

Colchester's Weekly Town News

For the Week of June 16, 2014

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following information highlights some activities which occurred:

Town Manager's Office—Dawn Francis, Town Manager

We have submitted a request to the State of Vermont so as to achieve the authority to continue issuing permits under our shoreland protection standards. The State's standards take effect July 1, 2014 and if they do not process our request in time, you may be subject to the State's permitting process after 7/1/14. Therefore, if you intend to do any development or clearing within 250' of the lake we recommend you apply to our Planning and Zoning Department before 7/1/14.

Despite the more relaxed pace of the summer months, your Selectboard has been meeting frequently about significant issues. They are or will be considering:

- Possible Charter changes as recommended by the Governance Committee
- A new Town logo and tag line for marketing purposes
- Facilities Needs Assessment
- Joint collaboration with Colchester School District
- Changes to the firearms ordinance
- Changes to the sewer ordinance involving future capacity
- Site Assessment results for the Bayside Hazelett property and surrounding areas.

The Board meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Meeting Hall in the Village on Route 2A and your participation in these important issues is welcome.

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

Police Department—Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

The past month has been a busy one for CPD. Spring weather has brought many special events such as graduation for St. Michael's College and Colchester High School. We have sponsored and participated in DARE graduation, bike camps, Family Fun Night and other end-of-year youth activities. Our Marine Unit is back in the water and we look forward to a safe and fun season on Colchester's waterways.

Our two Community Service Officers have started their patrols for the season. Look for them and their royal blue shirts at the fishing access, on the bike path and in the parks. They serve as eyes and ears for the police, as well as an informational resource for the public.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 264-5509.

As the weather gets warmer, please remember to keep valuables out of sight and always lock your vehicle. Also, lock windows and doors at night and when you are away. Property crimes tend to surge in warmer weather; please do not be an easy target. Report all suspicious activity to the police right away.

In the past month we have responded to 905 calls for service, had 343 contacts through traffic stops and handled 83 traffic crashes. In the past month we arrested 37 people for 44 crimes including: 1st degree aggravated domestic assault, DUI, disorderly conduct, failure to comply with the sex offender registry, sale and trafficking of heroin, shoplifting, eluding police and more.

A group of citizens called "Friends of Colchester Police" have helped raise money to purchase dress uniforms for the CPD Honor Guard. The new uniforms are in and look really sharp! Thank you to those individuals and businesses that have supported this fundraising effort so far. Watch for us in the July 4th parade!

For more information about Colchester Police Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Police/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5556 (non-emergency).

Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads—Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief

Since May 22nd Rescue has responded to 96 calls, and transported 71 people to the hospital. Of the 71 people transported, 5 were intercepts that we provided to area communities. We turned over 4 calls while already on a call.

Our call volume is beginning to increase and we are seeing injuries related to summer activities. Please participate in summer activities safely and make sure that everyone with you does, as well.

On June 11th we participated in the first Farmer's Market of the year, giving away the bike helmets that we had left over from our Family Fun & Safety Night. We have a few of the smaller children sizes left (ages 1-5). If you are in need of a small sized helmet, give us a call—or just stop by.

For more information about Colchester Rescue, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Rescue/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5990.

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