

East Hartford waives permit fees for crumbling concrete foundation repairs

By Katherine Eastman
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EAST HARTFORD — The Town Council has voted to waive building permit fees associated with replacing homes' crumbling foundations, which for one resident came to \$2,766.

The Fees Committee recommended the council waive building permit fees for the repair or replacement of a foundation or a structure, including basement walls, footings, and floors.

Structures that contain sufficient pyrrhotite cause cracking, or could collapse, officials said.

According to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, a Willington quarry that supplied aggregate for residential concrete foundations was found to sit on a bed of rock containing pyrrhotite, an iron-sulfide mineral that causes concrete foundations to deteriorate when exposed to oxygen and water.

Concrete originating from the JJ Mottes Concrete Company in Stafford Springs during the years 1983 to 2015 contained pyrrhotite, state officials said.

During an August Fees Committee meeting, Town Council Chairman Richard Kehoe explained that most structures that threaten to crumble were built in the late 1980's to the mid-2000's, and construction in East Hartford did not typically use concrete from the Willington quarry. Two cement manufacturers closer to East Hartford supplied cement, he said.

Only one applicant has come forward with a crumbling foundation, Kehoe said, adding that person spent \$175,000 to lift the building, replace the foundation, and set it back down. The applicant will get a refund for the \$2,766 spent on building permit fees, he said.

Kehoe said the town doesn't anticipate many other residents with crumbling foundations, but they won't have to worry about that additional fee if replacements

permit issued on or after Jan. 1, 2019, the approved resolution states.

For details on crumbling foundations in Connecticut, visit:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DOH/DOH/Programs/Crumbling-Foundations>.

SENIOR MEALS

The **Aug. 26-30** menu for lunches for the elderly served by the Community Renewal Team.

MONDAY: Lemon baked chicken, cornbread stuffing, broccoli and cauliflower, oatnut bread, peaches.

TUESDAY: Grape juice, tuna salad on multi-grain bun, sliced tomatoes and shredded lettuce, sweet potato wedges, pineapple tidbits.

WEDNESDAY: Orange juice, apple-glazed pork loin, rice pilaf, peas, 12-grain bread, whole-grain fruit oatmeal bar.

THURSDAY: Apple juice, garden salad greens, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, grilled chicken strips, Cheddar cheese, ranch dressing, wheat roll, fresh orange. I

FRIDAY: Orange juice, roast turkey with gravy, cut-up sweet potatoes, spinach, cranberry sauce, whole wheat bread, fruit cocktail.

Meals are served each weekday to people 60 years old and older and their spouses at the East Hartford South Senior Center (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday only), East Windsor Senior Citizens Center, Ellington Senior Citizens Center, the Senior Citizens Center in Enfield, Hebron Senior Center (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), the Community Center in South Windsor, the Stafford Senior Center, the Franklin Park apartments in Vernon, the Highrise apartments in Vernon (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday), and the Florence Mill apartments in Vernon (Monday and Wednesday), the Wilson Community Center in Windsor, and the Senior Citizens Center in Windsor Locks. The suggested donation is \$2.50, but people may pay whatever they can afford. Menus are subject to change without notice. For more information about the Community Renewal Team's