

For the Week of September 30th, 2024

Manager's Message

Special Thanks to Our Volunteer Board and Commission Appointees

At last week's Selectboard meeting, the following community volunteers were appointed to our Town boards and commissions. We'd like to thank them for their vital roles in our community!

Colchester Conservation Commission: Theresa Carroll, Patrick Volz, and Dylan Tompkins

Development Review Board: Angela MacDonald, Evan Fitzgerald, Bert Severin, Chris Gendron, Kathy Cawley

Board of Ethics: Scott Perren

Green-Up Coordinators: Theresa Carroll, Pam Loranger

Library Board of Trustees: Shabnam Saini (student Get Engaged member)

Planning Commission: Sarita Austin, Wendy Critchlow, Rebecca Arnold

Recreation Advisory Board: Dick Pecor, Jim Neary, Inge Schaffer



National Community Planning Month

The month of October is designated as National Community Planning Month throughout the U.S., and it is a time to recognize how community planning helps provide a framework for private sector development to balance the needs of the natural environment that supports human life and the developed areas where we live, work, learn, shop and recreate. Town planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully

involved in the creation and administration of these regulations by serving on boards and commissions or through public input. We thank the Town's volunteer Planning Commission, volunteer Development Review Board and the Planning and Zoning Department staff for the time and expertise they've contributed to our planning and development framework.

Information on Colchester's Planning and Zoning services, development regulations and plans are available here: <https://colchestervt.gov/150/Planning-Zoning>

Message from the Town Clerk's Office:

Election Update-Watch for Mailed Ballot

We have received notice that the Colchester registered voters' absentee/early ballots are being mailed by the Secretary of State's Office in the next few days. Be on the watch for your ballots in the US Postal Mail.



Your voted ballot can be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by using the GREEN Drive-up Drop Box between Town Hall and Police Dept. at 781 Blakely Rd. It is available 24-7 from now to November 4th at 4:30pm. Our office hours are 8:00am to 4:30pm if you would like to drop off at the Clerk's counter. The absentee/early ballot mailing includes a postage paid return envelope if you prefer to use the US Postal mail.

Keep an eye out for more election updates as November 5th General Election gets closer. For more information on voting in Colchester go <https://colchestervt.gov/325/Elections-and-Voter-Information> or contact via phone, 802-264-5520 or email, townclerk@colchestervt.gov.

Malletts Bay Sewer Construction Update

The Malletts Bay Sewer Project is in full swing and we appreciate the traveling public's patience and understanding as we complete this important work. Construction crews are on schedule and are planning to wrap up this season's work in mid to late November.

West Lakeshore Drive

The contractor performing this work has been right on schedule and is currently working in the area of 135 West Lakeshore Drive. If we continue to enjoy good weather for construction activities, the contractor should have the main sewer line and service connections to the edge of the public right-of-way on West Lakeshore Drive fully installed before winter shutdown. Prior to winter shutdown – regardless of where the contractor ends their work for the season – they are responsible for completing pavement repair and restoration for all disturbed areas. Because of the nature of this project, any pavement restoration work installed previously would have been disrupted when the contractor began night work, as they did in mid-September. We are also mindful of the overall disruption that this project requires, and for that reason having the contractor spend their time restoring the roadway immediately after disturbing it would divert resources away from finishing the main line work, ultimately prolonging the disruption beyond what we feel the community will tolerate. We understand the driving surface is not uniform and ask that the traveling public be mindful of the 25MPH speed limit. The entirety of West Lakeshore Drive will be paved as part of the Town's regular Capital Paving Program once the Sewer project is fully complete. After winter shutdown, the contractor will resume work on East Lakeshore Drive and there will be a detour in place using Williams Road to reduce travel delays.

The Town is exploring with the contractor solutions to provide efficient movement of traffic through the construction zone in relation to the functioning of the traffic signal at the Lakeshore/Blakely (Bayside) intersection.

Blakely Road

The contractor performing this work has also been right on schedule and is currently working in the area of 1987 Blakely Road. If we continue to enjoy good weather for construction activities, the contractor should have the majority of the sewer force main along Blakely Road installed prior to the end of the season. Properties to be affected by construction activities will be contacted by a member of the project team ahead of any impacts. The pump station near Interstate-89 is partially installed, with the remaining components currently being manufactured and delivered to the site in the next two weeks. The traveling public should continue to expect alternating single lane traffic during work hours and we'd like to remind drivers of the 35MPH speed limit along most of the roadway and the 25MPH speed limit in areas designated as school zones.

Any sewer project related questions or concerns can be directed to MBS@colchestervt.gov or 802-264-5620. Again, we are very grateful for the community's understanding of this season's construction activities.

Parks & Recreation Fall Brochure

Check out the Fall 2024 brochure for programs and offerings for all ages:
<https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10655/2024-Fall-Brochure?bidId=>

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, October 8th, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting. 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 1st, 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>

NOTICE: In light of Election Day, the November meeting will be held WEDNESDAY, November 6th, 7:00 p.m.

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, October 9th, 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, October 9th, 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, October 17th, 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