

## For the Week of July 14, 2025

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### Fourth of July First Pitch

Our very own Corporal Jamie Bressler was selected to throw the ceremonial first pitch at the Vermont Lake Monsters game on Friday, July 4.

It was extra special as Corporal Bressler is a U.S. Army veteran. Thank you Corporal Bressler for your service to our country and our Town!

Below are photos from this fun event.



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### To an Anonymous Painter – Thank You!

Recently, the Town was made aware of graffiti painted on the fence next to the Veterans Cemetery near Fort Ethan Allen.

Soon after we were made aware of the situation, an anonymous individual took it upon themselves to paint over the graffiti on the fence.

We would like to extend our thanks to this individual and commend them for their efforts!

### Bike and Pedestrian Projects in Town

Over the past 35 years, the Town has made significant progress on expanding the pedestrian and bicycling facilities in the Town.

Recent research done by the Town shows that in this time period, 56 miles of sidewalks, bike paths, and bike lanes have been constructed.

Much of this work has been built by the Town but it is important to note that some of the facilities have been built by private developers as a requirement of the Town’s development standards.



We are proud to have made this much headway into expanding this important infrastructure and we look forward to continuing to do so in the future.

For more information, visit: [https://clerkshq.com/Content/Attachments/Colchester-vt/info250708\\_c1.pdf?clientSite=Colchester-vt](https://clerkshq.com/Content/Attachments/Colchester-vt/info250708_c1.pdf?clientSite=Colchester-vt)

### Lake Champlain Basin Program, 2024 State of the Lake and Ecosystems Indicator Report

Each year, the Lake Champlain Basin Program releases a report regarding the health of our lake. After reviewing this report, we have come to the following conclusions: Malletts Bay is trending neutral or positive and is the best of the four areas noted in the below graphic.

		MISSISQUOI BAY		NORTHEAST ARM*		MALLETT'S BAY		MAIN LAKE		SOUTH LAKE		
		TREND START	STATUS	TREND	STATUS	TREND	STATUS	TREND	STATUS	TREND	STATUS	TREND
CLEAN WATER	Phosphorus in Lake (p. 13)	1990	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
	Phosphorus from rivers (p. 14)	1991	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
	Phosphorus from WWTFs† (p. 15)	1995	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
	Cyanobacteria blooms (p. 10)	2013	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
	Fish consumption advisories† (p. 7)	2018	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS	Sea lamprey wounding‡ (p. 26)	2003	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
	New aquatic invasive species (p. 25)	2021	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
	Invasive water chestnut coverage (p. 28)	2021	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~	●	~
CLIMATE IMPACTS	Lake Champlain freeze-over‡ (p. 29)	1906	Trend: Lake surface freezing over less frequently.									

\* Northeast Arm indicator statuses and trends for in-lake phosphorus concentrations, tributary phosphorus loading to the Lake, and cyanobacteria blooms do not include data from St. Albans Bay.  
 † Wastewater treatment facilities  
 ‡ These lake-wide indicators are the same for all segments.  
 Some trends may be impacted by year-to-year differences in data collection and reporting. This is especially true for cyanobacteria bloom data, which is collected by a network of volunteer community scientists.

STATUS		TREND	
●	GOOD	~	IMPROVING
●	FAIR	~	NO TREND
●	POOR	~	DETERIORATING
●	NO STATUS DATA AVAILABLE	~	NO TREND DATA AVAILABLE

The report states, regarding Malletts Bay and Phosphorous on page 15, “Phosphorus loading to some Lake segments, such as Malletts Bay, has been at or below these limits”

On page 4 the report notes, “A large, deep bay, Malletts Bay offers a mix of cold- and cool-water fishing and serves as a recreation hub for sailing and other boating activities. Annual phosphorus levels in this Bay have been below the targeted limit about one-third of the years since 1990, and cyanobacteria blooms are relatively infrequent. The bay is home to one of the busiest public launches on Lake Champlain, creating a need for increased aquatic invasive species spread prevention work.”

To learn more about the Town’s efforts to mitigate stormwater runoff to our lake, visit:  
<https://colchestervt.gov/1837/Stormwater>

To read the Lake Champlain Basin Program’s State of the Lake Reports, visit:  
<https://www.lcbp.org/news-and-media/publications/state-of-the-lake/>

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## **Colchester Reassessment**

The Town has been conducting a reassessment that will result in new property assessment values going into effect April 1, 2026.

The Town has been working with Vision Government Solutions to conduct property inspections since early this year.

The purpose of a reassessment is to ensure that taxes are equitably distributed among properties and are based on assessments that accurately reflect the market value of a home.



The State of Vermont measures the difference between a property’s assessed value and its current market value with a metric called the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). Currently, Colchester’s CLA is 61.56%. This means that if a property in Colchester sells for \$100,000, it is being assessed at \$61,560, on average.

The goal of this process is not to increase the amount raised by property taxes. The amount of money to be raised by property taxes is determined by the Town and School budgets that are voted on each year by residents.

For property owners who disagree with their new assessed value, the Town Assessor’s Office will be hearing appeals after the new values are released.

For more information, visit: <https://colchestervt.gov/3334/2026-Reappraisal> or read: [https://www.colchestersun.com/news/government/colchester-reassessment-aims-to-ensure-fair-property-tax/article\\_c831dce0-da9f-4ec4-8e51-73119461e0c7.html](https://www.colchestersun.com/news/government/colchester-reassessment-aims-to-ensure-fair-property-tax/article_c831dce0-da9f-4ec4-8e51-73119461e0c7.html)

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### Historical Log Schoolhouse is Open This Summer

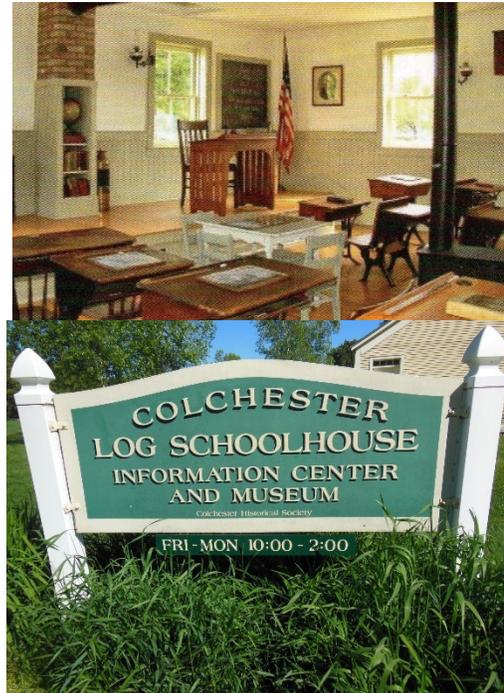
Be sure to visit the Colchester Log Schoolhouse this summer and take a lovely step back in time to the days of one-room schoolhouses and simple learning equipment. Bring your family and friends.

The Colchester Log Schoolhouse is open to visitors Fridays - Mondays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. It's located within Airport Park at 500 Colchester Point Road. Kids can participate in crafting a vintage-era toy or a fun "find-it" game. Parking and admission are free, although donations are always appreciated.

Volunteer hosts are needed, and hours are very flexible. To learn more, please reach out to Carol Reichard at [winchris65@comcast.net](mailto:winchris65@comcast.net).

For more information about the Colchester Historical Society, please visit: <https://colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>, and be sure to follow on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ColchesterVermontHistoricalSociety>

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### Department Updates

#### Department of Parks and Recreation

Reminder! The Colchester Causeway will be **closed** for maintenance on **Wednesday, July 16, and Thursday, July 17.**

This closure will apply to **all** users of the trail. The Bike Ferry will be closed in both directions.

Updates can be found at: [colchestervt.gov/recreation](https://colchestervt.gov/recreation)



## Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

**Selectboard Meeting:** Tuesday, August 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

**Planning Commission:** Tuesday, August 5, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=PLANAGENDA>

**Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday, August 13, 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, July 23, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=DRBAGENDA&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C)

**Library Board of Trustees:** Thursday, July 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, July 21, 5:30 p.m., Holy Cross Road Rain Garden [https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/ConservCommsn.htm#\\_CPA1](https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/ConservCommsn.htm#_CPA1)

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For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov)