

For the Week of May 27, 2025

Bike Safety Reminders!

As the weather continues to warm up, we have seen increased bike traffic around Town and on our bike paths. We would like to remind pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists of a few important tips that will help keep everyone safe.

Bicyclists should: control their bike, obey all traffic laws, and use lights at night to improve visibility.

Motorists should: be alert and control their vehicle, slow down, yield at crosswalks, and not pass stopped school buses.

Pedestrians should: use crosswalks when available, look before they cross, and walk facing traffic.

Making our roads and bike paths safe is a group effort, let's all do our part.

For additional tips and resources, visit: <https://www.localmotion.org/>



Stormwater Projects and Progress

The Town adopted a fee-based stormwater program in 2017 to more equitably fund our community's water quality needs. This program collects fees from all property owners to improve stormwater management throughout the Town and to ensure that the Town is meeting environmental requirements set by the State and Federal Government.

The Town has implemented various stormwater projects that aim to remove excess phosphorus and pollutants from stormwater runoff before it reaches our ponds, creeks, and lake.

The State and Federal Government look at the effectiveness of the Town's stormwater projects by measuring the amount of phosphorus that is discharged annually into Lake Champlain. Phosphorus is a naturally occurring element that is commonly found in pollutants that wash into our lake. In



large quantities, phosphorus can be harmful to the lake's ecosystem, causing the overgrowth of certain algae and plants, and harming other life forms.



As required by federal permits, the Town has a comprehensive phosphorus control plan. Our permit requires the Town to reduce its annual phosphorus discharge to Lake Champlain by approximately 172 lbs. per year. This target must be met by 2036. Less than halfway into the compliance schedule, the Town has reduced total annual phosphorus discharge by approximately 112.5 lbs., or 65.4% through the completion of multiple projects.

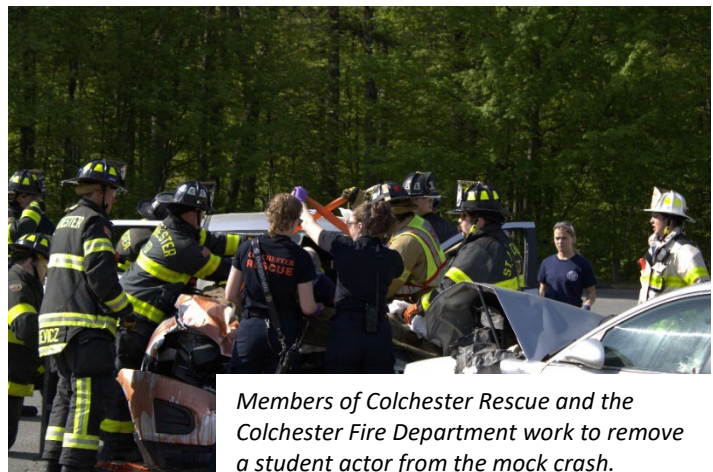
Working to reduce phosphorus discharge is a priority for the Town. We thank the residents, visitors, and Town staff who help protect Colchester's bodies of water for years to come.

To learn more about stormwater and Town implemented stormwater projects, visit:
<https://colchestervt.gov/1837/Stormwater>

Mock Crash at Colchester High School

Each year, the Colchester Police Department, Colchester Fire Department, Colchester Rescue, and St. Michael's College Fire and Rescue collaborate with the Colchester School District to put on a series of safety presentations. These presentations, aimed at our Town's Juniors and Seniors, help to show the importance of making good choices.

Last week's mock crash presentation aimed to demonstrate the possible consequences of impaired driving. Student and adult actors simulated a crash caused by a driver under the influence in which a student actor was pronounced deceased and another student actor taken into custody for operating a vehicle under the influence.



Members of Colchester Rescue and the Colchester Fire Department work to remove a student actor from the mock crash.

This multi-year event will continue next May when student actors, attorneys, and others will simulate a mock trial to show the additional consequences for driving under the influence.

These impactful presentations have been given to Colchester students for more than ten years with the goal of showing students how their actions can impact the community as a whole.

Thank you to the Colchester School District for hosting this powerful event.



Members of the Colchester Police Department question a student actor.

Enjoy Local History!

Vermont Historic Sites have begun opening for the summer season. There is much to see and learn.

Here's the info: <https://historicsites.vermont.gov>.

If you're interested in historic places here in town, check out the Colchester Historical Society's self-guided driving tour at <https://colchestervt.gov/3257/Driving-Tours>. No lines, no waiting, and free of charge.

Enjoy local history!

For more information about the Colchester Historical Society, please visit <https://colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>, and its Facebook page.



Colchester's c. 1815 log schoolhouse located at Airport Park

Department Updates:

Specialty Camps at the Department of Parks and Recreation

Colchester Olympics Camp (June 23 – 27) - Start the summer off strong and come compete in the Colchester Olympics this summer! Campers will be divided into teams at the beginning of the week

where each team will pick their own country to represent as they compete throughout the week. (Grades 4-6)

Wicked Cool Vet School (June 23 – 27) - Are you dreaming of becoming a superstar veterinarian? Grab your lab coat, animal adventurers, and prepare to meet your (stuffed) animal patient. Learn to recognize vital signs and emergencies in animals. Kids will get their own Veterinarian Starter Kit Kiwi Crate to explore animal x-rays to find animal bone fractures, and dig deeper into animal anatomy. Next, kids can engage in free-choice STEAM activities related to all things from the wide world of animals - including animal arts and crafts as well as engineering activities. (Grades 1-5)

Stars & Stripes Camp (June 30 - July 3) - During this slightly shortened week we will explore all things related to the 4th of July, from USA-themed arts & crafts to historical games & activities that have been an integral part of USA history. (Grades 1-3)

Party in the USA Camp (June 30 - July 3) - There's a party happening in the USA, and it's in Colchester! During this slightly shortened week we will jump into USA-themed arts, crafts and activities. Campers will also be able to enjoy games, crafts and activities themed to the history of the USA to celebrate Independence Day using themes like American sports, landmarks and various eras of history. (Grades 4-6)

Wicked Cool Minecraft (July 14-18) - Using the updated Minecraft Education platform, Minecraft Mania skillfully blends virtual and real-world learning experiences for maximum learning and fun. In the morning, become an intrepid explorer using a Minecraft avatar to dive into the wonders of engineering, physics, and biology to build our own Wicked Cool Minecraft town. Follow up with fun companion hands-on STEAM lessons to learn about engineering, biology and physics. The Mania continues as we do a dino dig and learn the properties of real rocks and minerals found in Minecraft. (Grades 1-5)

Mad Scientist Camp (July 14- 18) - Take your part in a scientific adventure during this week of the summer at Mad Scientists camp. This week will give campers the opportunity to learn about science through interactive experiments and hands on activities based around the fun and wacky world of science! (Grades 4-6)

Creative Canvas Camp (July 21 - 24) - Art can be amazing, expressive, colorful, inspiring, imaginative, dramatic, bold and so much more but most importantly it can be CREATIVE! Join us this week to explore our creative sides as we engage in various art creations that allow us to explore our creative sides and branch out from structured art projects. (Grades 4-6)

All Things POP! Camp (July 28 - August 1) - Interested in Taylor Swift? How 'bout Harry Potter, Super Mario or Percy Jackson? During this camp, campers will be able to dive into their favorite things pop culture! We'll be engaged in a variety of themed projects and activities based around campers' favorite celebrities, musicians, and movie characters! (Grades 4-6)

Lake Life Camp (August 11 - 15) - A week on the lake is exactly what's needed at the end of summer vacation. Join us down at Bayside Park to cool off right at the end of summer as we participate in games and activities based around water, the lake and nature! (Grades 4-6)

For more information, visit the Colchester Recreation Center, give us a call (802) 264-5640 or check out our website at colchestervt.gov/recreation to find out more details.

Department of Planning and Zoning

The Development Review Board (DRB) agenda for May 28th has been posted and is available for viewing [here](#). Please review the agenda and note that several applicants, including Hazelett Strip Casting Corp and Frank Whitcomb Construction Corp, have requested to be continued to future hearing dates. The DRB makes all final decisions on continuance requests and continued hearing dates.

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, June 10, 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, June 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, June 11, 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, May 28, 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, June 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>



Colchester – What do you want to do today?

Colchester Conservation Commission: Next meeting date is to be determined.

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