

RESIDENTS

*Welcome*



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

# *Welcome to Stonington, a Town for all Generations*

This guide is to help new (and existing) Stonington Residents easily find their feet when moving to Stonington. Click on the Index below to navigate. Click on any  button to return here.

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## SCHOOLS

[Stonington Public Schools](#) include two Elementary, one Middle and one High school:

Stonington Elementary schools, Deans Mill and West Vine Street, include grades kindergarten through fifth. Children living in the western part of Stonington attend the newly constructed and expanded Deans Mill School while children living in the eastern part of Stonington attend the newly renovated and expanded West Vine Street School.

Stonington Middle School has recently been consolidated and updated to educate all of Stonington's middle school children grades six through eight.

Stonington High School is well regarded for its academics, newly added vocational classes, sports programs, and for the diverse range of colleges that have accepted its students.

In addition to Stonington's great public schools, there are also two K-8 private schools:

[Pine Point School](#), located on Barnes Road which offers Preschool through 9th Grade programs.

[St. Michael School](#) located on Liberty Street. The school is part of the Norwich Roman Catholic Diocese which offers kindergarten through 8th grade programs.



## CHILDCARE AND PRE-K

[The Global Child](#) located on Stonington Road offers early childhood education programs for Infant, Toddler and Preschool children. The curriculum is based on the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards (CT ELDS).

[Precious Memories Place](#) located on Greenmanville Avenue offers high quality care for infants (6 weeks), and before and after school care for pre-school and school age children.

[Stonington Community Center](#) located on Cutler Street offers pre-school, plus before and after school childcare. The COMO's mission is about helping neighbors become friends and helping friends work together, the COMO engages residents, businesses, and community groups in building a strong, vibrant community.

[Calvary Nursery School](#) on Church Street in Stonington Borough offers pre-school to children aged 3 to 5 years.

[Pine Point School](#) offers a preschool program where children grow in a safe, nurturing environment that builds confidence and independence

## HOSPITALS

[Westerly Hospital](#) is just a few miles away in Westerly RI.

[Pequot Health Center](#) is located on Route 117 in Groton.

[Lawrence and Memorial Hospital](#) is located on Montauk Avenue in New London.

All three have excellent Emergency Care, and are part of the [Yale New Haven Health System Hospital Group](#).

## LIBRARIES

[Stonington Historical Society's](#) Richard W. Woolworth Library & Research Center located on Palmer Street has extensive archives of Stonington history.

[Stonington Free Library](#) located on Wadawanuck Square in Stonington Borough has a vibrant kid's program and a wide selection of eBooks and physical books.

Stonington is also served by libraries in neighboring towns. A resident of Stonington can go to any of these libraries and with evidence of their Stonington address, they can get a library card.

[The Westerly Library](#) is housed in an impressive late 19th Century building in downtown Westerly on West Broad Street. It backs on to Wilcox Park and has a café inside. Local industrialist and Inventor, Stephen Wilcox donated the land for the library and the park.

[The Mystic and Noank Library](#) is on the Groton (West) side of Mystic on aptly named Library Street. It is another beautiful building from the late 19th Century whose main benefactor at the time was Captain Elihu Spicer.



## TRASH COLLECTION & RECYCLING

### Pickup

The Town offers weekly trash and recycling pick-up. All trash must be

in the town “yellow bags”, which can be purchased at all Stonington supermarkets and convenience stores.

Stonington practices single stream recycling, meaning all recyclable items - paper, plastic, glass bottles and cans - can be thrown together into one recycling bin. For curb-side pickup, that bin must be blue. The company that does the recycling has sophisticated machinery that can easily separate all the recyclables. Both trash and recycling should be put out on the curb by 7am on the morning of collection. [Follow this link to find out](#) which day your trash and recycling will be collected.

## **The Dump**

[The town transfer station](#) is where you go to meet everyone you know in Stonington. It is located on Greenhaven Road and is open every day except Wednesdays and Public Holidays. They have a free section where you can dump leaves or take away the rich composted material for your home use (the town does not provide curbside leaf or brush pickup.) There is a shed for dropping off reusable household items. They collect just about everything: mattresses, electronics, oil, batteries, small amounts of home demo, yard brush, scrap metal, as well as the yellow bags of regular garbage. Nominal fees apply for large items and construction demo. [What is and is not recyclable.](#)

## **SNOW REMOVAL**

Snow Removal is performed by the Town on all Town maintained roads.



## UTILITIES

**Electric:** [Eversource](#) (800) 286-2000

**Internet/Cable/Phone:** [Comcast/Xfinity](#) (877)912-6177

[Thames Valley Communication](#) (860) 446-4009

[Verizon/Frontier](#) (877) 218-5089

**Water:** [Aquarion](#) (800) 599-4548

## NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

In addition to all national newspapers, there are two newspapers who provide good coverage of Stonington. They are the [New London Day](#) and the [Westerly Sun](#). Each of these papers publish a free weekly newspaper that can be delivered upon request with your mail via USPS. They are the Stonington Times and the Mystic River Press.



## PARKS & RECREATION

### **Nature Preserves**

[Barn Island](#), Palmer Neck Rd.

[Paffard Woods](#) N Main St.

[Knox Preserve](#) 84 Wilcox Rd.

[Denison Pequotsepos Nature Trails](#) 109 Pequotsepos Rd.

[Dodge Paddock / Beal Preserve](#) Stonington Borough.

[Pawcatuck River Wildlife Area](#), River Road - dog walking, parking area

### **Bike Trails**

[Short bike trails](#)

[Longer bike trails](#) through surrounding towns.

### **Beach Access**

[DuBois beach](#), Stonington Borough

[Williams Beach](#) YMCA Mystic

[Sandy Point Beach](#) – accessible only by boat.

### **Water Access**

Public Boat launch at Barn Island, Palmer Neck Road

Kayaks at Mystic River, Isham St. boat launch

Bay Street Parklet, Mystic

Mystic River Dinghy Dock, Holmes St.

Saltwater Vineyards (marsh access to open waters)

Pawcatuck River Wildlife Area, River Road - kayak/canoe put-in, parking area.



## **YOUTH SPORTS**

The Town of Stonington is very fortunate to have several organizations/clubs that provide Youth Sports Leagues for our residents. Please contact them directly for details on their particular offerings.

**Soccer** [Stonington Soccer Club](#)

**Basketball** [Rec Youth Basketball League](#)

**Lacrosse** [Stonington Bears Youth Lacrosse](#)

**Tackle Football** [Stonington Youth Football](#)

**Flag Football NFL** [Flag Football League](#)

**Baseball / Softball** [Pawcatuck Little League](#) / [Mystic Little League](#)

**Swimming** [Mystic Hammerhead Swim Team](#)

In addition to the above-named leagues we also have several organizations that provide instructional sports programming:

[Stonington Human Services](#), Rec Division: (860) 535-5015

[Stonington Community Center](#): (806) 535-2476

[Ocean Community YMCA](#), Mystic Branch: (860) 536-3575

[Mystic Indoor Sports](#): (860) 245-5898

[Black Bear Karate Studio](#): (860) 930-8495



## **PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS**

[Calvary Music School](#)

[Ashley Jones Violin](#)

[Musician's Co-op of Mystic](#)

[Westminster Youth Strings Ensemble \(Westerly\)](#)

## **FITNESS CENTERS**

In addition to the robust sports and fitness programs at the [Ocean Community YMCA](#) in Mystic and Westerly RI, there are several national fitness centers locally such as [CrossFit](#), [Renegade](#) and [Planet Fitness](#). There are also many independently owned gyms and yoga studios throughout town and regionally.

## **COMMUNITY CENTER**

[The Stonington Community Center](#) (nicknamed The COMO by locals) on Cutler St. offers athletic, arts and tech programs such as bas-

ketball, tennis, karate, lacrosse, print making, pottery, and Girls Who Code classes. The COMO's mission is about helping neighbors become friends and helping friends work together. The COMO engages residents, businesses, and community groups in building a strong, vibrant community. De Bois and Sandy Point Beach passes can be purchased through the COMO. Stonington Community Center: (806) 535-2476

## COMMUNITY EVENTS, PARADES, FESTIVALS

There are some great local events, festivals and parades that weave into the fabric of Stonington Culture and Community and make Stonington a special place to live.

**Saint Patrick's Day Parade** happens in Mystic normally on the Sunday after Saint Patrick's Day. It is called the Mystic Irish Parade and includes concerts, food, fun and of course, some beer.

**The Wooden Boat Show** brings beautiful wooden boats from all over the US to the Mystic Seaport Museum on the last weekend in June.

**The 4th of July Parade in Stonington Borough** — Get dressed up in Red, White and Blue and join the parade around the Borough. Afterwards, meet at Wadawanuck Square for the reading of the Declaration of Independence followed by free ice-cream in Mathews Park.

**Honoring Those Lost to the Sea, the Annual Blessing of the Fleet** in Stonington occurs on the last Sunday in July at the town fishing docks in Stonington Borough. There are a number of events throughout the day culminating in a parade around Stonington Borough after

Mass on Sunday followed by a cook-out and music at Town Dock.

**Mystic Pirate Invasion** — Hear ye, hear ye! Let it be known that the first weekend in October there will be an imminent threat of pirates in our fair port of Mystic, CT! Join fellow pirate lovers in Downtown Mystic for a weekend of pirate-themed family fun!

**The Mystic Holiday Lighted Boat Parade** brings Santa on a tugboat to Mystic River Park on the last Saturday in November. The Christmas tree is lit at 6pm. Best decorated boat competition makes this a fun, loud and entertaining event.

**The Stonington Village Christmas Carol Sing, Tree Lighting & Merchant Stroll** is held in front of the library in Wadawanuck Square the first Friday in December at 5:30 PM.

**Mystic Downtown Stroll and Luminary** occurs on the second Tuesday in December.

**Pawcatuck River Duck Race** — A summer day of food, fun and family entertainment before 20,000 rubber ducks are released at once off the Westerly-Pawcatuck Bridge for an amazing race down the Pawcatuck River, all for a good cause.

**Riverglow Pawcatuck** features floating bonfires in the Pawcatuck River, with food, festivities and entertainment for all, in August.



## CULTURAL CENTERS

Stonington is proud to be the home to the following cultural centers that focus on history, the arts, humanities, and the community.

[Stonington Historical Society](#) which includes the [Capt. Nathaniel B. Palmer House](#) historic museum and the [Old Lighthouse Museum](#) in Stonington Borough.

[Stonington Free Library](#)

[James Merrill House](#) & Writer-in-Residence Program.

[La Grua Center](#), Stonington's venue for the arts, education, celebration, and meetings.

[Stonington Community Center](#) (COMO).

[The Velvet Mill](#), an historic mill restored as a home to eateries, a brewery, farmers market, artists, boutiques, and many businesses.

[Mystic Museum of Art](#) on the Groton side of the Mystic River has been a magnet for artists and patrons since 1913.



## SHOPPING, DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

**There are three large grocery stores** in Stonington: Big Y on Route 1, McQuade's Market Place on Clara Drive near Olde Mistick Village, and Super Stop & Shop on Route 2. There is also an Aldi's in neighboring Westerly and Groton.

**There is no shortage of other fabulous shopping areas:** Enjoy shopping, restaurants, cinemas and events at Old Mistick Village on Coogan Boulevard. Shop historic Downtown Mystic and enjoy the vast selection of unique gift shops and restaurants.

**Stroll down Water Street in Stonington Borough** to get the feel of a quintessential New England Village - restaurants, antique shops, galleries and coffee shops.

**The beautifully restored and repurposed Velvet Mill** in Stonington is a thriving creative community of small businesses — eateries, a brewery, pastries, cheesemakers, artisans, studios, wellness, eclectic and boutique gift shop, antiques, and so much more.

**Stonington's Year-Round Farmer's Market** is held on a field adjacent to the Town Docks. The Summer Market is held each Saturday from 9am-12pm, May through October. The Velvet Mill is home to Stonington's Winter Market held every Saturday from 10-1, October to May.

## HELPFUL LINKS

[Register to Vote](#)

[Regional Tourism Attractions](#)

[Town of Stonington services for new residents](#)

