

For the Week of April 7, 2025

Town of Colchester Traffic Update for Malletts Bay Sewer – East Lakeshore Drive

Work on the Malletts Bay Sewer Project is restarting for the 2025 construction season beginning April 14, 2025. East Lakeshore Drive will be closed to all but local traffic between Blakely Road and Williams Road from April 14, 2025 until approximately July 15, 2025.

Steps of the project include: mobilization, which includes rolling out the traffic control package and preparing to begin work; installation of the sewer mainline below the eastbound lane; installation of service laterals from the sewer mainline to the edge of the town right of way, and repaving of impacted areas, site restoration and demobilization. Private connections to the sewer system will be completed as a part of a separate contract. During this construction, there will be barricades around the construction site which traffic may not pass by, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Local and commuter traffic are strongly encouraged to divert around the construction area. Williams Road will remain open, however commuters are advised against using Williams Road as a detour, as it will likely be difficult to access Blakely Road via Williams Road during peak traffic times.

The working day for construction is generally from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

More detailed information will be provided to affected residents and businesses regarding how we will address access to properties within the barricaded work zone.

The Town has coordinated with the Colchester School District and has made special accommodations for buses that pick up in this area. This will be communicated through the school district.

Please a) seek alternative routes where possible; b) anticipate the delays; and c) adjust your schedule the best you can.

For more information visit: <https://colchestervt.gov/3291/Malletts-Bay-Sewer>

Contact Information:

Danylo Whalen, Public Works Engineer, dwhalen@colchestervt.gov 802-264-5515

Norm Baldwin, Director of Public Works, nbaldwin@colchestervt.gov 802-264-5620

Colchester Blooms! Fundraiser

Since 2009, Colchester Blooms!, a volunteer committee, has raised money each year for the planting and maintenance of public flowerbeds at several Colchester locations. This has been possible thanks to generous donations from local businesses and residents.

The committee is requesting your help again so we may purchase flowers to plant this summer at several high-traffic areas. Funds raised also go toward summer-long maintenance of the flowerbeds by a local landscaping company. Last year donations allowed us to plant more than 1,200 annuals at five locations.

Can we count on your support to help Colchester bloom this summer?



Whether you are able to write a check for \$10 or want to give \$100 or more, your contribution will help beautify our town and bring smiles to the faces of residents and visitors who will enjoy the beautiful displays of flowers from mid-May through early October.

Checks should be made payable to the "Town of Colchester" and sent to Colchester Blooms!, c/o Liz Hamlin-Volz, 123 Holy Cross Road, Colchester, Vermont 05446. Please put Conservation Reserve Fund on the memo line of your check, so the money is allocated properly. All donations are tax-deductible.

Colchester Historical Society: Upcoming Events in April

April 12, 2025

10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Arrowhead Senior Center, 26 Middle Road, Milton

"Making Connections – Local Historical Society and Museum Showcase."

The Colchester Historical Society will be featuring information about the Colchester Log Schoolhouse (circa 1815) and offering demonstrations of fun and educational "make and take" projects that may be offered to children to help spark an interest in local history. Several other local historical societies and museums also will be represented at this event. Get ready for the summer museum season! This event is hosted by the Milton Historical Society.



April 14, 2025

8:30 p.m., Meeting House, 830 Main Street on the Historic Village Green

All aboard! Local author James "Jim" Jones will present the history of trolleys in our local area. His presentation will include colorful anecdotes, rare photos, maps, vintage and contemporary ephemera. Jim is a third-generation Vermont rail enthusiast and historian with degrees in technical communications and U.S. history. A discount will be offered on sales of his book, *Trolley*



This vintage postcard indicates that electric trolleys served users of Fanny Allen Hospital in the early 1900s.

Wires to Rubber Tires. Hosted by the Colchester Historical Society.

For more information about the Colchester Historical Society, please visit <https://www.colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>. Also, check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ColchesterVermontHistoricalSociety>

Vermont 211 New Online Directory

Vermont 211 is a program that allows callers to connect with a range of services related to health and wellbeing. By calling 211 or by texting your zip code to 898211, callers can get help with child care, food, health care, job training, and much more.



United Ways of Vermont

To aid in this process, Vermont 211 has launched a new online directory to make accessing these services even easier. Users of the online directory can choose from multiple search suggestions, search by specific resource, or choose a category from the list.

Vermont 211 has been helping Vermonters since its founding in 1970. Their new online directory is another tool for Vermonters to utilize in times of need.

Visit Vermont 211's website for more information and to access the online directory:
<https://vermont211.org/>

Department Updates:

Colchester Fire Department: Burn Permits

As the weather gets warmer, the Fire Department would like to remind residents about rules surrounding bonfires.

Residents are permitted to have barbeque pits less than thirty (30) inches in diameter and bonfires/campfires less than thirty (30) inches in diameter.

If your bonfire does not meet these requirements, you must obtain a Burn Permit from the Fire Department to conduct open burning. These regulations are in place for the safety of yourself and others.



The ordinance on open burning can be found here:

https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=Colchc07&path=Colchester_Code%2CColchc07%2C

Visit the Fire Department's webpage to learn more or apply for a Burn Permit:

<https://colchestervt.gov/3245/Fire-Department>

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas:

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, April 8, 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, May 6, 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, May 14, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Recreation Center, 80 Dick Mazza Drive. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2C>

Development Review Board: Wednesday, April 9, 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&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, April 17, 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>

Colchester Conservation Commission: Monday, April 21, 6:00 p.m. in the Champlain Room, Colchester Town Office. https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/ConservCommsn.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