

For the Week of August 26, 2024

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

School is back in Session

Welcome back to our Colchester School District students, from kindergartners at Union Memorial and Porters Point School to seniors at Colchester High School who begin classes today. Please be careful as everyone adjusts to new habits and traffic patterns with the new school year.



Labor Day

In observance of Labor Day, the Town Hall and Burnham Memorial Library will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2024. Both will reopen for regular hours on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. All emergency services will be available as usual during the holiday.

Mark your Calendars!

The Town of Colchester will be hosting our third annual fall market at Severance Corners. This event highlights our local businesses, artisans, music, and food trucks. Activities for kids are also part of this event.

WHEN: Saturday, September 14, 2024
(Rain Date: Sept. 15)
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Severance Green



“Community is much more than belonging to something; it’s about doing something together that makes belonging matter.”

Public Works Updates

We appreciate the traveling public’s patience and understanding as we install the Malletts Bay Sewer, which is moving forward on schedule.

West Lakeshore Drive Construction update:

The contractor has completed installation of the western section of the new sewer main, located between the Moorings Marina (the dip in the roadway by 332 West Lakeshore Dr) and Prim Road. Work has begun in the location by the Moorings, moving east toward Bayside Park and the East and West Lakeshore Drive/Blakely Road intersection. The contractor expects to complete installation of the sewer main on West Lakeshore Drive up to Blakely Road by the end of this construction season, picking up in the spring (around May 1) on East Lakeshore Drive.

The contractor has been busy improving the roadway surface with temporary pavement where it was disturbed for the installation of the western section. Restoration of disturbed pavement areas will be completed before the end of this construction season, which is weather-dependent but expected to be late November.

The Town and School District have been coordinating with school opening this week. While minor delays are unavoidable, there are no planned changes to bus stop locations as a result of this season's construction.

Lastly, night work on West Lakeshore Drive is expected to begin in September, with working hours from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. More information will be provided to affected property owners prior to beginning this work.

Blakely Road Construction update:

The contractor has installed approximately 5,000 feet of the sewer force main that will connect the Malletts Bay collection system to the existing Town system at Severance Corners. There is approximately 2,000 feet left to complete prior to drilling under I-89, which has been coordinated with the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

The project team can be reached at MBS@colchestervt.gov or 802-264-5620 for more information or to report concerns. For more information about the project please visit the Malletts Bay Sewer website:

<https://colchestervt.gov/3291/Malletts-Bay-Sewer>

Below: Installation of the new force main via directional drilling in Bayside Park.



Project Description & Phasing

Phase I of this project involves the installation of sewer collection lines along West Lakeshore Drive from Prim Rd to Blakely Rd, a portion of East Lakeshore Drive from Blakely Rd to South Bay Circle, and a no-access transmission line along the length of Blakely Road to connect the new service area into the existing municipal sewer system at Severance Corners. Phase II involves extending the new collection system the full length of East Lakeshore Drive, and installing service connections for East and West Lakeshore Drive property owners so they can begin using the new municipal sewer. Phase III will involve constructing sewer mains and service lines along Goodsell Point. The project is expected to be completed in 2027.

Parks & Recreation Fall Brochure

The Fall 2024 brochure is now available and it is packed with programs and offerings for all ages:

<https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10655/2024-Fall-Brochure?bidId=>

Parks & Recreation's Fall Concert

Summer is too short, so we are continuing the music one last evening. Join us for a beautiful evening with foliage and Satin & Steel who are a horn-based band. Admission is free and the concert will start at 6 p.m. on Friday September 20th at Bayside Park Pavilion.



As requested by the State, the Town is sharing the VT Department of Health's test results and information on mosquitos and the West Nile Virus:

Each week from July to mid-October, mosquitoes are collected from locations around the state and tested for mosquito-borne viruses. Although no human or animal cases of West Nile Virus have been reported in 2024, four of 50 pools of mosquitoes collected on July 30th in Colchester tested positive for the virus. (A mosquito pool is a group of 1-50 mosquitoes of the same species, collected at the same trap location, on the same date.)

When the virus is spread to humans through mosquito bites, most people don't get sick, but some get symptoms like fever, headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash. The sickness can become quite serious in some people, and those age 50 or older are at the highest risk.

The Vermont Department of Health shares precautions to prevent mosquito bites and to protect yourself:

- Wear long sleeves and long pants when you're outside.
- Limit the amount of time you spend outdoors at dawn and dusk.
- Use EPA-registered insect repellent.
- Cover cribs, strollers, and baby carriers with mosquito netting.
- Fix holes in your screens and make sure they are tightly attached to doors and windows.
- Get rid of standing water where mosquitoes like to breed.

Learn about what works when it comes to mosquito bite prevention:

www.healthvermont.gov/mosquito

Driver's Ed now offered by Colchester Parks & Recreation

The Colchester Recreation Department will be offering Driver's Ed programs by the 802 Driving school. The Driver's Ed program will be taught by Joe Barch, who has 15 years of experience teaching in the public schools.

The class runs for six-weeks and meets the State of Vermont DMV requirements. It is essential that the student and their family commit to the time frame. Classes will occur on weekdays in the evening, with driving occurring on weekends. Where daylight permits, there may be an option for driving after school. There is no ability to accommodate for camps, vacations,

sports programs, or any other interruptions, except illness and emergencies. There will be a survey sent out to identify times for driving. When registering, you will receive policies and procedures pertaining to the class that must be adhered to at all times.

Fall Session B

October 7 - November 13 (M-TH 3 days per week, days vary)

Time: 5:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

**Driving Schedule is organized directly with the instructor

Log onto colchestervt.gov/recreation for more information and to register today! Space is limited.

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, September 10, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Alternatively, send a note, up to 1,000 words, 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

Planning Commission: Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=PLANAGENDA>

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd floor, Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2C>

Development Review Board: Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or 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



Colchester Town News

VERMONT

Colchester – What do you want to do today?

Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda>

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, September 12, 4:00 p.m., in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=LibBoard&path=BOARDS%2CLibBoard%2C>

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