

For the Week of May 14, 2018

Manager's Message of the Week

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Town Plan Development

Colchester's Town Plan development is set to kick off on May 15 at 7:00 PM. We need your help to create a vision of our community for the next 20 years. A town plan sets out a course for how a community wishes to develop and the actions that are necessary to achieve those goals. Colchester's plan primarily focuses on land use while also providing guidance for the community's goals with respect to:

- Natural and cultural resources
- Parks and recreation
- Energy
- Transportation / utilities
- Economic development
- Municipal services

How and where will we grow? What issues do we need to address? What will our community look and feel like in the future? Join us as we explore these questions and many more over the next few months.

Visit us at <https://tinyurl.com/2019TownPlan> and make sure to sign up for our Thoughts on Thursday emails to keep in touch with news, surveys, and discussions.

Green Up Day Thank You

Colchester had another successful Green Up Day on Saturday, May 5. Thank you to all the residents who participated and helped to clean up trash that accumulated over the winter. The Town is all the more beautiful for it! We will provide an update on amount of trash collected when the stats are ready.

A special shout out to all the folks who helped make Green Up Day possible:

- Meyer's Red Can Family for providing the dumpster in the Town parking lot.
- The Lions Club and Rotary Club for hosting the barbecue lunch.
- Colchester PD and Burnham Library for distributing bags and keeping the sign-up sheets.
- Town and State Highway crews who picked up the bags and other items left on the roadsides.
- And last, but never least, a great big thank you to the Colchester Conservation Commission and to Theresa Carroll (Chair) and Pam Loranger who were the Colchester Green Up Coordinators this year.

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

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

Police Department
Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

This week is National Police Week. It is a time to pay special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. **The National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial** in Washington D.C. features two curving, 304-foot-long blue-gray marble walls. In 2017 we add 135 names to the wall where over 21,500 names of other heroes are inscribed. Some of these officers were murdered, some died in car crashes, drownings, falls, explosions and every possible manner you can imagine. While their cause of death may vary, one thing is consistent across every duty-related death: he or she died for us; for our communities and our nation. May their sacrifice – and that of their families – never be forgotten. Sadly, there were also 24 Police K-9s that died in the line of duty in 2017.

While we honor those who are being recognized for line of duty deaths – I'd also like to point out that approximately 130 active duty officers commit suicide annually. This does not include the many retired or former officers who similarly choose to end their own lives. I bring this up simply to highlight the toll this job can take on those who serve and to let the Colchester community know that we take officer wellness seriously at CPD; we talk openly about employee mental wellness and suicide prevention. More about that in a future newsletter.

In cheerier news – CPD recruit Officer Meghan Duell is expected to graduate from basic training at the Vermont Police Academy in two weeks. She will have four more weeks of certifications and training before returning to CPD for 14 weeks of field training.

May 5th was another successful Touch a Truck Day and we had an opportunity to interact with many Colchester residents and visitors. We love every chance we can get to see the public outside the scope of an enforcement action.

Our Marine Division will be in full swing by the end of this week. Expect to see Cpl. "Marine Mike" Akerlind and his sidekick, Detective Wyskiel, out on the water whenever possible!

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

Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads
Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief

EMS Strong: National EMS Week is May 20-26!

The EMS Strong campaign seeks to celebrate, unify, and inspire the men and women of our nation's emergency medical services. Created by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) in partnership with the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), EMS Strong brings together associations, EMS services, sponsors and national media to honor the dedication of EMS practitioners nationwide.

Come celebrate with us at our **Annual Open House**

When: **Wednesday, May 23, 6:00-8:00PM**

Where: **Rescue Station, 687 Blakely Rd.**

Check out the Ambulances, Fire Trucks, Police Cars, and Technical Rescue Trucks! We will have hot dogs, ice cream and refreshments. There will be awesome prizes, a K9 demonstration, and much more! See you there!

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

Upcoming Town Meetings*

- **Planning Commission:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:00pm. **June meetings: 6/5 & 6/19**
- **Development Review Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00pm. **Next meeting: 6/13**
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00am, Champlain Room, 2nd floor, **Next meeting: 6/13**
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00pm, at the Bayside Activity Center or per agenda. **Next meeting: May 21**
- **Selectboard:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm. **Next meeting: May 22; June meetings: 6/12 & 6/26**
- **Cemetery Advisory Committee:** 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8:00am at the Town Offices in the Champlain Room, 2nd floor. **Next meeting: May 23**

*All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3rd floor unless otherwise noted.

Notices:

- The **Town Offices** will be **closed Monday, May 28** in observance of Memorial Day.

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



Colchester Town News
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Colchester – What do you want to do today?

 Remember to follow us on Facebook (@TownColchesterVT) to get the latest **about what's happening in your community!**

 Share your photos of Colchester with us on Instagram (@colchestervt)

Notify Me: Subscribe to Town news that matters to you most. Visit www.colchestervt.gov and click on the Notify Me icon to sign up.

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