Total Solar Eclipse

Town of Brighton invites you to celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event

Monday, April 8, 2024
1:00 - 5:00 PM

Live Music by
Shine, Celebration Band

Food Trucks, & Vendors

BUCKLAND PARK
1341 Westfall Road
Brighton, NY 14618
On April 8, the Rochester area will enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime total solar eclipse. Brighton is planning a special afternoon of eclipse activities and you are invited to Buckland Park to enjoy the show! For nearly 3½ minutes, the moon will completely block out the sun, plunging Brighton and the Rochester area into darkness. Rochester has not experienced a total eclipse of the sun since 1925, and we will not experience another total solar eclipse this century. The total eclipse begins in Rochester at 3:20p.m. Before and after eclipse totality, the moon will gradually cover and then uncover the sun and by 4:33p.m., the moon will have completely passed the sun and the eclipse will be over.

Brighton’s festivities will begin at 1:00p.m., on the playing fields at Buckland Park. Watching the eclipse will be exciting enough, but in addition, we will have music from the band, Shine, as well as food trucks and other fun activities. Even the Brickyard Bunny Trail, a spring tradition for families, has been reimagined this year with an eclipse theme! The Rochester area is expecting 300,000+ visitors to the area for the eclipse, and we are sure many Brighton residents will want to beat the traffic and celebrate this special day with their friends and neighbors close to home here in Brighton. We encourage people to walk to Buckland Park, if possible. If you must drive, we will be sharing information about parking, both on-site in the Park, as well as nearby overflow parking options. Of course, you want to protect your eyes when you look at the sun, so bring your certified eclipse glasses (check to make sure they say ISO Certified) or bring a non-perishable food donation for the Brighton Food Cupboard on the day of the eclipse and get a pair of certified eclipse glasses for free, while supplies last.

Along with over 900 towns in New York, Brighton is a member of the New York State Association of Towns. The Association of Towns serves as an advocate for Towns across New York State in funding, legislation and other policy matters, working with the State and Federal government to ensure that Towns continue to have the authority to act on local matters on behalf of our residents, and have the financial resources necessary to serve residents and plan for the many changes the future will continue to bring. The Association also provides training to both elected and appointed officials of member Towns and provides specialized legal and legislative assistance to those Towns. It also fosters inter-municipal cooperation, particularly in insurance programs like NYMIR, the New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal, which provides property, casualty and liability insurance to Brighton and other towns, villages, cities and counties, and the Comp Alliance, which provides workers compensation insurance to municipalities, again including the Town of Brighton. Brighton has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in premiums over the nearly 30 years that it has been a part of these programs. I have served as the President of the Association of Towns during the 2023-24 year. During this past year, we have held in-person and remote training programs for Town officials, including a program that I taught remotely for Town Supervisors about incentive zoning and the ways we have used incentive zoning as an important land use tool in Brighton. One of the highlights of the year was the opportunity to preside over the 2024 Annual Meeting and Training School of the Association in New York City. Representatives from hundreds of Towns attended training programs, heard Senator Schumer, Attorney General Letitia James and State Comptroller DiNapoli, and voted on our legislative agenda for the coming State legislative session, in addition to networking with peers and colleagues. We also selected a new Executive Director of the Association, Chris Koetzle, Supervisor of the Town of Glenville in Schenectady County, to replace retiring Director Gerry Geist. Inter-municipal collaboration is important for Brighton and other local communities. In Brighton, not only are we part of the training opportunities provided by the Association of Towns, but we are also members of the Finger Lakes Municipal Health Insurance Trust, the NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal and the NY Comp Alliance, saving money on insurance premiums of all kinds, by partnering with other local governments across the state. We consistently look to find ways to enhance services and save money for our taxpayers.
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Spring Program Update & Summer Preview

So far we are off to a successful 2024! We are thrilled to see that the Brighton community continues to welcome our program offerings with open arms. This enthusiasm energizes us to continue to add to our program and event offerings to 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 which will have a Solar Eclipse theme, 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.

Summer Camp Preview
Brighton Recreation offers a wide variety of Summer Camp offerings. Below is a quick preview of our popular Playground Camp program. More details, including fees, will be available at the time of registration, but please note that details are subject to change.

Camp registration for Brighton residents will begin on Tuesday, March 26, 2024.

Anticipated dates for camps will be July 1 - August 9 (with no camp on July 4 & 5) from 8:30a.m. to 3:00p.m. at the following locations:
- French Road for children entering 1st-5th grade
- Council Rock for children entering K-2nd grade
- Twelve Corners for children entering 5th-8th grade
- Preschool at the BCSD Administrative Building for 3-5 year olds (Child must use the bathroom independently).

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 Brown Bag 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, and you can stay in the loop by subscribing to our monthly Brightest Senior Bulletin for the latest details and notifications.

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

CHECK OUR WEBSITE OFTEN, CHECK YOUR EMAIL, AND LIKE US ON FACEBOOK, AS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ARE ADDED IN AN ONGOING BASIS.

SUMMER REGISTRATION DATES
RESIDENTS:
- Tuesday, March 26 for Playground Camp only
- Tuesday, May 7 for all other programs

NON RESIDENTS:
- Tuesday, May 14 for all programs
(All registrations begin at 9:00a.m.)

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!

Brighton Farmers Market

2024 is a big year for Brighton Farmers Market! The Market is returning to its year-round schedule, with the winter season opening in the beautiful new market barn at 1435 Westfall Road, on former farmland owned by the Town of Brighton. To house the winter market, the Town restored an old barn on the property and built an addition onto the old barn—a significant way to honor the agricultural history of the Town and of that property, while supporting local farmers today.

The Winter Market is held Sundays, 10:00a.m.-1:00p.m., continuing through April 14. The Market’s main season returns to the Brighton High School parking lot on April 21, Sundays 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m., through November 17. The Market then returns to the Westfall market barn on November 24 for the winter season.

SNAP and WIC customers are welcome as always at the Market. SNAP customers can purchase tokens with their benefits card and receive FreshConnect bonus checks at the Market tent—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. The Market is sponsored by the Town of Brighton.
On the afternoon of Monday, April 8, our area will be in the privileged position to witness a celestial spectacle: the total solar eclipse! The Town of Brighton is planning an eclipse celebration from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. that will rival our heavily attended 4th of July celebration. An estimated 300,000 people will be descending on the Rochester area to enjoy the total solar eclipse, and the Town is providing residents and visitors with the opportunity to celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event at Buckland Park. Here’s a glimpse of what awaits:

- Live music by the band Shine
- Food trucks and vendors
- Various children’s activities
- Photo opportunities, lawn games, chalk walkways
- A family fun, interactive “Bunny’s Total Eclipse Trail” along the Brickyard Trail (from March 22–April 12)
- Historic Buckland House tours
- Explore the NEW Farmers Market building
- Buckland Park guided hikes
- Playgrounds

There will be ample parking and restrooms. Be sure to bring blankets and chairs, your eclipse glasses (if you already have some) and layer on your clothes. We encourage walking or bussing to Buckland so you can avoid the immense amount of traffic that the entire region will be experiencing. You may also park at Town Hall and then hop along the Brickyard Trail to Buckland Park and enjoy the bunny-themed eclipse stations along the way.

In the spirit of celebration, we ask that you bring a non-perishable food item for the Brighton Food Cupboard in exchange for eclipse glasses (for as long as the supply lasts). You can also get glasses in advance from the Brighton Memorial Library and libraries throughout the Monroe County Library system. Various locations may have limits on the number of pairs you can receive, with the intention of giving everyone a chance to watch the total eclipse safely. If you have purchased glasses, make sure that they are ISO certified, as there are some non-certified, and therefore dangerous, glasses out in the marketplace.

Remember that you can share your glasses amongst your eclipse watching group, as they are only needed for looking directly at the sun. Glasses can be taken off during totality. If the sun is out, we can watch the gradual eclipsing of our star’s light, and if it’s cloudy we’ll experience a sudden darkness. Either way, the eclipse will be stunning, and your moment experiencing it will become a cherished memory.

Visit the Town website townofbrighton.org/eclipse or rochestereclipse2024.org for more information, including the science and significance of this celestial event.

Saluting the History of Women

Presented by Miriam Moore

The month of March presents another opportunity to salute the countless contributions of women from all backgrounds and from all walks of life. The exclusion of women from the national narrative in the 1970s was the starting point for the creation of Women’s History Month.

Despite their countless contributions, women were often omitted from academic disciplines, in which the “great man” theory prevailed in shaping American literature and stories. Saluting the contributions of women in U.S. history means acknowledging women as educators, political activists, innovators and scholars.

In honor of Women’s History Month, we salute the following history makers who were women. Each were relentless in their efforts to broaden the scope of the stories told. Each were pioneers that have undoubtedly sculpted the history of this nation.

Hazel Ying Lee, the first Asian American female pilot to serve as a member of the Women’s Air Force Service. Hazel was active in service during World War II.

Wilma Pearl Mankiller, the first Native American woman elected to Deputy Chief and Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Wilma spearheaded housing, healthcare and children’s programs.

Nannie Helen Burroughs, African American Founder of the National Training School for Women and Girls. Nannie was an orator and received recognition for her speech, “How the Sisters are Hindered from Helping.”

Emma Lazarus, Jewish American writer and activist. Emma’s activism and writings were the guiding light in forming the Emma Lazarus Federation of Jewish Woman’s Clubs. The Federation sought to foster a sense of Jewish culture and provide leadership opportunities for Jewish women.

Madhulika Guhathakurta, is noted as one of the most prominent Indian American women in the history of NASA. Madhulika is responsible for spotlighting the challenges in science, technology, engineering and math through her cutting-edge research.
Join Brighton Fire

Stephen MacAdam, Fire Chief

Brighton Fire District is a combination department, meaning we rely on the skills of both career and volunteer firefighters. As a combination department, Brighton Fire is looking for more community members to become volunteer firefighters. No experience is required! The only things you must have to be a great firefighter are time to give and an eagerness to learn. If that sounds like you, you could be our newest star recruit!

We strongly believe that anyone can be a good firefighter, regardless of their gender, race, age, sexual orientation, or any other identity. We recognize the responsibility the fire service has to progress diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a fire department that reflects our vibrant community.

The next information session will be on April 29, 2024 at 7:00p.m. at our Station # 1, located at 3100 East Avenue.

Volunteer firefighter benefits include:
- 10% property tax exemption.
- Free access to fitness training and firehouse fitness space.
- Incredible training opportunities.
- Lasting friendship and camaraderie with our brothers and sisters in the fire service!

Residency is not required, but preferred, and we welcome ages 15 through 55+.

Can’t make it to our next information session but still want more information?
Please email join@brightonfd.org or visit brightonfd.org/join.

Message from the Chief

David Catholdi, Police Chief

We have had a mild winter so far and are all getting a bit of spring fever. With the approach of spring please remember to use due care as bicyclists and pedestrians return in a robust way throughout the community.

Our annual report should be published soon, and I encourage you to review it on our website at www.townofbrighton.org. In the report you can find a lot of information on crime statistics and learn what your police department has been doing in the community.

If you have not yet signed up for our new approach of connecting with the community, please do so at BrightonPDNY.org. 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.

The members of this agency are always looking for ways to interact with the residents of Brighton. We encourage you to reach out to us at any time. If you have an idea or suggestion about how we can engage with you, we’d love to hear about it!

I also want to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the men and women who serve this community. They do so on a 24/7 basis, and I couldn’t be prouder of their level of commitment to serve.

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
Pamela Post, Town Assessor

2024 Tentative Assessment Roll To Be Filed
Formal Grievance Opportunity in May

The Town of Brighton 2024 Tentative Assessment Roll will be filed by May 1, 2024. Any property owner who is not satisfied with their assessment may take advantage of the annual grievance process. Grievance applications (RP-524) will be available at the Assessor’s Office or on the Assessor’s Website on May 1, 2024. The RP-524 application must be filed with the assessor on or before Grievance Day, May 28, 2024.

The Assessor’s Office will begin accepting grievance applications on May 1, 2024, 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.

The opportunity to meet with the Assessor to agree to a stipulation will be during the first four weeks in May. A completed grievance application with supporting documentation such as recent comparable sales, interior/exterior photos and/or a recent appraisal is required.

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

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 JPEG 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.

Brighton Town Code requires that the identification tag shall be affixed to a collar on the dog at all times.

Before you can register for and enjoy any of the five Monroe County dog parks, you must first get your 2024 license renewal taken care of.
RESIDENTIAL YARD DEBRIS COLLECTION

It’s That Time Again!

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.
Total Solar Eclipse Celebration
MONDAY, APRIL 8
1:00 – 5:00P.M.
Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Rd.
Read all about our BrightON BrightonOFF total solar eclipse celebration in this issue.

Arbor Day Planting
SATURDAY, APRIL 27
9:00 – 11:00A.M.
Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Rd.
Celebrate Arbor Day by planting trees at Buckland Park. Trees, shovels, deer-fencing materials, and any necessary tools will be provided. Register through Recreation to be kept in loop. All ages welcome; rain or shine!

Pharmaceutical Take-Back Event
SATURDAY, APRIL 27
10:00A.M. – 2:00P.M.
Town Hall Public Safety Wing, 2300 Elmwood Ave.
Bring your unwanted over-the-counter and prescription drugs to the Police Department’s take-back event.

Annual Clean Sweep
SATURDAY, MAY 18
9:00A.M. – 2:00P.M.
Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave.
Join this great community event to help spruce up Brighton! Gather at Town Hall to select your area for cleanup, then meet back at French Road Elementary School for lunch. Register through Recreation; but don’t hesitate to just show up if you can’t.

Memorial Day Ceremony
MONDAY, MAY 27 • 2:00P.M.
Veterans Memorial at Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Rd.
There will be a brief ceremony to remember the brave men and women who lost their lives serving our country.

Semi-Annual Electronics Recycling & Secure Document Shredding
SATURDAY, JUNE 1
9:00A.M. – NOON
Highway Department parking lot, 1941 Elmwood Ave.
Not sure what electronics you can recycle? Check out our vendor’s list at ewaste.com/our-services/electronics-recycling.