



Use Water Wisely

Conserving water is easy once you get in the habit.

Here are some easy tips for everyone in your home to save water.

- Reduce running water use. Don't run water while brushing your teeth, or shaving. Keep drinking water in your fridge so you don't have to run water to get it cold to drink. Rinse dishes with water in the sink or in a pan, rather than with running water.
 - Thaw food in the microwave, or the fridge, not with running water.
 - Run your dishwasher when it's full, not with a partial load. You'll save water and electricity.
 - Lawn watering should be done no more than once per week. An hour of watering delivers the right amount of water to your lawn so that it grows deeper roots and can tolerate longer periods without water. If you keep your grass a bit longer, it won't dry out as fast.
 - Consider washing your car with buckets of water, rather than a running hose.
 - Fix any and all leaks! Check under sinks, faucets, toilets and outdoor taps for leaks.
 - Install a rain barrel to collect water from your downspout. Use the water for your garden.
 - Plant drought-tolerant ornamental grasses, groundcover or shrubs where your property gets a lot of sun. Mulch your gardens to keep moisture in the soil.
- Flushing the toilet is one of the biggest uses of water in the home. Don't flush just to get rid of bugs or trash.
 - A 10-minute shower uses about 25 gallons. If you take a daily shower, and were to shorten it to 5 minutes, that would save over 85 gallons of water each week.
 - Use the right amount of water when you wash clothes. Adjust the load setting for the amount of clothes, or run it when you have a full load only.



Keep it Clean

You can help reduce pollution in our water systems with these tips.

- Restrict your use of lawn chemicals. Run-off from your lawn can enter the storm drain and can pollute our rivers.
- Do not pour motor oil, or paint down the drain. Latex paint can be disposed of in the trash after it has dried in the can.
- Dispose of pet waste properly so it does not wash into the storm drain.
- Report any suspected pollution activities you see at commercial and industrial sites, or by anyone in or around the reservoirs.

Additional tips and information are available at:

Connecticut Department of Environment Protection
860-424-3000 www.epa.gov/water/states/CT/

Connecticut Department of Public Health
Drinking Water Division: 860-509-7333
www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/DWD.htm

US Environmental Protection Agency
Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline: 800-426-4791
www.epa.gov/owm/landtips.htm

Communitycalendar

NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES

SEPTEMBER

The Smartest Card
Get it. Use it.
@your library

What other card in your wallet gives you free access to books and CDs, magazines and movies and all sorts of other resources that can change your life – or just make it a little more fun?

Otis Library will join public libraries across the country to promote 'library card sign-up month' this September. Initiated by the Public Library Association (part of

the American Library Association), the annual campaign will feature special events such as Family Fun Day at Mohegan Park (Sept. 18) and Banned Books Week – Celebrating Freedom to Read (Sept. 24 – Oct. 1).

Public libraries are partners for a vibrant and educated community. They are essential for a free people, and places of opportunity for all. Why not stop by the Otis Library at 2-6 Cliff Street to get your library card. For more information, you can call 860-889-2365 or see the library's web site at www.otislibrarynorwich.org. And don't forget that a library card is the most important school supply of all!

September

September 8, 9 & 10

Grecian Festival: Enjoy the foods and music of the Greek American Community in Norwich at their 30th annual festival featuring fresh baked goods, gyro booth and traditional meals. 11 am-9 pm daily. Contact Father Paul at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church at 887-1458.

September 17

UCFS Family Fun Fest: Celebrate United Community & Family Services 27th year at this fair featuring activities for kids and their families. Snacks, crafts, face painting, balloons, health checks and family safety info. Call Cindy Brown at UCF at 889-2375 for more information.

September 17 & 18

Thames Valley 8th Annual Gem & Mineral Show: Featuring mineral displays, silent auction, and jewelry making from 16-plus dealers. A unique

opportunity for holiday gifts or have an item wire-wrapped into a piece of jewelry. Event held at Norwich Tech School at 590 New London Tpke. Sat. 10am-6pm and Sun. 10 am-5pm. Contact Al Peret at 889-2803 or Andrey Shashok at 823-1717.

September 18

Family Fun Day: Share your family with your community! Food, fun and games for all including "Harry O Youth Race". Join the fun from 11 am-4pm at Mohegan Park. For more information all Sherry Filiatreault at 823-3782.

September 22

Wine & Roses: Annual Wine Tasting Benefit for the Tommy Toy Fund held under the tent at the Marina at American Wharf. Enjoy fine wine, entertainment and hors d'oeuvres from 5:30-8:00pm. Call Cathy Cline at 887-9211 for more information.

TASTE OF ITALY

This year marks the 14th Annual Taste of Italy, to be held on Saturday September 10th at the Howard Brown Park.

It all began in 1991 when a group of Italian-American leaders within the Norwich community decided to hold an old-fashioned Italian-style family get-together to celebrate *Christoforo Colombo's* discovery of America. They decided to invite the whole community!

Their group evolved into the Italian Heritage and Cultural Committee, and the event has become one the most popular festivals in Norwich.

This year's event will feature a juried arts and craft show, along with lots of free entertainment including the Luis Pabon dancers, strolling musicians and a live band. In true Italian tradition there will be plenty of food with over 21 food vendors offering items for sale from stromboli to tiramisu. In addition to the cooking tent, an additional dining tent offers patrons a place to sit and enjoy the food and entertainment. And don't forget the fireworks display at 9 pm. What better way to spend an early fall day with the family then at this year's annual **Taste of Italy**.

S.P.R.O.U.T.S. – SPECIAL PEOPLE REACHING OUT UNCONDITIONALLY TO STUDENTS

Interested in mentoring a child for the upcoming school year?

The SPROUTS program is a partnership of the Greater Norwich Community Leadership Team and Norwich Public Schools, along with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Beneficial to children in the program and to their mentors, this is a terrific way to get involved with your community. Contact Debbie Kievits or Sherry Filiatreault at 823-3782 ext. 26 for more information.

september

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6 City Council Meeting	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	*27	28	29	30	

* NPU Board of Commissioners' Meetings



Here to Serve You

Visit a special link on our web site for more information:
www.norwichpublicutilities.com/communitymatters

Please call, fax or email us your questions, comments and suggestions.

Norwich Public Utilities, 173 North Main Street Norwich CT 06360

Tel: 860-887-2555 Fax: 860-823-4172 Email: communitymatters@npumail.com

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