



For the Week Ending April 24, 2015

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following highlights some Departments' activities:

Town Manager's Office
Dawn Francis, Town Manager

If you are interested in which firearms can be used in Colchester, and where, please attend the Selectboard's April 28 meeting at the Meeting House beginning at 6:30 p.m. At that time, Sgt. Jeff Bean of the Colchester Police Department will present the findings of the Firearms Safety Task Force. The committee was charged with the review of the current town ordinance which establishes restricted shooting areas. Colchester Police Sgt. Jeffrey Bean was tasked with facilitating the review. For the last year and a half (since January 2014) the group has been working to address citizen complaints and concerns regarding firearm safety. Members include businessmen, farmers, a hunter education instructor, a planning commission member, a Game Warden and residents from various parts of town, and represent varying points of view on firearms and where they may be used safely. Most importantly, they all agree that firearms should be used responsibly and have come together in an effort to address a difficult issue in a thoughtful manner.

The proposed changes to the Firearms Ordinance and firearms zoning map can be found on our website at www.colchestervt.gov. If the Board decides to accept the Firearms Task Force's recommendations for amendments to the Firearms Ordinance, they will then warn a public hearing at which public input will be sought. The public hearing has been tentatively set for Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Following the public hearing, the Selectboard can then decide whether to formally adopt or reject the ordinance and map changes.

For more information about the Town Manager's Office, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Manager/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5509.

Burnham Memorial Library
Kelly Tomaseski, Director

Greetings from Burnham Library! Spring is starting to make itself known, and the library has a wide range of books on gardening and other outdoor projects. Stop by and see what you can find! Here are some of our regular and upcoming events:

- Practice SAT Exam – Saturday, May 16 from 9 am-1 pm (Our Lady of Grace Church). Kaplan and the library have partnered to offer students a free SAT Practice Test. The test will allow students to sit for the exam and have an authentic SAT testing experience. Students will also receive a full score report outlining their strengths and weaknesses. It takes place just down the street at Our Lady of Grace Church (784 Main Street); please register at our website.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 802.264.5509



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- Perennial Plant Swap – Saturday, May 16 at 10 am in the library courtyard. Bring a plant in a labeled container and see what your neighbors bring to exchange! Swapping starts precisely at 10:00 am. Please, no Orange Daylilies/Ditch Lilies.
- Preschool Storytime – Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 am (except May 25 & 28). Join us for stories followed by a craft or activity! For ages 3-6, call to sign-up.
- Burnham Knitters/Needleworkers - Knitters and other needle workers of all skill levels meet every Wednesday at 6 pm – beginners welcome! The first and second weeks, the group meets next door at the Meeting House; the third and fourth they're at the library.
- Friends of the Library Book Sale – Though it's not till June, we'd like to let people know the details about the annual book sale. It takes place the weekend of June 26-28, at the Colchester High School. Friday (3-9 pm) will be a preview for Friends of the Library members, though you can join at the door. The sale will continue on Saturday (8-4 pm), as we offer a variety of books, CD's, and more. On Sunday (10 am-12 pm), we'll have a blow-out sale on remaining items!
- Book Sale Donations – To avoid moving thousands of books between locations, the Friends will only be accepting donations the weekend before the sale. The drop-off is located at the high school, and will be open on Friday, June 19 from 12-8 pm, and on Saturday June 20, from 8-2 pm. They are seeking books, CD's, and DVD's in good condition; please no textbooks, encyclopedias, VHS tapes, or books that are moldy or damaged.

Please be aware that the library will be closed on Tuesday, May 19, for the annual Vermont Library Association Conference, and on Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day.

For more information about Burnham Memorial Library's events and services, visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Library/> or call (802) 264-5660.

Parks and Recreation Department
Glen Cuttitta, Director

The following is a small sampling of tasks completed by our department:

- Meeting with LIFE Advisory Board to identify how to market programs to the public
- Youth Lacrosse has begun with games starting May 2nd
- ACE Afterschool program currently being run in four Colchester Schools
- ACE registrations for 2015-2016 school year are being accepted
- Working on grant for Building Bright Futures program
- Planning of Touch A Truck event that takes place on May 2nd
- Planning logistics for Colchester Triathlon which takes place on July 26th
- Visited all Colchester Cemeteries and will be evaluating maintenance status of each
- Developing a long term maintenance and repair plan for the Colchester Cemeteries
- Have received quotes for Tree removal and new fencing at Colchester Cemeteries

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Colchester Town News

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- Working with Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to create a trail network at new Village Park
- Submitted Recreation Trails Grant for Village Park, waiting to hear results
- Submitted Land, Water Conservation Fund Grant application for trail network at Village Park
- RFP for Parks Maintenance Facility is complete and bids were submitted. Bids were above budget and we are working with bidders.
- Contract finalized for Artistic Bike rack with Ben Hardy for two racks
- Summer Program Brochure is out and many summer camps are filling up
- Advertising for and contacting summer staff
- Created new refund and weather policy for all race events offered by Colchester Parks and Recreation
- Registrations available for Colchester Triathlon and Causeway 5/15K races
- Working with three other staff members on design of new Town website
- Presented to the Selectboard the Lower Bayside Park improvements, entrance and dinghy dock
- Purchased 13 paddleboards for rental at Bayside Beach and will purchase 5 kayaks
- Completing boat rental agreements

For more information about the Parks and Recreation Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Recreation/parksNRec.shtml> or call (802) 264-5640.