

TOWN OF VERNON

Winterfest



DECEMBER 4, 2020 5-7PM

**HENRY PARK
120 SOUTH STREET**



Booth space available
contact Parks and Recreation
parksandrec@vernon-ct.gov

LIGHT DISPLAYS

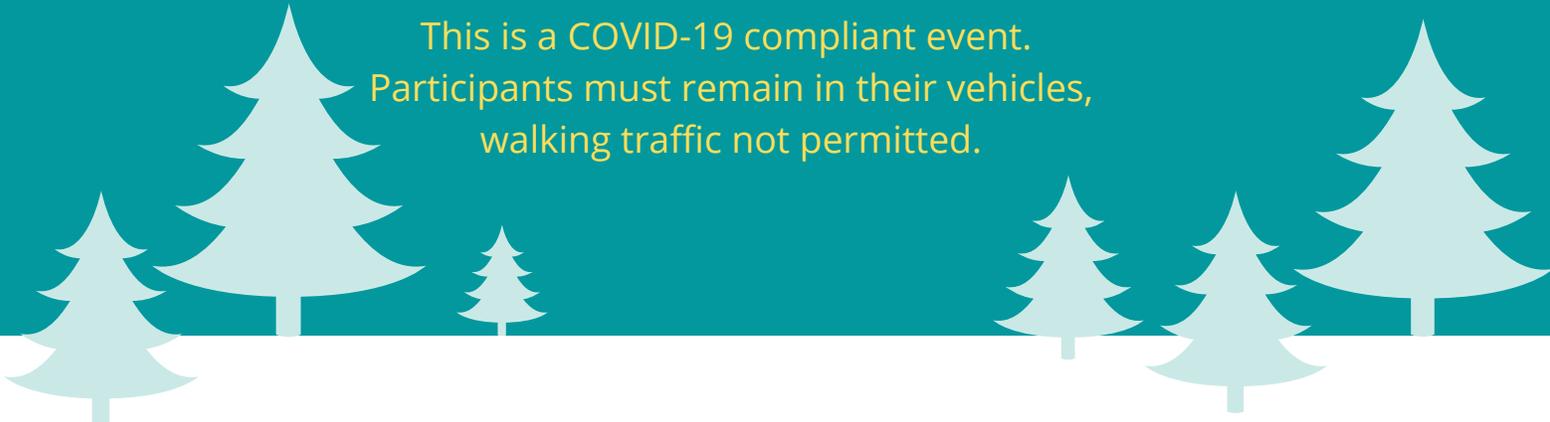
FIRE JUGGLER

ICE SCULPTURE

OTHER HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

FREE COMMUNITY DRIVE THRU

This is a COVID-19 compliant event.
Participants must remain in their vehicles,
walking traffic not permitted.





TOWN OF VERNON

Office of the Mayor

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www.Vernon-CT.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2020

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Town of Vernon Celebrates Winterfest December 4th at Henry Park

Town Builds on Success to Provide a Safe and Spectacular Holiday Event

(VERNON, Connecticut) – The Town of Vernon has reimagined its annual Winterfest celebration and created a special event at Henry Park featuring light displays, fire engines and other attractions to allow participants and town residents to safely enjoy and celebrate the holiday season.

This year's reimagined Winterfest, scheduled for 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Friday, December 4th, at Henry Park, will be a safe celebration for everyone. As always, Winterfest is FREE.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the traditional Winterfest celebration could not take place. This would typically consist of a fire engine parade, Santa's arrival, a carol sing and treats on Park Place in front of Town Hall. The annual event usually draws hundreds of people to downtown Vernon, and culminates in a tree lighting ceremony and the illumination of a snowflake on Fox Hill Tower in Henry Park.

"People look forward to Winterfest each year and making sure this fun and happy event occurs is all the more important this year," Mayor Dan Champagne said. "I am pleased we are able to safely provide this special event for our community."

With the shift to Henry Park, Winterfest will become what Parks and Recreation Director Marty Sitler is calling a reverse-parade. People will drive through Henry Park and from their vehicles will be able to view light displays and other attractions. It will be similar to the wildly-popular Trunk-or-Treat program Sitler's department organized for Halloween at Henry Park.

"The whole purpose of a community event is to bring people together, but we can't do that in the traditional sense this year due to the pandemic," Sitler said. "Instead, we've come up with a new and creative way to celebrate Winterfest. People will be able to enjoy the event from the safety of their cars as they drive through."

Because Vernon firefighters take tremendous pride in decorating their trucks, it was important to keep that a part of Winterfest, Sitler said.

People attending the event will enter Henry Park off of South Street and then follow a route through the attractions. Sitler said Winterfest has been set up so that every attraction will be ongoing, so families don't need to worry about missing anything. To ensure everyone's safety, people must stay in their vehicles.

Community organizations or businesses that would like to decorate a booth and participate in Winterfest are encouraged to contact the Parks and Recreation Department at parksandrec@vernon-ct.gov.

About the Town of Vernon

The Town of Vernon is a celebrated place to live, work and visit. From its beautiful parks and lakes, to its vast trails and historic homes and buildings, Vernon is a resilient and thriving community that promotes the health and wellbeing of its residents and values the natural environment. With a resident population of approximately 30,000 and occupying 18.03 square miles, Vernon combines a balanced appreciation of history, and a strong economic base for growth, both residential and commercial. Located 15 minutes east of the Connecticut capital of Hartford, and 25 miles from the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, the Town of Vernon is strategically located in "New England's Knowledge Corridor" with close proximity to some of the top colleges and universities in the country.

Recently designated as a certified Sustainable Community, the Town of Vernon offers a wide range of benefits and services to its residents. The Town of Vernon is a full-service municipality that practices a management philosophy of continuous quality improvement. To learn more about the Town of Vernon, please call (860) 870-3670 or visit www.vernon-ct.gov.

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