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eldercrew.com

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connect@eldercrew.com

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Connecticut Caregiver Outing Guide

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10 practical community outings in Tolland County

A fun day out, made simple

Enjoy a welcoming outing with caregiver, friends, and up to 2 residents.

Choose an adventure, share the experience, and let ElderCrew help you get started.

County quick index

Tolland County

Planning note

November in Connecticut can bring colder mornings, rain, wind, shorter days, and occasional frost or snow. Dress in warm layers, check weather forecasts and venue hours, allow extra travel time for changing road conditions, and pair every weather-sensitive outing with a nearby indoor backup. Quiet-time suggestions in this guide are caregiver planning strategies unless a venue-specific sensory resource is explicitly identified.

Tolland County

Ten November choices selected for realistic caregiver pacing. Weather-sensitive, high-stimulation, or limited-schedule options are identified directly.

1. Holiday Artisan Fair at Arts Center East | *Vernon*

November fit: November 12-15 and 19-22; daytime hours vary by day. A free indoor artisan fair provides a seasonal outing with daytime choices.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm step-free entrance, accessible parking, aisle width, seating, and restroom before bringing a wheelchair group.

Cost and sensory plan: Admission not listed; confirm. Purchases and raffle optional. More than 60 artisans may create crowding. Thursday or Friday at 1 p.m. should be calmer than Saturday.

Location: 709 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon | Phone: 860-871-8222 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

2. William Benton Museum of Art | *Storrs*

November fit: Open during the UConn fall term; verify November and Thanksgiving hours. Free university art galleries offer a compact indoor visit.

Setting and access: Indoor. Official information lists an accessibility section; confirm accessible parking, ramp/elevator route, wheelchairs, seating, and restroom.

Cost and sensory plan: Free. Choose a weekday opening hour and avoid class-change times, receptions, and campus game days.

Location: 245 Glenbrook Road, Storrs | Phone: 860-486-4520 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

3. Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry | *Storrs*

November fit: Check November gallery hours and UConn holiday closure. Free puppet exhibitions offer strong visual interest in a small indoor footprint.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm accessible parking/drop-off, level entry, seating, restroom, and whether the full gallery is wheelchair navigable.

Cost and sensory plan: Free; donations welcome. Visit at weekday opening and avoid family-program times.

Location: 1 Royce Circle, Storrs | Phone: 860-486-8580 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

4. Dodd Human Rights Impact exhibitions | *Storrs*

November fit: Open during university business hours; verify Thanksgiving break. Free exhibitions support an adult-oriented, reflective indoor outing.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm visitor parking, automatic doors, elevator route, seating, and accessible restroom.

Cost and sensory plan: Free. Content may be emotionally heavy. Review the current exhibition first and choose a quiet weekday morning.

Location: 405 Babbidge Road, Storrs | Phone: 860-486-5131 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

5. UConn Plant Biodiversity Conservatory | *Storrs*

November fit: Public access varies; arrange a November visit in advance. Warm greenhouse collections can provide a brief nature experience during cold weather.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm that public access is available, the greenhouse path is step-free and wide enough, and an accessible restroom is nearby.

Cost and sensory plan: Usually free; confirm. Warmth, humidity, narrow paths, and plant scents may affect comfort. Request a quiet appointment.

Location: 75 North Eagleville Road area, Storrs | Phone: 860-486-4052 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Call before travel; this is not a drop-in attraction and campus access may change.

6. Rockville Public Library | *Vernon*

November fit: Check November adult programs and holiday closures. A free library visit offers flexible duration, seating, and an indoor weather backup.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm accessible entrance, elevator, closest parking, restroom, and any construction impacts.

Cost and sensory plan: Free; registration may be required for programs. Choose a weekday morning away from children's programming.

Location: 52 Union Street, Vernon | Phone: 860-875-5892 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

7. Hall Memorial Library | *Ellington*

November fit: Check November exhibits and adult-program calendar. The library supports a free, low-pressure visit that can be shortened easily.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm accessible parking, automatic door, elevator if needed, seating, and restroom.

Cost and sensory plan: Free. Target a non-program weekday morning and use a quiet reading area.

Location: 93 Main Street, Ellington | Phone: 860-870-3160 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

8. New England Civil War Museum | *Vernon*

November fit: Open limited days; confirm November schedule before travel. A small specialized museum can suit older adults interested in military and local history.

Setting and access: Indoor. The museum is in a historic building. Confirm lift/elevator operation, accessible entrance, restroom, and seating.

Cost and sensory plan: Low-cost or donation-based; confirm. Limited hours can concentrate visitors. Ask for a quiet arrival time and a short-route tour.

Location: 14 Park Place, Vernon | Phone: 860-870-3563 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

9. Museum of Connecticut Glass | *Coventry*

November fit: Open by appointment or limited schedule; verify November availability. A small collection provides a focused local-industry outing without a long walking route.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm step-free entrance, accessible parking, restroom, seating, and whether demonstrations are running.

Cost and sensory plan: Confirm admission or donation. Request a private or low-attendance appointment if available; demonstrations may involve sharp sounds or heat.

Location: 289 North River Road, Coventry | Phone: 860-872-1790 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.

10. Somers Public Library | *Somers*

November fit: Check November adult programs and holiday closures. A free library outing expands the county's quieter indoor choices.

Setting and access: Indoor. Confirm accessible parking, step-free entrance, restroom, seating, and room location for any selected program.

Cost and sensory plan: Free; program registration may apply. Choose an adult daytime program or a weekday reading visit away from children's events.

Location: 2 Vision Boulevard, Somers | Phone: 860-763-3501 | Official or authoritative source

Call ahead: Confirm current hours, access route, restroom availability, and any reservation needs before leaving.