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781 Blakely Road  
Colchester, Vermont 05446

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# Town Newsletter

July 18, 2021



A Glimpse of the Sunset on Malletts Bay

## Town Manager's Message

Today, Colchester has 1,850 acres of combined state, regional, and local parkland, 41 miles of walking and biking paths, and 413 seasonal recreation programs! Malletts Bay, a State of Vermont water body that belongs to all of us, contributes to 38% of the Town's geographic area!



Aaron  
Frank





## Open Space and Recreation in Colchester



**One**  
State Park

**Five**  
Regional Parks

**Eleven**  
Local Parks





# Connect with Colchester

## Covid-19 Update

In the last 14 days, there have been 46 recent cases of Coronavirus in Chittenden County. For further information, please visit the [Vermont Department of Health's Dashboard](#).

Walk-in clinics and appointments for the Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, or Pfizer vaccines are available today. To find a site near you, make an appointment, or for further information about before- and after-care, please visit the Vermont Department of Health's webpage, [Getting the COVID-19 Vaccine](#), or call 855-722-7878.

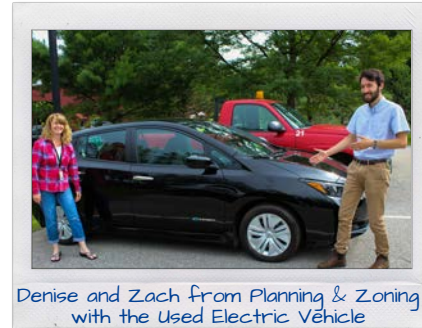


84.9% of Chittenden County residents 12+ have received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine as of July 16, 2021.

Source: [www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard](http://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard)

## Local Energy Update

- The Town recently purchased a used electric car to replace a small sport utility vehicle (SUV). Not only will this used vehicle be less costly for the Town to maintain and operate, but Colchester will also benefit from the federal tax credits collected by the previous private owner.
- The Chairs of the Selectboard and Planning Commission signed a letter of support for the development of Colchester's third solar farm at Sunny Hollow Natural Area.
  - This would allow the Town to produce electricity equivalent to 60% of that used to provide municipal services from cost-effective, affordable, and local sources.
  - The three projects will save over \$1.35 million in electricity costs over the lives of the projects.



Denise and Zach from Planning & Zoning with the Used Electric Vehicle

## *L. dispar* Moth Update



The Town checked in with Joshua Halman, a Vermont (VT) Licensed Forester and Forest Health Specialist, regarding the State's moth outbreak. Currently, the VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) is collecting aerial images of affected areas.

At this time, most larvae caterpillars have transitioned into adult moths. Therefore, Colchester residents should not be concerned by the potential of further tree damage this year, especially with the mating season just around the corner. Remember, the species dies after mating and laying egg masses, which remain during the winter season.

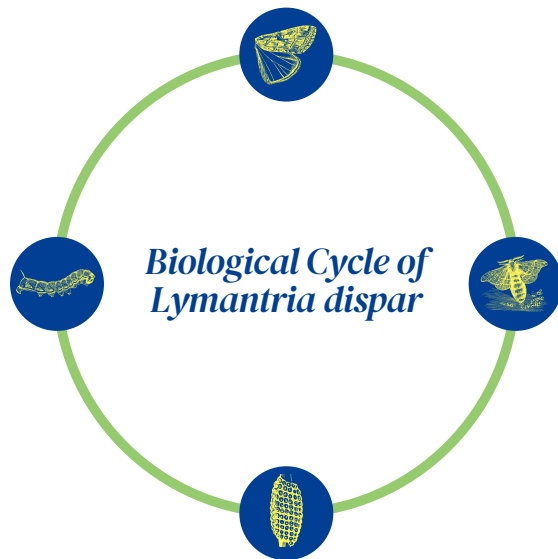
VT ANR's current plan of action is to monitor and survey these egg masses. There is no intention of employing a state-run spray program similar to the one conducted a couple of decades ago at this stage.

Judy Rosovsky, Vermont State Entomologist, explained that trees could survive a year or so of defoliation. But, defoliation and dry weather are stressors on tree, shrub, and plant health. Therefore, keeping your plants watered will help offset defoliation stress. Colchester may see another year or two of high levels of moths unless the Town gets some rainy seasons, which should increase the moth killing fungi.

Vermonters interested in exploring management practices are recommended to visit the following webpage, [vtinvasives.org/invasive/gypsy-moth](http://vtinvasives.org/invasive/gypsy-moth), for further information. Options include the hand removal of egg masses, chemical treatments, and burlap traps.



# Connect with Colchester



## Upcoming Meetings

Monday, July 19

- Conservation Commission 6:30 pm
  - Location: Bayside Park Near the Fenced Area

Tuesday, July 27

- Selectboard Meeting 5:00 pm
  - Citizens to Be Heard 6:30 pm
- Location: Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room
- Note that this meeting is in person. Masking is based on vaccination status, or send a note to [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov) with 'Citizens to be Heard' and your name in the subject line — email addresses of in-person Citizens to be Heard will be shared with the Selectboard before the meeting.



**LIVE**  
**STREAMING**



## Upcoming Events

### Burnham Memorial Library

Monday, July 19

- Teen Dungeons & Dragons 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Tuesday, July 20

- Outdoor Storytime 10:30 - 11:00 am
- Adult Book Club 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Wednesday, July 21

- Weekly Bookactivities: Tie-Dye shirts 1:00 - 2:00 pm
- Weekly Bookactivities: Tie-Dye Shirts 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Friday, July 23

- Outdoor Yoga for Kids 11:00 - 11:30 am
- Amigurumi Octopus 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Saturday, July 24

- Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate 11:00 - 12:00 pm



## Summer Concerts

Thursday, July 29

- Chad Hollister Quartet 7:00 pm
  - Location: Lower Bayside Park

Friday, July 30

- Abe Ovadia 6:30 pm
  - Location: Library Lawn

Friday, August 6

- CHS Alumni Jazz Band 6:30 pm
  - Location: Lower Bayside Park



802-264-5640

## Parks & Recreation

### Department Spotlight



The Parks and Recreation Department recently hosted its first concert of the summer season at Lower Bayside Park on July 15!

Attendees set up blankets and camp chairs on the green, and when 7:00 pm hit, the band Quadra filled the park with some rock n' roll tunes! There was even an audience of boats offshore listening in to Quadra's classic jams, such as Neil Diamond's Sweet Caroline.

It was certain that the evening of dancing and fun was a success when the crowd clapped and boat viewers beeped their horns in appreciation, following Quadra's last song!

Special thanks to Parks & Rec.'s Director Glen Cuttitta, Assistant Director Derek Mitchel, and Program Director Jennifer Turmel for organizing the concert and Town staff who helped kick off this summer series in Colchester!

### Employee Spotlight



#### *Meet Laura Smith, Administrative Coordinator*

Laura, a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP), joined Colchester in March of 2021. She grew up in the City of Newport, Vermont, and served as her community's recreation coordinator for three years.

Laura, a Champlain College graduate, is excited to be back in Chittenden County again!

#### *At Parks & Rec.*

Laura connects with locals who are interested in seasonal parks and recreation programming as well as department events! Want to [register](#) for an activity? Laura can help you with the process!

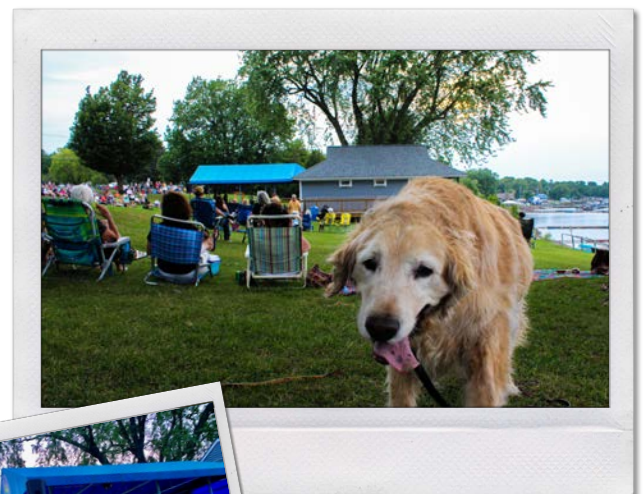
#### *Outside of Town Hall*

When Laura is not serving the Colchester community, you could find her practicing her cross-stitch, hiking a local trail, or spending quality time with her friends and family!

### A Peek into Last Week's Summer Concert: Quadra



Quadra



The Crowd