

For the Week of September 2nd, 2024



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.”

Town Clerk’s Office

Office Closure Next Week: The Town Clerk’s Office will be closed Wednesday, September 11th and Thursday, September 12th for annual staff training. Please leave any messages for the Town Clerk’s Office at 802-264-5520 or townclerk@colchestervt.gov.

A message from the Vermont Department of Health, regarding West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE):



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, mosquitos collected in July tested positive for the virus and the Department is advising individuals to take precautions.

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

Eastern Equine Encephalitis:

The Vermont Department of Health announced the first human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Vermont since 2012, detected in Chittenden County last month. EEE is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most people infected with EEE virus will have no or mild symptoms, such as fever, chills, fatigue, and joint and body aches. While rare, EEE can result in severe disease, including encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain. EEE is fatal in about one-third of people who

develop severe disease. Many who recover from severe EEE disease are left with disabilities. Anyone with symptoms of EEE should contact their health care provider as soon as they start to feel sick.

This season, 47 groups of mosquitoes have tested positive for EEE virus across 11 towns, including Colchester, compared with 14 groups across three towns that tested positive in 2023. If going outdoors, taking steps to prevent mosquito bites is essential. High-risk towns currently include Alburgh, Burlington, Colchester and Swanton. The recommendation will be in place until the first hard frost that kills mosquitoes.

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 [insect repellent labeled as effective](#) against mosquitoes.
- 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.

For more information, including translated materials, visit HealthVermont.gov/mosquito or HealthVermont.gov/EEE.

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.

Public Works Updates

Fiber Optic Line Installation & Sidewalk Closure on Blakely:

This week, beginning on Tuesday, a portion of the sidewalk on Blakely Road between the Colchester Middle School and Lake Lane will be closed for the installation of fiber optic lines. This installation project will connect the new Recreation Center with the existing town fiber optic line. The pedestrian detour path will be the same. The contractor expects this work to

take approximately 4 days and will not require the closure of traffic lanes on this portion of the road.

See the image below for a view of the closed portion and the detour path:



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, October 1, 7:00p.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 Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda>

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, September 19, 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>

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