

2026-2027 HOLIDAY & WINTER PROGRAMS/EVENTS BROCHURE



WHERE THE BENEFITS ARE ENDLESS!

***THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS & THE COLD AIR OF
WINTER ARE RETURNING TO BRANFORD PARKS,
RECREATION, & SENIOR SERVICES!
SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING & SIGN UP TODAY!***

For More Information...

BranfordRecreation.org
recreation@branford-ct.gov
203-488-8304



@Branford Parks, Recreation, &
Senior Services



@branfordparksrecreationandseniorservices





Office Hours: Monday thru Friday
8:00 AM—4:30 PM
Address: 46 Church Street
Branford, CT. 06405
Phone: 203-488-8304 / Fax: 203-315-4017
Web: www.branfordrecreation.org
Email: recreation@branford-ct.gov

Follow Us:

Facebook.com/BranfordParksandRec
@branfordparksrecseniorservices

Refund Policy

The following refund policy is in effect:

- “ If a program/activity is cancelled by the Parks & Recreation Dept. a full refund will be issued.
- “ To avoid classes being cancelled at the last minute due to insufficient enrollment & in order to accommodate waitlist, refund request must be made no later than five (5) business days before the program begins
- “ Refunds are generally not given once a program has begun, however in the event of injury or illness, a refund request will be considered if accompanied by a doctor's note. No refunds on tickets, trips or pool passes.
- “ Absolutely no refunds will be given for any unused portion of a program/activity.
- “ All refunds are subject to a \$10.00 processing fee.
- “ When a program/activity is run by a third party vendor, no refunds will be given after 5 business days prior to the start of the program/activity.
- “ All refunds are issued back in the original payment format, except cash.

Weather

If Branford Public Schools are cancelled or dismissed early, all Parks and Recreation programs and activities will be cancelled. If schools have a delay opening, programs will continue as scheduled, except for programs starting prior to 10:00 AM. Please Note: If the BOE cancels their evening activities, it will be at the discretion of our Department to keep evening programs on as scheduled. For the most up to date information, please visit our website or call the office.

Registration and Department Info

Information in this brochure will continually be updated as additional information becomes available. Please check our website for updates or call the office at 203-488-8304.

Safety is our #1 priority. Guidelines have been put in place for each program with the safety of staff and program participants in mind. We ask that you adhere to all guidelines for our programs and activities.

How to Register

You can register by phone, in-person or on-line. Need help creating an account? Call the office at 203-488-8304 or visit us on-line at BranfordRecreation.org and click on “Create an Account.”

Registration Payment

Forms of payment: Cash, Check or Credit Card. VISA & Mastercard are accepted on-line, by mail and in-person. Cash payments are only accepted during office hours. If paying by check, please make checks or money orders payable to “Treasurer, Town of Branford. A \$20 fee will be assessed for returned checks.

A non-resident fee may apply.



Parks, Rec, Senior Services Staff

Dale Izzo – Director Parks, Recreation, & Senior Services
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Nally Sahin – Asst. Director of Parks, Recreation, & Senior Services
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Kelly Gesuero—Case Worker
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Tim Kron– Transportation Coordinator
tkron@branford-ct.gov

Nicholas Polastri– Lead Maintainer
Jeffrey Sitz – Maintainer
Colin Tracy-Maintainer
Kyle Lynch– Maintainer

Board of Recreation Members

Paul Criscuolo - Chairman
Bob Ceccolini
Jeanne Crowely
Nancy Drevins
William T. O'Brien

Upcoming Community House Closings

***office closes at noon (12pm)**

Wednesday
Thursday
Thursday
Friday
Thursday
Friday

Nov. 11th
Nov 26th & 27th
Dec. 24th*
Dec. 25th
Dec. 31st *
Jan. 1st

Veterans Day
Thanksgiving Holiday
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day
New Year's Eve
New Year's Day



2026 Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting

Saturday November 28th, 2026

**Parade kicks off from
Branford High School at 6:30**

**Due to the construction on Main St. and
safety concerns, there will be NO
18 wheelers allowed.**

**Parade Registration opens
NOVEMBER 2ND
at BranfordRecreation.org**



2026

Fundraiser to
support the
Branford
Volunteer
Firefighters &
Branford Parks,
Recreation, &
Senior Services



SANTA GIFT DELIVERY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PARKS, REC, & SENIOR SERVICES AND THE BRANFORD VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS!

Santa Claus is coming to town to spread some holiday cheer by hand delivering gifts on a firetruck to residents of Branford. Imagine how excited your loved one will be when Santa arrives at their house!

**MORE INFO TO COME!
REGISTER ONLINE ON NOVEMBER 2ND
BRANFORDRECREATION.ORG**

Santa's Workshop

at the Joseph Trapasso
Community House

Sunday
December 6th
11:00am-1:00pm
Ages 1-12

A North Pole
Experience!

\$15 per child
Space is limited
Experience what Santa's Workshop
is all about! Show your Christmas
spirit and wear Christmas PJs, a
sweater, shirt, socks, etc!

Santa's Workshop

Become one of Santa's helpers & earn your elf
hat, play in reindeer games & receive special
reindeer food, write a letter to Santa, check if
you're on the nice list, meet Santa & Rudolph,
and many more fun activities are held at
Santa's Workshop!!

203-488-8304 | BranfordRecreation.org



UPCOMING HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



Write to Santa 2026

Mail Box Opens Mon Nov. 23rd
Letters must be received by Dec. 14th

Write a letter to Santa telling him your Christmas Wishes! Drop it off in Santa's special mailbox located outside the Joseph Trapasso Community House (Red and White Mailbox) or mail to the address below. Please include your child's full name and home address. Hurry as Santa gets very busy this time of year!!

 **Santa Claus, North Pole**
46 Church Street
Branford, CT. 06405 

Letters will be delivered to Santa and he will reply with a personalized letter sent to your home.



HO HO HO BEDTIME STORIES WITH MRS. CLAUS

Have a special story read to your child by Mrs. Claus all the way from the North Pole! Each week will be a new story. A video link will be emailed the morning of. Pre-registration is required.

FREE! FOR AGES 11 & UNDER

December 4th
December 11th
December 18th
December 24th



To register visit BranfordRecreation.org



CALLS TO

SANTA

HO! HO! HO! Would your child like to chat with Santa? Register at the office or online at Branfordrecreation.org

Dates:

Monday - Dec. 7th
Tuesday - Dec. 8th
Wednesday - Dec. 9th

**FREE! FOR
AGES 10 &
YOUNGER**

UPCOMING HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



OLAF IS COMING TO BRANFORD!

Frozen's Olaf will be visiting various locations throughout the center of Branford for a shopping spree. Be sure to register and be on the lookout for clues to see where he might be! Be the first to spot Olaf and submit a selfie for a chance to win a prize. The more pictures you submit, the more chances you have to win! Offered for all ages!

DECEMBER 9th - 20th

REGISTER FOR FREE AT
BRANFORDRECREATION.ORG

KIDS ZONE NIGHT: HOLIDAY SEASON THEME

FRIDAY DECEMBER 18th @ 5:30-8:30PM
JOSEPH TRAPASSO COMMUNITY HOUSE
\$30 per child (Gr K-4, resident only)

Have your child join Branford Parks, Recreation, & Senior Services Staff and kick off the holiday season together! Activities will include holiday decorating, hot cocoa making, a holiday movie, holiday gym and classroom games, and other fun activities. This is a great opportunity for parents to get any holiday shopping done! Food and snacks will also be provided.



BranfordRecreation.org



2026 BRANFORD'S REINDEER ROUTE

Let's "Light Up" Branford this Holiday Season!

Do you love to decorate for the holidays?
Be a part of Branford's Reindeer Route & "Light Up"
Branford for the holidays. Register your house or
business to get on our Reindeer Route and share
your holiday spirit. Prizes are awarded for Most
Creative, Holiday Spirit, Most Colorful, Most
Original, and more! Decorate, be creative, and share
those holiday lights! Limited to Branford
households.

Register at
BranfordRecreation.org or call
203-488-8304 by December 9th.
The official List will be sent
Dec. 8th.



CHRISTMAS/HANUKKAH POTTERY FOR KIDS

with **FIRED UP!**



Thursday, Dec. 17
6:00 - 7:30pm

CLASS COST

\$30

Kids
5-10yrs.

Join FIRED UP as you'll create a pottery masterpiece themed to Christmas/Hanukkah, perfect for the holiday season! Join this unique class today! To register, visit BranfordRecreation.org, call 203-488-8304, or email recreation@branford-ct.gov



Reindeer Games & Snowflake Scavenger Hunt



Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer is visiting Branford to join in on the Toddler Fun! Join us for a morning of Reindeer Games with Rudolph, help Rudolph find snowflakes around the Community House, & take pictures with Rudolph too!

DATES: Session 1: Tuesday, Dec. 15th
Session 2: Wednesday, Dec. 16th
Session 3: Thursday, Dec. 17th

TIME: Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:00pm
Wednesday 10:00-11:00am

LOCATION: Joseph Trapasso Community House

FEE: \$15.00

AGE: 1yrs.-5yrs.

* Parent or caregiver must be present *

Holiday Cards

FOR SENIORS



Looking for ways to spread a little holiday cheer and feel good doing so? Take the time to create a holiday card (premade is ok) and share the joy of spreading cheer and the true meaning of the holiday season! Cards should be delivered to the Branford Parks & Recreation Office or mailed to 46 Church Street, Branford, CT. 06405
Our goal is to deliver 100 cards by Dec. 19th

Fill a Box

JOIN THE BRANFORD PARKS, RECREATION & SENIOR SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR OUR 20 DAYS OF GIVING SUPPORT TO THE "PURPLE PANTRY BOX" SPONSORED BY THE BRANFORD ROTARY.

SIMPLY PURCHASE THE ITEMS ON THE LIST, PUT THEM IN A BOX AND DROP IT OFF TO OUR DEPARTMENT BETWEEN DEC. 21ST - 23RD.

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL ITEMS ARE FACTORY SEALED, ARE SHELF STABLE, AND ARE NOT EXPIRED.

PLEASE NO GLASS ITEMS

NOV. 26: CAN OF BEANS

NOV. 27: JELLY (NO GLASS JARS)

NOV. 28: CAN OF SOUP

NOV. 29: PASTA

NOV. 30: PEANUT BUTTER

DEC. 1: CAN OF VEGETABLES

DEC. 2: RAMEN PACKAGES

DEC. 3: MAC AND CHEESE (SHELF STABLE)

DEC. 4: CAN OR BOX OF CHICKEN BROTH

DEC. 5: PASTA SAUCE (CANS ONLY)

DEC. 6: CAN OF TUNA

DEC. 7: CAN OF CHICKEN

DEC. 8: OATMEAL (INDIVIDUAL PACKETS)

DEC. 9: BABY FOOD POUCHES

DEC. 10: SHELF STABLE NON-DAIRY MILK

DEC. 11: GRANOLA BARS

DEC. 12: HOT CHOCOLATE MIX

DEC. 13: CUPS OF RICE

DEC. 14: CAN OF FRUIT

DEC. 15: PANCAKE MIX

DEC. 16: CUP OF NOODLES

DEC. 17: BOX OF CEREAL

DEC. 18: JUICE BOXES OR BOTTLES

DEC. 19: PERSONAL ITEMS (IE. TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, ETC)

DEC. 20: TOILET PAPER OR PAPER TOWELS



HAPPY HANUKKAH

Sundown December 4th through nightfall December 12th

To all our Jewish residents that celebrate, we wish you and your families a very Happy Hanukkah!

- To celebrate this Festival of Lights, the Menorah on the Town Green will be lit for each of the eight nights.



BRANFORD'S FIRST NIGHT 2027

FRIDAY
JANUARY 8, 2026

6:00 - 7:30 PM

BRANFORD TOWN GREEN

**FREE ENTERTAINMENT – BONFIRE
ICE CARVINGS – WOOD CARVINGS –
HOT CHOCOLATE – & MORE!**

**Note: all events are subject to change*

BranfordRecreation.org



**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR
MORE WINTER
PROGRAMMING!**

**DETAILS TO BE
ANNOUNCED SOON!**