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OCTOBER 2026

Connecticut Caregiver Outing Guide

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10 practical community outings in Windham 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

Windham County

Planning note

October in Connecticut can bring cool mornings, rain, wind, shorter days, and changing foliage. Dress in layers, check forecasts and venue hours, plan for leaf-season traffic, 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.

Windham County

October mix: 5 options include indoor space; outdoor choices are best treated as weather-dependent. All 10 are physically located in Windham County.

1. Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum

Willimantic | Mostly outdoor with buildings

Why October: Rail equipment and a reconstructed roundhouse are a strong October history outing before winter closure. **Access and walking:** The site has ample parking, but ballast, tracks, steps, and rolling stock create mobility barriers; request a short ground-level tour.

Cost: Check current admission or donation. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Trains are static but surfaces and occasional equipment activity can be noisy; choose opening time.

Address: 55 Bridge Street, Willimantic, CT 06226 | **Phone:** 860-456-9999 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm the final October open date, ground-level access, restroom, and tour length.

2. Eastern Connecticut State University Art Gallery

Willimantic | Indoor

Why October: A free campus gallery is a weatherproof, adult-oriented option with changing exhibitions.

Access and walking: Confirm accessible parking, step-free entry, elevator if needed, seating, and restroom location.

Cost: Free. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Visit between class-change periods and avoid opening receptions.

Address: 83 Windham Street, Willimantic, CT 06226 | **Phone:** 860-465-4659 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm the fall 2026 exhibition, public hours, and parking instructions.

3. Kerri Art Studio and Gallery

Willimantic | Indoor

Why October: A small Main Street gallery supports a brief, conversational October art visit. **Access and walking:** Confirm step-free entry, aisle width, seating, restroom, and nearby accessible parking.

Cost: Free to browse; classes or purchases cost extra. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Arrange a weekday appointment or opening-hour visit and avoid class times.

Address: 861 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226 | **Phone:** 860-456-8615 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm current public hours and accessibility before traveling.

4. Garden on the Bridge

Willimantic | Outdoor

Why October: The planted 1906 pedestrian bridge offers fall color and river views in a compact downtown stop. **Access and walking:** Approach grades and surface condition should be confirmed; identify the closest curb-free parking and turn back whenever fatigue rises.

Cost: Free. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Choose a dry weekday morning; traffic and river noise are present and there is no indoor shelter.

Address: 440 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226 | **Phone:** 860-465-3046 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm bridge condition, accessible approach, and nearby restroom options.

5. Mashamoquet Brook State Park picnic area

Pomfret | Outdoor

Why October: Developed picnic areas and autumn woodland views make a flexible foliage stop. **Access and walking:** The state notes accessibility upgrades are in progress; stay in the developed area and confirm parking, restrooms, and path condition rather than assuming trail access.

Cost: Free for Connecticut-registered vehicles; verify nonresident parking rules. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Use a weekday late morning; running water, wind, and grounds work can add noise.

Address: 276 Mashamoquet Road, Pomfret Center, CT 06259 | **Phone:** 860-928-6121 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm which day-use area is open, restroom status, and accessible picnic route.

6. Palmer Arboretum

Woodstock | Outdoor

Why October: A small community arboretum offers a gentle foliage-focused stop without the scale of a major park. **Access and walking:** Surface and slope details are not well published; ask the town for the firmest short route, parking, and bench locations.

Cost: Free. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Visit on a dry weekday and keep the outing brief; there is limited shelter.

Address: Palmer Arboretum, Route 169 area, Woodstock, CT 06281 | **Phone:** 860-928-0208 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm exact parking entrance, path condition, and whether restrooms are nearby.

7. Sawmill Pottery studio and gallery

Putnam | Indoor

Why October: Handmade pottery and a working studio provide a warm, creative October stop. **Access and walking:** Confirm step-free entry, clear aisles, seating, restroom, and parking before bringing a mobility device.

Cost: Free to browse; workshops and purchases cost extra. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Visit outside class times; kiln heat, conversation, and studio activity can vary.

Address: 112 Main Street, Putnam, CT 06260 | **Phone:** 860-963-7807 | [Official or authoritative source](#) **Call ahead to confirm:** Confirm gallery hours, accessibility, and whether studio work will be active.

8. Silver Circle Gallery at Block 134

Putnam | Indoor by appointment or event

Why October: Regional art in a small downtown setting makes a low-walking foliage-drive stop when arranged in advance. **Access and walking:** The gallery is on the second floor; confirm elevator or step-free access, restroom, seating, and accessible parking before booking.

Cost: Free to view by appointment or during a public event; workshops may charge. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Request a private appointment rather than attending a public event for the quietest experience.

Address: 134 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Putnam, CT 06260 | **Phone:** 860-928-2900 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Appointment essential: confirm the October display, elevator access, and parking.

9. Roseland Park lakeside picnic area

Woodstock | Outdoor

Why October: Lake views and hardwood foliage suit a relaxed October picnic or drive-and-pause outing.

Access and walking: Use the developed parking and pavilion area; confirm firm routes, accessible tables, restroom status, and gate hours.

Cost: Generally free for casual day use; reservations or events may charge. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Weekday midday is calmest; sports, playground use, and leaf maintenance may add noise.

Address: Roseland Park Road, Woodstock, CT 06281 | **Phone:** 860-928-0208 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm October gate and restroom schedule and any private rental.

10. Windham Theatre Guild at Burton Leavitt Theatre

Willimantic | Indoor

Why October: A community matinee provides a fully seated cultural outing when an October production is scheduled. **Access and walking:** Request wheelchair and companion seating, curb-free entry, restroom details, and a close drop-off when booking.

Cost: Ticketed; ask about senior, group, and companion pricing. **Sensory and quieter-time plan:** Choose a matinee and ask about amplified sound, flashing effects, haze, intermission, and run time.

Address: 779 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226 | **Phone:** 860-423-2245 | [Official or authoritative source](#)

Call ahead to confirm: Confirm the exact October performance, accessible seats, and cancellation policy.