



BRIGHTON

SPRING 2025 TOWN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN BOARD: William W. Moehle, *Supervisor*

Christopher K. Werner • Robin R. Wilt

Christine E. Corrado • Nathaniel V. Salzman

TOWN CLERK: Daniel E. Aman



Supervisor's Message

William W. Moehle,
Town Supervisor



As most of you know, we have begun the renovation of the Brighton Town Hall. We are replacing the obsolete HVAC system with a new sustainable geothermal system. As part of that project, we will also be renovating and modernizing the interior of the building, making Town Hall more accessible with new ramps at the front entrance, adding technology and security improvements to the building, and building a small expansion in the rear of Town Hall for our building maintenance activities. The project has required significant asbestos abatement work to ensure the safety of employees and residents using Town Hall. The geothermal installation requires not only interior work but also drilling approximately 15 dry wells, primarily in the rear parking area. After the wells have been completed, we will be repaving and reconfiguring the Town Hall parking lot, with a goal of calming traffic and improving pedestrian safety. We will also improve drainage on the site, to avoid recent problems with pavement deterioration.

Most Town Hall activities have been relocated to SUNY Empire State University, at 680 Westfall Road. We expect to remain at ESU through the latter part of 2026, as the Town Hall renovation project continues. The Library, Court and Police Department will remain at Town Hall and will not be materially affected by the renovation project.

The Townwide revaluation project is now well under way. During a Townwide revaluation, all properties in Brighton, including residential, commercial and other miscellaneous properties, are reviewed to assess them at their fair market value. The goal of a revaluation is not to raise property taxes; rather it is to make sure that everyone pays only their fair share. By now, you should have received your initial notice of the fair market value of your home or other property and had an opportunity to informally review the new assessment with representatives of the Town Assessor's office. If you were not satisfied with the results of the informal review of your assessment, or if you did not pursue informal review, you will still have two more opportunities to appeal your assessment. From May 1 through May 27, you can file a formal grievance. Your grievance will be heard by the Board of Assessment Review. Information and forms for the grievance process are available on the Town's webpage at www.townofbrighton.org. If you file a formal grievance but you are dissatisfied by the result, you can file a Small Claims Assessment Review petition. If you have questions about the revaluation, check out the Town Assessor's webpage or call the Assessor's office at 784-5215.

Along with over 900 towns in the State of New York, Brighton is a member of the New York Association of Towns ("NYAOT"). NYAOT serves as an advocate for Towns across New York State in funding, legislation and other policy matters, provides training to both elected and appointed officials of member Towns and provides specialized legal and legislative assistance to those Towns. As I am writing this, I have just returned from the 2025 Annual Meeting of NYAOT, where Attorney to the Town John Mancuso and I presented a program on the Town's successful use of incentive zoning, and attended two days of training activities. Next week, I am scheduled to go to Albany with NYAOT and the NY Conference of Mayors, to advocate with our state legislators on legislative

priorities, like funding for highway, sidewalk, sewer and other infrastructure programs. NYAOT is also a vehicle for municipal collaboration on insurance and other programs that have saved Brighton taxpayers money on essential services for many years.

Finally, it is important to note that Brighton and other municipalities are dealing with the fallout from the Executive Orders and other policy changes in Washington. Local government is the level of government closest to the people. Brighton is a diverse community and, in my opinion, many of the drastic changes being made in Washington are harmful to the residents of Brighton and reflect misinformation as to underlying facts. In Brighton, we celebrate our diversity; in fact, our diversity is a reason many people choose to move to Brighton, and we will continue to offer Town services and programs to all residents and we will take proactive steps where necessary to ensure that we can continue to do so.

Re-Imagining Community

Miriam M. Moore,
Chief Diversity Officer

People are craving community. The idea of community aligns with human nature, and our true desire for acceptance. Humankind thrives on connection, communication and community. The 3 Cs mitigate the insular design of how we often neighbor, school and worship. Re-imagining community is an opportunity to gain an understanding of perspectives and the lived realities of others. While some believe conversations are overrated, re-imagining community is a rejection of such. Re-imagining community underlies the idea of breaking superficial barriers, as we in fact have the power to craft community.

Re-imagining community promotes the idea of nullifying the narratives that feed fear, sow discord, stagnate and segregate. In this season where there is much uncertainty, re-imagining community perhaps begins with the commitment to build circles that will enhance the greater good. While no one community is monolithic, and differences will always be, the re-imagining of community is a purpose-led step toward receiving and receptiveness, traits that promote an openness to stronger human connections.



NY Association of Towns Annual Meeting

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Spring Program Update & Summer Preview

2025 has roared in like a lion! Like you, we can't wait for spring to start so we can say goodbye to the cold weather. We continue to be grateful for the Brighton community and welcome you and your families to our programs as our participation numbers grow.

This enthusiasm energizes us to continue to add to our program and event offerings so we can meet the needs of you and your family. Please check our website often as all of our program listings will continue to be listed online.

As we make our way through winter, plans are being finalized for our spring events, including the return of our popular Brickyard Bunny Trail, Taylor Swift Party, Hoops with Heroes, Brighton Community Bike Rides and more fun for the whole family! We are also hard at work planning for summer, and are busy keeping our Brighton Seniors actively engaged, too.



Summer Camp Preview

Brighton Recreation offers a wide variety of summer camps. Below is a quick preview of our popular Playground Camp program. More details, including fees, will be available at the time of registration. (Details are subject to change.)

Camp registration for Brighton residents will begin on **Tuesday, March 18, 2025**.

Please make sure to update your family information in our registration program, including ages and grades of your child(ren) to make the registration process go smoothly. Please be prepared to complete the necessary paperwork at the time of registration. Be on the lookout for updates as March 18 approaches. Camp spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Anticipated dates for camps will be July 7 - August 15 at the following locations:

- French Road for children entering 1st • 5th grade
- Council Rock for children entering K • 2nd
- Twelve Corners for children entering 5th - 8th
- Time: 8:30 am • 3:00 pm
- Preschool at the BCSD Administrative Building for 3-5 year olds (must use the bathroom independently)
- Mornings

Brighton Seniors Program

Our Brighton Seniors remain active and busy through the winter months. We warmly welcome all to keep in touch and stay active by attending

our weekly, Tuesday Lunch Bunch for entertainment, speakers and fun or register for groups, including Bridge, Euchre, Rumikub, Mah Jongg, and more.

We are always adding healthy and active programs to our offerings, so stay in the loop by subscribing to our monthly Brighton Senior Connection for the latest details and notifications.

All of our Recreation and Brighton Senior program offerings will continue to be featured online.

Please check our website often, check your email, and like us on Facebook, as programs and events are added on an ongoing basis.

SUMMER REGISTRATION DATES

RESIDENTS:

Tuesday, March 18 for Playground Camp only

Tuesday, May 6 for all other programs

NON RESIDENTS: Tuesday, May 13 for all programs

(All registrations begin at 9:00 am)

There is a lot going on here at the Recreation Department. Please contact us with any questions at:

Phone: 585-784-5260 x0

Email:
brighton.recreation@townofbrighton.org

Website/Register:
www.townofbrighton.org/rec

We hope to see you at programs soon!



Message from the Chief

David Catholdi, Police Chief

Brighton Police Department Enhances Capabilities with New Equipment and Training

The Brighton Police Department has been busy this winter, utilizing the season to conduct our annual training and enhance our capabilities. In collaboration with the Brighton Fire Department, we have been training on several new initiatives to improve our interoperability.

We are pleased to announce that we have acquired two new drones and a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) using grant funding from New York State. The UTV has been equipped with tracks, enabling us to operate effectively in snowy conditions. Additionally, we have completed the initial training for our tethered drone, which will be used for individual or joint Police and Fire operations.

These new pieces of equipment will significantly enhance our ability to respond to various situations. They can be used to search for missing persons, monitor fire scenes from overhead, and provide aerial observation during mass gatherings, such as our 4th of July celebration.

We are excited to integrate these new tools into our operations and continue to serve the community with enhanced capabilities.

Remember, if you have not yet signed up for Crimewatch, please do so at: BrightonPDNY.org. (QR code at right) The department encourages everyone



to visit the website and register for notifications. Furthermore, residents are urged to utilize the platform for reporting crimes, registering cameras, providing tips, and remaining informed about public safety concerns in their neighborhoods.

As always, if you have a concern or question, please do not hesitate to call me directly at (585) 784-5101. I can also be reached by e-mail at david.catholdi@townofbrighton.org.

Assessor's News

*Jeannine Whitaker,
Town Assessor*

2025 Tentative Assessment Roll to Be Filed

Informal Grievance Opportunity in Mid-March to April

Formal Grievance Opportunity in May

The Town of Brighton 2025 Tentative Assessment Roll will be filed by May 1, 2025. We are doing a Townwide reassessment this year. Impact notices should be coming to your mailboxes in early March. Any property owner who is not satisfied with their assessment may take advantage of the annual grievance process. We will be holding informal hearings from mid-March into April. If you are not satisfied with the results from the informal meeting, or you missed the opportunity to have an informal hearing,

you can file a formal grievance starting May 1 through May 27. **Grievance applications** (RP-524) will be available at the Assessor's Office or on the Assessor's website on May 1. The RP-524 application must be filed with the assessor on or before Grievance Day on May 27.

The Assessor's Office will begin accepting grievance applications on May 1, and early filing is always appreciated.

Appointments for hearings with the Board of Assessment Review are scheduled for the next available hearing time as the

completed applications are returned to the Assessor's Office.

There may be an opportunity to hear from the Assessor to agree to a stipulation with applications that are turned in by early May. A completed grievance application with supporting documentation such as recent comparable sales, interior/exterior photos and/or a recent appraisal is recommended.

If you have questions, please call (585) 784-5215.



Brighton Farmers Market

The Brighton Winter Farmers Market is open, with customers and vendors enjoying the warm indoor space at our new Market Barn at 1435 Westfall Road. Vendors are bringing a wide variety of products, including greens freshly harvested in greenhouses and high tunnels, vegetables, apples, meats, eggs, baked goods, maple products, pastas, hot coffee, and more.



The Winter Market is open on Sundays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., through April 13. The Market is closed on April 20, and returns to the Brighton High School parking lot on April 27, then every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through November 16. The Market then returns to the Westfall Market Barn on November 23 for the late season.

SNAP and WIC customers are welcome at the Market. SNAP customers can purchase tokens with their benefits card and receive FreshConnect bonus checks at the Market table- a \$2 coupon for every \$2 in tokens purchased with SNAP benefits (limit of 25 checks or \$50 per cardholder per day). Sign up for weekly newsletters at brightonfarmersmarket.org, or follow the Market on Facebook and Instagram.

Bicycle Boulevard

The Town of Brighton has completed putting up signs for a new bicycle boulevard route along Avalon Drive, Hollywood Avenue, and Rhinecliff Drive, and residents may have seen these signs go up along their streets. A bicycle boulevard is intended to provide a designated route on low-traffic side streets that roughly parallel higher-traffic main streets, to provide a low-stress way to travel to major destinations by bicycle.

(585) 784-5250

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE Town Clerk

Daniel Aman, Town Clerk

Is your furry companion licensed?



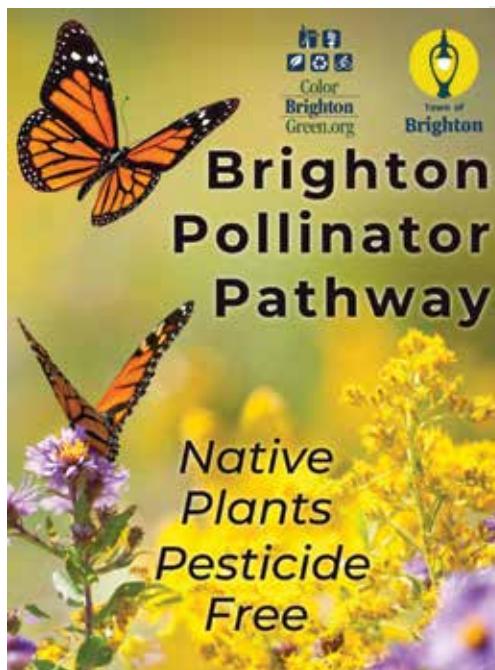
New York State Agriculture and Markets Law [Article 7, Section 109] requires that all dogs living in New York State be licensed upon reaching four months of age. These licenses are required to be renewed annually by the municipality, which in our case is the Town Clerk's Office.

License fees are \$10 for spayed/neutered dogs or \$20 for unaltered dogs. If their human has reached the age of 65, the fees drop to \$7 and \$15, respectively.

New dogs may now be registered on our website: <https://www.townofbrighton.org/doglicenses>. Dog owners can upload a PDF or JPG of the rabies certificate and spay/neuter certificate (if applicable), then my staff will follow up with a phone call to collect payment and mail you the license tag. If your dog has recently received a rabies vaccine, has moved, is deceased or if you have turned 65, please visit our website to provide updates.

You can also complete your dog license transaction in person. If you decide to come and visit us at our temporary home at Empire State University, 680 Westfall Rd., we would love to see pictures of your pups, but leave them at home. Only service animals are allowed in the building.

Brighton Town Code requires dogs are to be restrained by a leash no longer than 20 feet in length at all times while off the owner's premises. Please do not let your dogs off leash in our Town Parks. If you want to give your dog that total freedom experience, we encourage you to take advantage of any of the five Monroe County dog parks.



Is your yard up to the Brighton Pollinator Pathway Challenge?

Color Brighton Green and the Town of Brighton Conservation Board invite you to join the pollinator pathway Challenge to beautify your yard while you help our local pollinators.

Pollinator pathways provide corridors of critical healthy native habitat and food sources for butterflies, moths, bees and other pollinating insects, birds and other wildlife.

It's easy to participate!
Scan the QR code below:



<https://www.townofbrighton.org/959/pollinator-Pathway-Challenge>

This route roughly parallels Winton Road from Buckland Park to Highland Avenue, and the existing Sylvan-Warrington-Claybourne-Hillside bicycle boulevard route. This connection, which is extended upon by the City of Rochester, makes it possible to follow the signage all the way from



Buckland Park to Meigs Street in the Park Avenue neighborhood using exclusively low-traffic residential streets.



Women's History Month and the Best Job in the World

In 2025, Brighton Fire Department has more women in our ranks than ever before. Our first woman was voted into our department over 35 years ago. Since then, our commitment to ensuring women are welcome in our department has been a priority for Brighton Fire, as we recognize all the skills that women can bring to the fire service. We are proud to be a department that welcomes any and all community members that are capable, caring, willing to learn, and team-players, regardless of their gender.

As we celebrate the history of women in the fire service this month, we also use this month to celebrate new opportunities for women to start their firefighting journey. We don't want any woman to miss out on becoming a firefighter because she hasn't had the chance to learn more about it. To help us reach our goal of introducing more women to the fire service, we are offering our Female Firefighter Field Day again this year for women to try out firefighting skills and connect with other women in the community.

"I enjoyed every aspect of FFFD! The dedication and sense of community among firefighters was inspiring."

Female Firefighter Field Day 2024 Participant



At Female Firefighter Field Day, we invite all women aged 18 and older to participate in a four-hour training day where participants will wear firefighting gear, pull hoses, use the "jaws of life," learn key fire safety skills, and more! The physical skills of firefighting can be intimidating, but we are committed to ensuring our Field Day is a welcoming environment where women can learn, connect, and have fun.

"Because of the welcoming atmosphere, I actually felt more comfortable doing everything! I knew I could step back at any point, which gave me the mental strength and courage to try."

Female Firefighter Field Day 2024 Participant

Have you ever wondered how heavy all the firefighting gear really is? Have you ever wanted to feel the power of the fire hose? Have you ever wanted to work with a team to search a maze and learn



**APRIL 27TH, 2025
1PM - 5PM
3100 EAST AVE.**

Learn what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter alongside other women in the community!

At this **free** event you will:

- Wear firefighting gear
- Use the "jaws of life"
- Spray the fire hose
- Search our maze
- Hear firefighting stories

And more!

Register by April 11th
Limited spots available.

Questions? Email: join@brightonfd.org

SCAN TO REGISTER



how to make a rescue? Register for this event! Bring a friend and come ready to learn why firefighters say it's the "best job in the world."

Female Firefighter Field Day is on Sunday, April 27 from 1-5 pm. You can register by scanning the QR code in the ad above. If you have any questions, contact Alannah Scardino at alannah.scardino@brightonfd.org.

"I enjoyed the welcoming and comfortable environment, it seems like it's a supportive culture at BFD."

Female Firefighter Field Day 2024 Participant



Residential Yard Debris Collection

The Town of Brighton begins collecting residential yard debris in early spring, generally mid-April, and normally continues until the end of December. The collection of lawn and garden debris is weather dependent, and we welcome you to follow the progress of our crews across Town by visiting the Town website.

The Town of Brighton collects bulk and containerized lawn and garden debris from residential properties. The Town does not collect bulk and containerized lawn and garden debris from industrial properties, commercial properties, office complexes, religious facilities, apartment complexes and/or condominium complexes.

BULK COLLECTION during normal operating conditions requires 7 - 10 working days to complete a pass through Town. During times of heavy volume, such as early spring, a complete pass through Town may require 15 - 20 working days. Lawn and garden debris shall be placed along your property frontage between the sidewalk and the edge of the pavement. If there is no sidewalk, lawn and garden debris must be placed on the lawn area along the edge of pavement within the Town right of way. Lawn and garden debris shall not be placed in the street, across the street, within Town cul-de-sacs, within Town parks, on sidewalks

and/or in front of a neighbor's property. We ask that yard and garden debris not be placed adjacent to and/or behind obstacles such as trees, decorative rocks, garbage/recycling totes, utility poles and their guy wires, retaining walls, mailboxes, fire hydrants, light poles, etc. Yard and garden debris shall not be placed in front of ditches, culverts, hydrants and or driveways. If you live on a private drive, please contact the Highway Department to determine the best place to locate your lawn and garden debris for pick up.

Small volumes of yard and garden debris that are not containerized will not be picked up. Brush shall be neatly stacked parallel to the edge of pavement. If possible, yard and garden debris piles should not be located within 75 feet of arterial street intersections. Yard and garden debris piles should be located as far as possible from the intersection. Woody material and yard and garden debris shall be no more than 8 feet in length. Piles of yard and garden debris 8 feet in length should be separated by 1 foot. Piles should not be intertwined with one another. Yard and garden debris shall be free of sod, dirt, rocks, and construction debris in order to be collected. Leaves shall be placed in a separate pile from brush, limbs and garden debris.

The Town will NOT collect material generated by a paid professional for special projects, such as extensive tree trimming, tree removal, etc. The Town Highway Department will notify residents that the debris will not be collected and it will be the resident's

responsibility to dispose of debris from special projects. The paid professionals may obtain a permit to use the Town of Brighton compost facility to dispose of yard and garden debris.

Please do not allow your children to play in the piles that are placed by the road.

CONTAINERIZED COLLECTION is more predictable and therefore more frequent. During normal operating conditions it takes the Town 5 - 7 working days to complete a pass through Town. During periods of high volume, a complete pass through Town may require 10 - 15 working days. Small volumes of lawn and garden debris/leaves shall be placed in reusable containers or paper yard waste bags weighing less than 50 pounds and/or 32 gallons in size. All containers should have removable lids. Plastic bags will not be collected. Reusable containers may be trash cans or similar containers and should be identified in such a way that crews will know it contains yard and garden debris/leaves.

The Town of Brighton website includes a Leaf and Yard Debris Collection Map that estimates the progress of the Town container and bulk collection efforts at townofbrighton.org/516/Leaf-and-Yard-Debris-Collection.

The map is updated daily to show the anticipated progress for the following two days. The crews' rate of progress through Town is determined by the volume of yard debris and leaves, and weather conditions. Please understand, however, that predicting the progress of our crews is difficult due to the ever-changing volume of leaves and the unexpected nature of our weather.



TOWN OF BRIGHTON
2300 Elmwood Avenue
Rochester, NY 14618
(585) 784-5250

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Rochester, NY
Permit No. 01107

Upcoming Events

Brickyard Trail Art Exhibition

**SATURDAY & SUNDAYS,
MARCH 15-16, 22-23 & 29-30,
10 AM-3 PM**

Historic Buckland House,
1341 Westfall Road

Tuesday Town Talks

TUESDAYS, MARCH 18 & 25, 5:30 PM

March 18: LGBTQ+, "Truth Vs.
Tolerance"

March 25: (Dis)Abilities,
"Unsilencing the D"

Brighton Town Hall SUNY Empire State,
680 Westfall Road

This educational series will be framed by
panel discussions and is open to the public.

DEA Semi-Annual Pharmaceutical Take Back

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 10 AM-2 PM

Brighton Town Hall Public Safety Wing,
2300 Elmwood Avenue

Arbor Day at the Tree Nursery

Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Road

SATURDAY APRIL 26, 9 AM-11 AM

We will focus on planting or preparing
the tree nursery at Buckland Park,
adjacent to the Community Garden.

Semi-Annual Electronics Recycling & Secure Document Shredding Event

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 9 AM-12 PM

Brighton Highway Department Parking
Lot, 1941 Elmwood Avenue

Brighton Clean Sweep

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 9 AM-2 PM

Brighton Town Hall, SUNY Empire
State, 680 Westfall Road

Register online through Recreation:
www.townofbrighton.org/rec

Brighton Memorial Library

2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester | 585.784.5300 | www.BrightonLibrary.org

HOURS: 9AM-8PM MONDAY-THURSDAY • 9AM-6PM FRIDAY

12-4PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Print books
- eBooks (OverDrive & Hoopla)
- Audiobooks
- Magazines & newspapers
- Streaming videos
- DVDs & Blu-Rays
- Music CDs
- Puzzles
- Multimedia
- Discount museum & park passes
- Internet access & WiFi
- Research databases

We offer programs for all ages. Visit our website for a complete listing.

Call us or visit www.brightonlibrary.org/curbside-pickup to take advantage of our curbside pickup service.

