



# Town of Glastonbury

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Jonathan K. Luiz  
Town Manager

ITEM #7  
08-01-2023 Meeting

July 27, 2023

The Glastonbury Town Council  
2155 Main Street  
Glastonbury, CT 06033

## Re: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members:

The following will keep you up to date on various topics.

### Welles Park Playground Project

A purchase order has been processed in the amount of \$76,515.90 for new playground equipment for the Welles Park Playground. The equipment is anticipated to arrive in spring of 2024. The installation will be done in-house, which will give the town greater control over when the work gets done. Since my arrival in Glastonbury, I have worked with Parks and Recreation Department to make this project a priority. Work performed by the Department to date includes evaluating existing playground equipment, conducting a survey among residents of Welles Village, analyzing the survey responses, meeting with playground vendors, analyzing and revising playground vendor proposals, and purchasing the equipment. Attached is a rough layout of the new equipment.

### Outreach to Glastonbury Farmers

To support the local farmers who were adversely impacted by this year's heavy rainfall and flooding, Town staff has made a concerted effort to share information about resources available through the State of Connecticut. These resources include the State's dedicated website, CTgrown.gov, the Crop Loss Report form, and the mental health resources available through [www.ctfarmstressrelief.com](http://www.ctfarmstressrelief.com). Glastonbury staff has shared these resources and encouraged farmers to submit their July Crop Loss Report, by disseminating the information through the following channels (with attachments):

1. Distributed a general press release through the Town website and eNotification system on 7/25/2023.
2. Email blast sent to all farmers who provide an email address on their website/social platforms (17 recipients).
3. Mailed a letter on 7/26 to all Glastonbury farmers identified through the Assessor database and a Google search (31 recipients).
4. Shared through Town Facebook page on 7/25 and 7/26.

The Town will continue to share resources and updates with the local farming community as available.

### Riverfront Park Music Series

The Riverfront Park Music Series event set for Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> will feature the Glastonbury Town Band. The Town Band consists of professional and amateur musicians who play together for four concerts per year. The event on the 2<sup>nd</sup> will honor the late Chuck Lignelli, who was the longtime Director of the Town Band. Anyone interested in joining the Town Band should reach out to [George.Emmanuel@glastonburyct.gov](mailto:George.Emmanuel@glastonburyct.gov) and request information.

**Renaming and Lighting Upgrade at Baseball Field**

Following public comment by Don Longtin at the July 25<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Town staff will schedule a meeting with him and Brian Suriner to discuss renaming and lighting upgrade at the Riverfront Park baseball field. We are also researching the feasibility of the Town to partner on the lighting upgrade as there may be rebates and discounts available to the Town.

**Boat Launch Reopening**

Final clean-up is under way and the docks have been inspected. The boat launch will reopen for public use by Friday afternoon on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Residents and visitors asked to use caution while using the launch and on the river as there is still a tremendous volume of debris floating on and beneath the water and there is a higher level of silt and mud along the shorelines than usual.

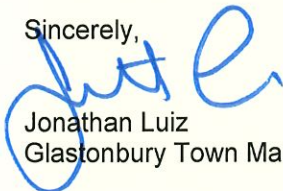
**International Overdose Awareness Day**

A memorial gathering and walk will be held on August 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at the Glastonbury Town Hall (walk to begin at 5:00 p.m.) in observance of International Overdose Awareness Day. Details included in the attached flyer.

**Cotton Hollow Mill Wall Preservation**

After soliciting several bids, the Town has hired Structures North of Salem, Massachusetts to conduct a conditions assessment of the Cotton Hollow mill walls (\$12,500). In addition, the Town has authorized three days of tree removal work (\$7,497) to be performed the ruins, and also authorized the purchase and installation of a fence (\$5,270) that will serve as a barrier between the ruins and a nearby residence. Once completed, the conditions assessment will be shared with the local preservation group and the Town Council.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Luiz  
Glastonbury Town Manager

JL/sal  
Attachments



## Town Support for Local Farmers

Facebook Post 1 - 7/25/2023



Facebook Post 2 - 7/26/2023



General Press Release – distributed on 7/25/2023

### Farmers Encouraged to Report Crop Loss to Prompt State Funding Allocations

This year, heavy rainfall, flooding, and unfavorable weather events have presented challenging conditions for farmers and agricultural businesses. Last week, Governor Lamont, Congressman Larson, and a number of state representatives visited South Glastonbury to witness, firsthand, the significant flooding affecting our farming community.

During the press conference, state officials announced the launch of a website through which farmers can access resources and information about financial assistance programs. Most notably, the website has a link through which farmers can report estimated or actual losses resulting from heavy rainfall and flooding during the month of July 2023. Data collected through the Crop Loss Reporting tool will help determine if another disaster declaration will be made on the state level. Such action would support financial assistance programs; therefore, farmers are encouraged to submit their loss reports as soon as possible.

To access the Crop Loss Report form:

- Visit [www.ctgrown.gov](http://www.ctgrown.gov) – this will direct you to the main Department of Agriculture web page
- Under the “Featured Links” heading, click on “Disaster Relief Resources”

- On the subsequent page, click the link for “Reporting Losses” from the menu on the left-hand side of the screen
- Click the blue button that reads “Report July 2023 Crop Loss” to open the fillable form

Alternatively, the form can be accessed directly by visiting

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/CTDoAg/2023GrowerCropLossReportJuly>

When completing the form, the Department of Agriculture advises farmers to “assess damages field by field and crop by crop” and to direct any questions to the [local Farm Service Agency Office \(USDA\)](#).

The Town and state realize that the recent weather and the uncertainty of the farming industry can greatly influence the mental health of agricultural business owners. To that end, the state also hosts a website through which farmers can access mental health resources, available at [www.ctfarmstressrelief.com](http://www.ctfarmstressrelief.com). For individuals without internet access, the AgriStress Helpline is available by call or text at (833) 897-2474.

Glastonbury farmers are encouraged to utilize these state resources and report their estimated losses now to help drive future state action.

Despite the recent weather, our local farmers are resilient, and continue to provide locally grown produce, meats, and goods to our community. Glastonbury residents are encouraged to support the local farming network by visiting each of the individual farms and farm stands throughout the year, as well as the Glastonbury Farmers Market, which is held at the Hubbard Green from June through September. See website links below for more details and thank you in advance for supporting our farmers!

Glastonbury Farmers Market – [www.glastonburyfarmersmarket.com](http://www.glastonburyfarmersmarket.com)

Town directory of farm stands – [www.glastonburyct.gov/glastonburygrown](http://www.glastonburyct.gov/glastonburygrown)



### Email Blast to Farmers who list email on their websites – sent on 7/25

#### Subject: Crop Loss Report to support State Funding allocations

Good afternoon Glastonbury Farming community,

This notice is to advise that the State of Connecticut is seeking data from local farmers to help quantify statewide crop loss due to recent flooding and heavy rainfall. To facilitate this process, the state launched a website at [www.ctgrown.gov](http://www.ctgrown.gov) to provide access to resources and financial support opportunities related to flooding, drought, and disaster.

Most notably, the website provides a link through which farmers can access a fillable form to report Crop Losses for the month of July 2023. Data collected through the Crop Loss Report will help the state determine if another disaster declaration will be made, and subsequent funding provided. Glastonbury farmers are strongly encouraged to report their losses through this form as soon as possible to help drive state action and funding allocations.

#### To submit the 2023 Grower Crop Loss Report for July:

- Visit [www.ctgrown.gov](http://www.ctgrown.gov) – this will direct you to the Department of Agriculture (DOAG) homepage
- Under the “Featured Links” heading, click on “Disaster Relief Resources”

- On the subsequent page, click the link for “Reporting Losses” (in the grey, left-hand menu)
- Click the blue button that reads “Report July 2023 Crop Loss” to open the fillable form

When entering your crop loss data, the DOAG advises farmers to “assess damages field by field and crop by crop” and to direct any questions to the local Farm Service Agency Office:

Hartford County Farm Service Agency  
100 Northfield Dr FL 4  
Windsor, CT 06095-4730  
(860) 688-7725 (PH); (877) 247-1438 (FAX)  
[www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Connecticut](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Connecticut)

If the recent weather challenges and unpredictability of the farming industry are negatively affecting your mental health, the state also offers a variety of tailored resources online at [www.ctfarmstressrelief.com](http://www.ctfarmstressrelief.com) and through the AgriStress Helpline at (833) 897-2474.

Please share these resources with your fellow farmers and report your crop losses as applicable.

Wishing you all the best as you navigate the recent and ongoing weather challenges.

Sincerely,  
Glastonbury Town Staff

**Attachment 3 – Hard Copy Letter Mailed to Farmers on 7/26/2023**

July 25, 2023

Dear Glastonbury Farmer,

This notice is to advise that the State of Connecticut is seeking data from local farmers to help quantify statewide crop loss due to recent flooding and heavy rainfall. To facilitate this process, the state launched a website at [www.ctgrown.gov](http://www.ctgrown.gov) to provide farmers access to resources and financial support opportunities related to flooding, drought, and disaster. Most notably, the website provides a link through which farmers can access a fillable form to report Crop Losses for the month of July 2023.

Data collected through the Crop Loss Report will help the state determine if another disaster declaration will be made, and subsequent funding provided. Glastonbury farmers are strongly encouraged to report their losses through this form as soon as possible to help drive state action and funding allocations.

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Please share these resources with your fellow farmers and report your crop losses as applicable.

Wishing you all the best as you navigate the recent and ongoing weather challenges.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Luiz  
Glastonbury Town Manager



**31**

AUGUST

INTERNATIONAL  
**OVERDOSE**  
AWARENESS  
DAY

International Overdose Awareness Day is an event held each year to remember, without stigma, those who have lost their lives to overdose and to raise awareness of this global public health crisis.

Please join us for a memorial walk and gathering on August 31st  
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM - Walk will begin at 5:00 PM  
Glastonbury Town Hall  
2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033

