave the leaves in place in my garden beds. So many animals rely on their cover or look like leaves as they lay there. Without inspecting them closely, you may mistake them for leaves. Leaves also provide shelter for hibernating insects that are pollinators like bumblebees, moths, and butterflies—and those lightning bugs.



Many people, realizing that some of their grass needs nutrients from mulched leaves, use the mulching feature found on lawnmowers to help feed their lawns in the fall. This saves on the required fertilizer and results in cost savings.

How do we keep our common spaces owned by GNIC healthy and looking great? As we rake up our lawns, some may be tempted to dispose of the leaves near our two ponds (on GNIC property). **Please stop** before you do and read further, you may be surprised to learn that leaf litter contributes a significant amount of phosphorus to stormwater. This rainwater flows into our lakes and causes eutrophication (the depletion of oxygen in water), resulting in the death of aquatic animals, such as fish in our ponds and anything else that needs oxygen in the pond water.



Our own GNB ordinances state, "SECTION 2. All garbage, as defined in Section 1.a., must be placed in containers provided or authorized by the Town of East Lyme, and all recycled items shall be managed according to East Lyme Rules and Regulations. All trimmings and brushes are to be disposed of by removal or placement in compost piles, which shall cover no more than twenty-five square feet, shall be no more than three feet high, and shall be appropriately screened from neighboring properties.

Trimming, brush, and lawn cuttings may not under any circumstances be deposited upon any property owned or leased by GNBA or Giants Neck Improvement Club ("GNIC") or upon any beach or in any pond, stream, or other body of water within the territorial limits of the Association, including the Long Island Sound."

East Lyme provides curbside leaf collection during the fall and posts the date in mid-October on its website. In 2024, the Department will begin its curbside collection on Monday, October 28, and continue the collection through Friday, December 6, 2024, unless winter weather stops it earlier. According to the town website:



Curbside Collection General Information

Leaves must be in standard paper yard bags. No plastic bags.

Bags must be placed at the curb, not on the roadway.

Please complete the Curbside Leaf Collection form.

(<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=CvNZwuBiyky8-VyVjHRBFtPDLKO9qzpHv57n-bPvMA9URFJSTko1NThYVzVBRzY5SVo3R0FSVINGWi4u&origin=IprLink&route=shorturl>)

They will collect the bags on your regular trash collection day after receipt of your request.

Requests must be sent to them 24 hours before your regular garbage day. If you have a Monday collection day, they must be submitted by Friday at 10:00

AM to ensure that the field crew picks up your location that day.

Residents can also bring their leaves to the Transfer Station for free. It is open today (Monday) for hours it is not usually open, so it is not a fire risk around town.

Get out and enjoy our beautiful natural Giants Neck Beach! And remember to be kind to nature and everyone you meet! We all can play a part in making this world a better place!

~Lisa

EAST LYME FIRE MARSHAL'S BUREAU

URGENT FIRE SAFETY NOTICE

FRIDAY, 11/1/2024

DUE TO THE EXTREME FIRE DANGER, THE TOWN OF EAST LYME TRANSFER STATION WILL OFFER EXTENDED HOURS THIS WEEKEND TO HELP RESIDENTS SAFELY CLEAR LEAVES AND BRUSH FROM THEIR PROPERTIES.

17 EXTENDED HOURS ARE:

- Saturday 11/2 open until 4pm- (normally 3pm)**
- Sunday 11/3- 8-12 (normally closed)**
- Monday 11/4 8-12 (normally closed)**

- ♣ Dispose of dry leaves and branches SAFELY
- 🔥 Help protect our community from wildfire risk
- ⚠ Take advantage of these special hours to clear your property

Questions? Contact the Public Works Dept. at:
PublicWorks@eltownhall.com

TOWN OF EAST LYME PUBLIC WORKS

TOWN OF EAST LYME EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

visit us on the web

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Our mailing address is:

P.O. Box 226 Niantic, Connecticut 06357-0026

Our private Facebook group is:



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