

# MILFORD FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

## The Infant and Toddler Times

JUDY LOBDELL, EDITOR

July 2019

### Dates to Remember

#### August

5th. - 8th. Last week of Summer Days

28th. Back to school for Milford Public Schools Back to School



#### Clothing

The Milford Salvation Army Service Unit is Collecting gift cards to Target and Walmart for families in need of support to help prepare their children for the beginning of the school year.

If you are interested in donating a gift card, please call

Peggy Kelly, (volunteer Chair of the Salvation Army) at 203-783-3627.

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## Don't Bring Home an Extra Camper: Tips to Keep Kids Bug Bite-Free

As summer approaches, parents are quickly planning their kid's summer activities. For many, this includes packing their bags and heading to summer camp – the ultimate place for scavenger hunts, swimming, and other fun outdoor activities. But, campers may meet more than a new bunk mate during their stay. Tiny, yet harmful, pests thrive in the abundance of trees, tall grass and water-filled camp gear like pool covers, water toys or mud puddles. “Mosquitoes are the first type of pest parents think of when they drop their kids off at camp because of diseases like West Nile,” says Elizabeth Mayne, Program Supervisor for the Cheshire Parks & Recreation. Ticks can also transmit serious diseases, like Lyme disease, and their tiny size can make them hard to spot. According to the Northeastern IPM Center, “schoolchildren are at higher risk than the general population for the tick bites” that transmit disease.

To help today's campers combat unwanted pests, we're sharing tips to help parents keep watch for ticks and mosquitoes as their kids head out to explore the outdoors.

**Check Your Kids Before and After Camp:** Mayne strongly encourages parents to check their kids for ticks before dropping them off at camp. “I've seen kids show up to camp with ticks already on them,” says Mayne. Keep this tick check card handy to make sure you're looking in these pests' favorite hiding places. And always check your kids for any ticks or mosquito bites when you pick them up, as well.

**Know Where Your Kids Spent the Day:** Ticks and mosquitoes love tall grass and wooded areas, so get familiar with your family's camp schedule. Tuck a note in their socks to say, “I love you,” but also remind them to be extra diligent with tick checks and their bug-repellent on days where activities include hiking and other outdoor activities in the woods or thick fields.

**Don't Be Afraid, Be Aware:** Educating and communicating bug and bite prevention facts with kids before and during camp can also help in detecting their presence and any bites sooner rather than later. While outdoors, Mayne tells her kids “if you see a bug on you, tell me.” From ladybugs to caterpillars, there are many bugs that are harmless, but it never hurts to have your camp counselor or nurse double-check. And, every time they see a new bug it serves as an educational opportunity.

**Dress for Camp Success:** Parents should remember to pack their kids light-colored clothing and breathable jackets and pants, especially for them to wear when dusk rolls around. Tank tops and shorts provide a dinner buffet for mosquitoes, so covering up exposed skin will put up a personal barrier.

**Use Proven Methods of Repellent:** EPA-approved bug repellent, such as DEET, is proven to prevent tick and mosquito bites. Bug repellent needs to be reapplied according to label directions, so parents should pack it with their kids if they want it reapplied during camp hours. Remember to apply sunscreen first before bug repellent.

The summer months may be the prime time for ticks and mosquitoes, but that shouldn't keep kids from spending a fun-filled summer experiencing the outdoors. With frequent bug bite checks, your kid's camp schedule, repellent and general understanding of what to watch for, pests won't stand a chance this summer.

From :<https://www.ctenvironmentalfacts.org>

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Posted by: Erica Fearn



Summer Fun at  
the Milford  
Family



First Aid Training  
At Orange Avenue School





# Save the Date

For some fun events for young children at  
The Milford Public Library

## Storytimes

*Preschool Storytimes will end for the season on Wednesday June 12. See you in September!*

### Readers to Eaters Storytime

*courtesy of the Walnut Beach Farmers Market*

**Four Tuesdays this summer at 10:30am**

**July 9 theme: Farm Time**

**July 23 theme: Christmas in Summer**

**July 30 theme: My Community**

**August 13 theme: Read! Create! Learn!**

**Toddler Times** for ages 2 and under every **Thursday at 10am and 11am.**

**Starry Night Stories** for ages 3 and up **Wednesday June 19 and July 17 at 6:30pm.**



**TURTLE DANCE MUSIC! SPACE! THE COSMOS FOR KIDS Thursday July 25 at 6:30pm.** A fun techno-space-dance party for kids ages 2 and up and their families. Sing karaoke, participate in a rap battle about the sun and learn about the differences between revolution and rotation.



**FREE FAMILY MOVIE: WALL-E Friday July 26 at 1:30pm.** Join us for a movie and cool down at the Library. Bring a small snack and a blanket, if you want to cozy up on the floor, and enjoy this Pixar class



## STEVE SONGS SUPER SUMMER SHOW @ FOWLER PAVILION (behind the library)

**Monday July 29 at 6:30pm\***

Mr. Steve, co-host of the morning lineup at PBS KIDS brings his music to Milford. This is a collaboration between the Milford Public Library and the City of Milford. *\*In the event of rain, the concert will be inside the Library program room and space will be limited.*

## Our Town, Our Story

This summer, we celebrate Milford. Our wonderful community partners, The Milford Arts Council and the Milford Historical Society both have special events planned: The MAC's Eastbound Theatre is proud to bring you a FREE one-day outdoor community performance of *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder, celebrating the MAC's 25th year and our small city with a big heart - Milford CT. The reading will take place at various locations around Milford with 45 minute breaks in between each act so that you can enjoy a discounted snack at one of several shops in town. The Milford Historical Society is hosting an exhibit of photographs: "*Our Town – Our Story: Treasures from the Moger Photo Collection*," which features scenes from the late 1800s and early 1900s. Exhibit runs through October 6, 2019.

The Library hosts Milford's own community treasure, former Milford Historian Dick Platt, who will present a history of Milford, modeled after the play *Our Town*. This presentation will be held at the Library on *Tuesday, August 6 at 7:00pm.*

We are also getting our groove on, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Woodstock! Put on your tie-dye and beads and enjoy the music of the band *C-Sides*, who will perform hits from the original Woodstock repertoire. *Sunday, August 11 at 2:00pm.*



On a more serious note, the Milford Homeless Outreach Workgroup hosts, *Faces of Homelessness*, featuring speakers from the Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau who will share their experiences and encourage others to make positive changes in the community. This is an educational community event. *Wednesday, August 21 at 6:30pm.*

## The Take Away from Fred Rogers' Thoughts About STEAM

\*According to Hedda Sharapan, early childhood development expert for the Fred Rogers Center, “Most people associate Fred’s work with social-emotional development. It certainly had that at its core, but I always thought of it as dealing with not only that, but the whole child -- or should I say “the whole neighborhood” including people, places and things.” Sharapan goes on to explain that she believes that, “*Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* offered three basic messages: “helping children feel good about themselves, **g**et along with others and *ap*-preciate the world around us.”

The following excerpted interpretations are how Sharapan translates his approach to STEAM:

**SCIENCE** – “Science is about nurturing a sense of wonder and curiosity. It’s about asking questions, Investigating, exploring, experimenting. In early childhood, science is about everyday experiences, like ice melting, shadows, seeds growing into plants, where different animals live and what they eat.”

**TECHNOLOGY** – “Technology is just a fancy word for “tools.” Yes, technology uses digital equipment and machines in the pursuit of science and knowledge, but Mr. Rogers believes that crayons, pencils, rulers, scissors and paper clips are all important tools too!

**ENGINEERING** – Engineering seeks to identify and find solutions to problems by trying them out. Sharapan notes that children are using this principle “when they’re trying to figure out how to make a stronger foundation so they can build their blocks higher. Or when they’re making a tin-foil boat that will float at the water table”

**ARTS** – The arts give us ways to illustrate concepts, by drawing, describing with words, or experiencing them through music and dance. Creativity and imagination play a big role in problem-solving and inventing.

**MATH** – “Math is much more than counting. Mathematical thinking includes comparing, sorting, patterning, identifying shapes. Language, too, plays a big part in math, for example using words like *bigger, smaller, higher, lower, farther, closer.*”

\*excerpts from article “*Fred Rogers’ Approach to Steam*,” by Hedda Sharapan

It can be said that Mr. Rogers brought STEAM concepts to his audience long before it became the new buzz word in the field of education.

*"Marveling, wondering, asking questions -- for young children, those are the things they'll need for learning, about science or about anything."*

For further information on this and other topics you can visit Hedda Sharapan’s website at::

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