

For the Week of December 13, 2021

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

**Holiday Safety Tips from
Colchester Police Department**

The holiday season is upon us. We hope everyone who celebrated the eight days and nights of Hanukkah had an enjoyable festival and those who celebrate Christmas and Kwanzaa are able to do so in the comfort of friends and family. Some thoughts for a safe holiday season –

- Celebrate responsibly – designate a driver or use alternate transportation if drinking.
 - Road conditions change quickly. Plan extra time to get to your destination.
 - Lock your vehicle. Remove valuables.
 - Use caution with telephone solicitations. If you have doubts, hang up and call us at 802-264-5555.
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**Winter Safety Tips from
Colchester Public Works Department**

While the use of road salt improves safety conditions in winter ice and snow, overuse of salt can have negative effects on water bodies, aquatic plants, and animals, and can damage metal and concrete. Testing data from around Vermont indicates that road salt is accumulating in our waterways. While public safety is of the utmost importance, we also value our surrounding ecosystems and work hard to minimize the impacts of our maintenance programs.

Our primary salt trucks are equipped with computerized spreader controls that carefully control the amount of salt being placed on our roadways. We also closely monitor temperatures and other storm conditions to ensure we are using road salt as efficiently as we can. This not only minimizes environmental impacts but also saves taxpayers thousands of dollars in salt costs.

As a property owner, you can also take steps to minimize impacts on our environment. If you are planning to use salt this winter around your property, please consider the following:

- Salt should be stored in airtight containers to minimize loss and maximize effectiveness
- Pre-treat walkways before the storm hits to limit post-storm usage
- Shovel early after a storm to minimize the need for de-icing agents
- Only use on impervious surfaces, never on lawns, or near wetlands or surface waters

Local Hazard Mitigation: Plan Draft Available & Public Meeting 12/21/21

Over the past several months, an update to Colchester's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) has been in development. Colchester's last LHMP was completed in 2017 and an updated plan is due in early 2022. Maintaining an up-to-date LHMP is a condition of continued access to reduced flood insurance and FEMA reimbursement for costs incurred from severe weather events and hazards. The full draft of Colchester's updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan will be available at the following link on December 13, 2021. [Colchester LHMP Dec 2021 DRAFT.pdf \(dropbox.com\)](#)

A public meeting to review the draft LHMP and receive public comments will take place on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 6:30 PM at the Town Offices, or you may participate virtually via Zoom at [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

Comments on the draft plan can also be emailed to the project consultant, Dolan Municipal & Utility Consulting LLC at any time between December 13, 2021 and December 27, 2021 at DolanMunicipal@gmail.com

COVID UPDATE

Vaccines for Children: Children 5 – 11 are eligible for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations.

Families and caregivers will be able to make an appointment for state-run or school based sites, on the [health department's website](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/vaccines-children) at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/vaccines-children> or by calling (855) 722-7878. The school-based sites began Monday, November 8th and will last for a 6-week period.

Appointments for Free Vaccine: <https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

You can also walk in at CVS, Hannaford Food and Drug, Walmart, Price Chopper/Market 32, Rite Aid, Shaw's Supermarket, or Costco or get an appointment with [Kinney Drugs](#), [CVS](#), [Walgreens](#), [Northfield Pharmacy](#), or [UVMHC Outpatient Pharmacies](#).

Booster Shot information: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine> **Booster Shot Answers:** <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/faqs#boostershot>.

Booster shots available through

- your pharmacy
- your doctor
- The State Health Department: 855-722-7878, Mon - Fri 8:15 am - 4:30 pm, Sat and Sun 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Or <https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

Johnson & Johnson: You can get a booster shot if you received your vaccine at least two months ago.

Moderna and Pfizer: You can get a booster shot if you received your second dose of vaccine at least six months ago.

Colchester's Burnham Memorial Library
Kelly McCagg, Director

Over the past few months we have been so excited to see so many patrons visit us. As the weather cools and the leaves turn, we hope many more come and use our services.

All patrons entering the library or attending a program in the Library Meeting House are required to wear a mask, even if fully vaccinated. We appreciate your cooperation.

Our hours in December will continue to be as follows:

Mondays, 12 – 6 pm
Tuesdays, 10 am – 4 pm
Wednesdays, 10 am – 4 pm
Thursday, 12 – 6 pm
Friday, 10 am – 1 pm
Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm

The Library will be closed Friday December 24 – Monday December 27.
Service hours will resume on Tuesday December 28, 2021.

Here are some programs you can attend in December:

Outdoor Storytime: Most Tuesdays & Fridays at 10:30 am. Join us on the library lawn for stories, songs, and lots of giggles. Please bring a towel or blankets for your family to sit on during storytime. There will be no storytime on Friday December 24.

Kids Yoga: Monday December 20 at 3:30-4:00 pm and 4:00 – 4:30 pm. Join Melissa Nutting for Kids Yoga, a joyful blend of yoga poses, songs, games, books, and relaxation techniques. There will be two sessions of the program, Kids Yoga I from 3:30 – 4 pm for kids, pre-k – 2nd grade, and Kids Yoga II which will run from 4-4:30 pm for kids, 2nd – 5th grade. Sign-ups for this program are required, please sign up on our website.

Outdoor Holiday Storytime: Wednesday December 18 at 10:30 am. Come join us for a selection of holiday stories, both traditional and new, as well as music and rhymes!! For kids of all ages.

Young Writers & Storytellers: Wednesday, December 22 at 3:30 pm. Join us for our writing club for children from kindergarten to 5th grade. Let's create stories! Call 264-5660 for more information.

Here is one of the great books you can check out in the library or from our digital collection: *Death in Focus* by Anne Perry –Adult Fiction, 2019. Review by Susan Gamberg, Youth Services

The Great War is finally over and Elena Standish and her older sister Margot have decided to escape London for a vacation on the Italian coast. They lost their brother in the war and Margot, a newlywed, her husband. Elena brings her camera along while they tour as photography is her hobby and as she

takes photographs she meets Ian a handsome man but he needs to return home suddenly and Margot decides to go with him on the train ride to England. He asks her to deliver a message to Berlin and she accepts. Unbeknownst to Elena, her father and grandfather who work for M16 in England are involved in international intrigue with the rise of the Third Reich brewing in Germany. She finds herself in a dangerous predicament and her father discovers her trip to Berlin may threaten her life. He and her grandfather with their contacts in M16 may be the only ones to get her back safely home. Great new series.

Upcoming Town Meetings

Selectboard: Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Masks are required. 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>
- Agenda: www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas

Development Review Board: Wednesday, December 22, 7:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. The Development Review Board will likely be participating remotely. Members of the public will have the option to choose either remote or in-person attendance. Masks are required for in-person attendance. Public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to zmaia@colchestervt.gov or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Alternatively, participate in the public comment periods during the hybrid meeting.

- Participate by Phone: 1-929-436-2866
- Meeting ID: 83271430077 (US – New York)
- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAgenda%2C



Colchester – What do you want to do today?

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, December 16, 4:30 pm at the Burnham Memorial Library, Burnham Room, 898 Main Street. Masks are required. The meeting will take place in-person (masks required) and over Zoom. To attend over Zoom: Dial in: (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 951 5132 1071; Passcode: 761145. Agenda: https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/LibBoard.htm#_CPA1

Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:

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

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email townmanager@colchestervt.gov