



781 Blakely Road
Colchester, VT 05446
802-264-5500

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Town News for the Week of May 10, 2021



What do you want to do today?

Manager's Message



Aaron Frank, Town Manager

National Police Week May 9th – May 15th

During the week set aside to honor the service and protection police provide and to remember fallen officers, Chief Doug Allen, Town Manager Aaron Frank, and the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town of Colchester, thank the officers and staff of the Colchester Police Department for their service to the community.

Here in Colchester, our police do much more than

enforce laws. They are often the first to show up at any call for help or assistance. They are trained in first aid and carry life-saving equipment in case of an emergency. They serve our community in countless ways, at all hours of the day and night, in any weather, and often alone. They take their responsibility seriously, from respecting all members of the community, to safeguarding life and property. They partner with other groups to solve problems and help those who struggle.



Our police officers and support staff are dedicated to the community and are active in youth organizations, community service organizations, and volunteer with other emergency service providers. They serve our residents with respect, often during vulnerable points in their lives, and offer programs designed to keep the community safe, secure, and well.

To the staff of the Colchester Police Department, thank you for your daily dedication to our community keeping our residents and visitors safe and secure.

Sincerely,

Pam Loranger

Colchester Selectboard Chair

Aaron Frank

Colchester Town Manager

Douglas Allen

Chief of Police

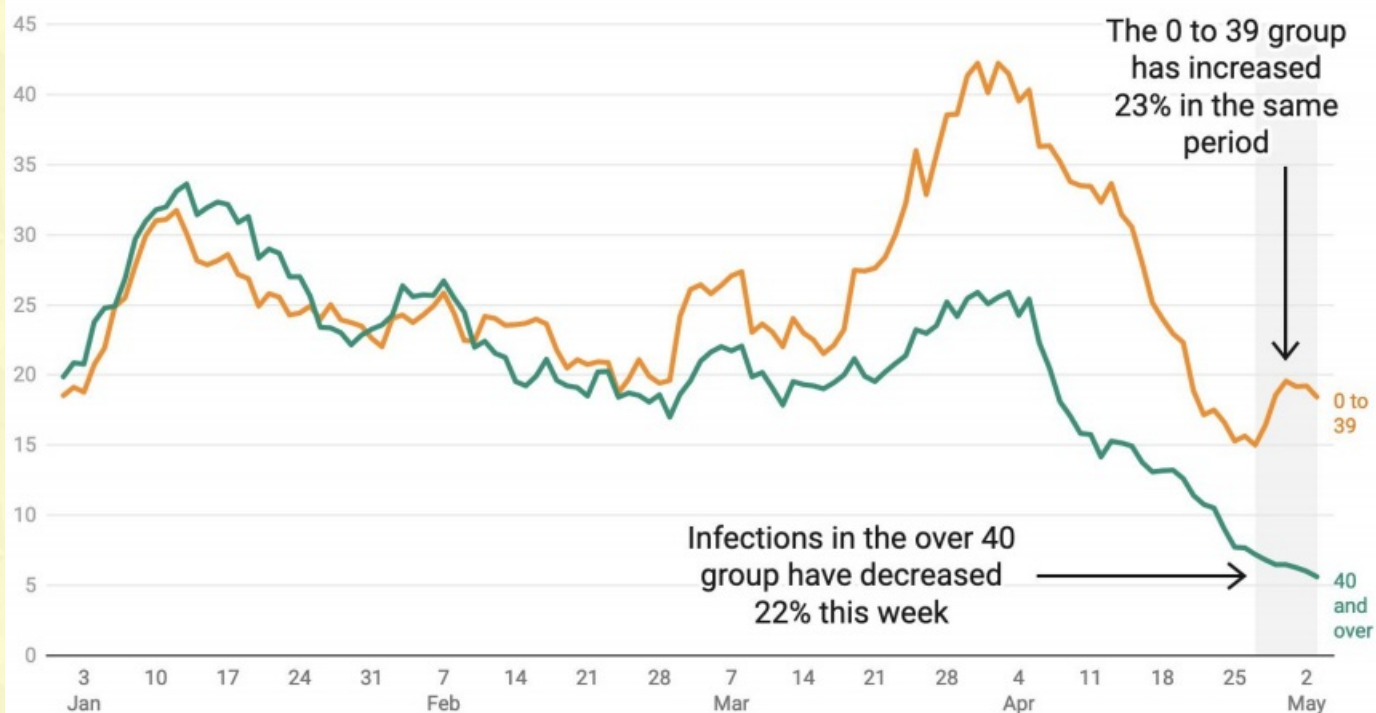
To learn more about this week's virtual events, click [here](#).

COVID-19 Update

Recent Cases: Chittenden County has had 188 new cases in the last 14 days. Read more [here](#).

State Urges Young Adults to Get Vaccinated: State officials noted last week that while vaccination totals statewide are on track, numbers are lagging for young adults ages 18 to 29. Almost 95% of seniors have been vaccinated, but vaccinations for adults under 30 are a bit behind the national average. 78% of Vermonters over the age of 40 have had at least one vaccine dose, compared to only 41% of those under the age of 40. Additionally, cases in Vermonters under 40 rose 23% in the last week, while dropping in the older age groups. To combat this, the Department of Health has started setting up walk-in and pop-up clinics around the state, to increase availability and convenience of the vaccine.

COVID Infections per 100K in Vermont (7-Day Average)

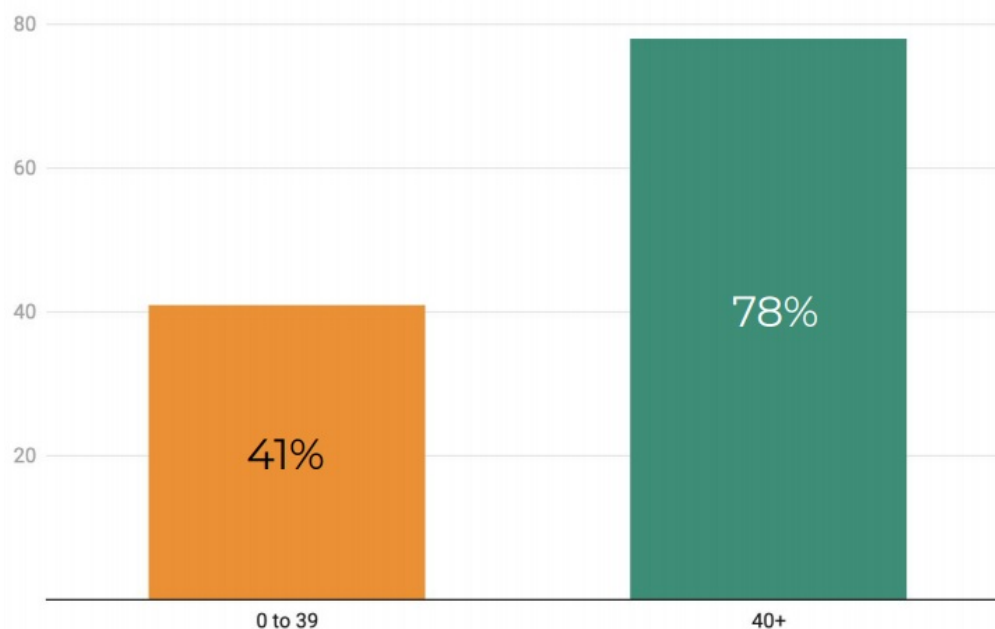


Walk in Vaccination: A daily, walk-in clinic is available to anyone 16 and older at the Essex Fairgrounds, currently for the first dose. For more information about these clinics, visit the Department of Health's [website](#).

**VACCINE
WALK-INS**



% Of Vermonters Receiving At Least One Vaccine Dose



Vermont COVID Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program:

The Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) is accepting applications for



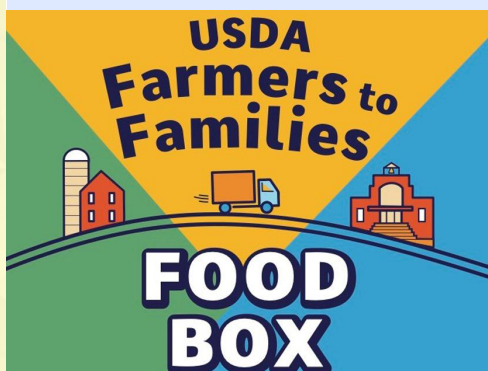
those who may have missed mortgage payments due to financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. The State of Vermont received money through the Federal CARES Act to fund this program.

Any homeowner living in Vermont as their primary residence who entered a mortgage before March 1, 2020 and missed payments since that date due to a COVID-19 hardship are eligible to apply. Additionally, income limits of up to \$84,000 in 2020 or up to \$21,000 in the last 90 days (\$96,000 total income in 2020 or \$24,000 in the last 90 days for homeowners in Chittenden County) apply. Homeowners are eligible even if the mortgage is already in forbearance or deferment.

For more information and to apply for assistance, visit the [VHFA website](#).

Farmers to Families Food Box Program Extended

The Farmers to Families Food Box Program award has been extended through the end of May. Please check back every day or two for locations nearby. Registration and other food resource information is available [here](#).



Links

[DOH COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
[Vaccine Dashboard](#)
[CDC COVID-19 Information](#)
[St. Mike's Dashboard](#)

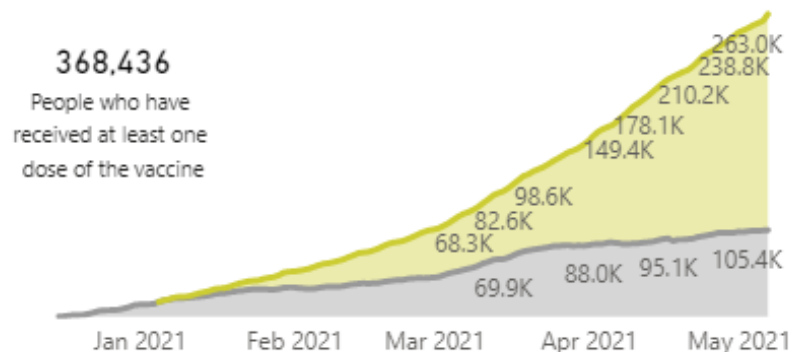
Vaccination Progress

All Vermonters aged 16 and older are eligible to receive the vaccine. You may set up an account with the Dept. of Health to register for a vaccine [here](#). Those without internet or who speak a language other than English can alternatively call 855-722-7878.

As of Saturday, May 8, 368,436 Vermonters, or 67.3% of the state's population have had at least one dose of the vaccine. 263,000 Vermonters, or 48.1%, have been fully vaccinated. View the COVID-19 Dashboard [here](#).

Total People Vaccinated

● Started ● Completed



Updated 5/8/2021 8:42:52 AM

Department Updates

Glen Cuttitta

Director of Parks and Recreation

8th Annual Colchester Causeway 5K/15K:

After last year's cancellation due to the pandemic, the Colchester Causeway 5K/15K race is back on for 2021! The 8th annual race will take place at Airport Park on Saturday, June 5th. You can [register online](#) or print out and mail in the form [here](#).



Due to the ongoing pandemic, precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of runners, volunteers, and staff. While 2019's race had over 400 entrants, numbers will be capped at 85 runners for the 15K race and 150 for the 5K. Runners will start in small waves, spaced out two minutes apart to accomplish appropriate physical distancing. We are also asking runners to mask up while checking in and during the beginning of the race.

Once they have spaced out, they can remove facial coverings if they choose, and then put them back on at the finish line. Additionally, we will not be offering water stations along the race course for the safety of runners, volunteers, and staff, so runners should bring their own water. Bottled water will be available after the race.

We are so excited to be able to host the Colchester Causeway 5K/15K race once again and get folks back out on the trails in a safe manner. Spaces are still open for both races, so register now to claim your spot. Day-of registration will only be offered if the races haven't filled up. All guidelines are subject to change. [Register here](#).

More Parks & Recreation Updates:

- The **Wednesday half-day program** for grades K-5 still has a few spots available. You can call the Parks and Recreation Department for more information.
- The Summer Camp/Program brochure is available online at our [website](#). Hard copies will no longer be mailed to each household.
- **4th of July events:** Parade 10 am on Blakely Road. Concert prior to fireworks with the Hitmen. Fireworks at dusk at the Bayside Softball Field. All events subject to change based on State of Vermont guidelines.
- **Summer Concerts are returning!** July 15 - Quadra, July 26 - Chad Hollister. Concerts start at 7 pm at Lower Bayside Park. All events subject to change based on State of Vermont guidelines.
- 2021 Colchester Triathlon is cancelled. It will return on July 31, 2022.



Summer Concerts at Bayside Park are on!

- Pavilion rental applications are currently being accepted. You can reserve them in person or on our [website](#).
- As parks begin to open please follow all State of Vermont Outdoor 4.1 Recreation and Fitness [guidelines](#).
- Park restroom facilities are open at this time.
- Please remember to pick up after your pets in the parks and recreation paths.
- Planning is taking place for park projects scheduled for FY 22.
- Park staff is in full operation mode for maintenance in the parks and its facilities.

Doug Allen
Chief of Colchester Police Department

Report of activity between 04/12/2021 and
04/25/2021

As Covid-19 restrictions are eased under the Governor's Restart Vermont initiative, CPD is seeing our calls for service increase. In comparing this two-week period just completed with that from 2020, we show a 26% increase in calls. We continue to work closely with our Community Outreach partners to improve service to those in our community needing mental



health, substance abuse, or other unmet social needs.

CPD is currently recruiting candidate for the position of Police Officer. If you have a desire for a challenging career that makes a difference in the community, please visit our [website](#).

CPD responded to 447 calls for service over the past two weeks.

Of our 26 traffic stops, CPD officers issued 19 warnings and 7 tickets for civil violations. 13 individuals were issued citations to appear in Vermont Superior Court in Burlington for 18 criminal offenses.

Upcoming Town Meetings

Agendas available at: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt>

- **Planning Commission:** May 18 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/9359846003>; *Zoom Meeting ID:* 935 984 6003

- Live stream: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIjLFn4BZd2MtMV4SzmzYl6grkrjrcbym)

[list=PLIjLFn4BZd2MtMV4SzmzYl6grkrjrcbym](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIjLFn4BZd2MtMV4SzmzYl6grkrjrcbym)

- Mail or email public testimony prior to the hearing
(shadd@colchestervt.gov or Town of Colchester Planning Commission, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446)

- **Development Review Board:** Next meeting: May 12 at 7:00 PM via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/9359846003>; *Zoom Meeting ID:* 935 984 6003

- Live stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>

-Mail or email public comments prior to the hearing (riddle@colchestervt.gov) or Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446) or participate at public comment periods during the Zoom meeting.

- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Next meeting: TBA

- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month. Next meeting: May

17, 2021 at 6:00 PM; *Dial in:* 1-929-205-6099; *Meeting ID:* 940 0941 6919;

Passcode: 291046

- **Library Board of Trustees:** Next meeting: May 20, 2021 4:30 PM; *Dial in:*

(929) 205 6099 *Meeting ID:* 992 1600 9241 *Passcode:* 988244

- **Selectboard:** Next meeting: May 11, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Attend via *phone:* 1-929-205-6099; *Meeting ID:* 956 7585 8667; *Passcode:* 145966 Alternatively, send a note to TownManager@colchestervt.gov with "Citizens to be Heard" in the Subject and your name. As with in-person Citizens to be Heard, we ask that you SHARE YOUR ADDRESS. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting. Watch the meeting online via live stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>

Selectboard Agenda: www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas

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<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jkMAO2v>

For more information or to comment call 264-5509 or email
townmanager@colchestervt.gov

More Info



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VERMONT

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