

Manager's Message  
For the Week of August 27, 2018  
Aaron Frank, Town Manager

**Please be especially aware of pedestrians and bicyclists as our young people return to school.**

A few precautions go a long way toward keeping youth safe:

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- Vehicles are always required to stop for pedestrians at all crosswalks. Special care should be shown in the school zone.
- Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians
- Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicles, but bikes can be hard to see. Children riding bikes create special problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions. The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

Thank you for helping to keep our pedestrians and cyclists safe.

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

Burnham Memorial Library  
Kelly McCagg, Director

Summer has been busy at the library! In July, we averaged 331 visitors daily and had 1052 people attend 84+ programs. **There's still time to come in to show us your summer reading logs and get some fabulous prizes!** Here is a list of some of the fantastic programs we have lined up for September:

- **Practice SAT Exam:** Saturday, 9/1, 9 am & **Practice ACT Exam.** Saturday, 9/5, 9 am. Take a free, full-length practice test to hone your skills for the real thing. Sign up online at least one week before to reserve your spot. Participants will receive a full score report from Princeton Review. The test generally lasts about four hours, so bring snacks. Call the library for more details.
- **Dorothy's List Book Club** (Dorothy Canfield Fischer Award books): Tuesday, 9/4, 4:30 pm. Kids ages 8-11. Students can take the bus from their school to the library. This month: "Family Game Night" by Mary E. Lambert.
- **Découpage Class:** Monday, 9/10, 6:30-7:45 pm. Create an original piece of art using decoupage. All materials provided. Space is limited - sign up online.
- **Cooking the Books:** Thursday, 9/13 at 1:00 pm. Each session features a different cookbook or novel that has recipes. Participants sign up to make a recipe to share on day of the meeting. This time: "The Official Outlander Kitchen Companion Cookbook" by Theresa Carle-Sanders.
- **Adult YA Book Club:** Monday, 9/17, 6:30 pm. This month: "Bone Gap" by Laura Ruby. Copies are available for checkout at the upstairs circulation desk.
- **Birding in Chile:** Wednesday, 9/26, 6:30 pm. Shirley Johnson will present a program about a 2017 birding trip to Chile, with great photos taken by her husband, Bob, trip leader Andy Whitaker, and fellow traveler Ann Truesdale.

We provide tech help to our patrons! Need help setting up an email account, recovering a password, or learn more about your smart device? Call the library and set up an appointment where we will gladly answer your questions.

For more about Burnham Library visit <http://colchestervt.gov/library> or call (802) 264-5660.

Parks and Recreation Department  
Glen Cuttitta, Director

As the school year starts up and with fall just around the corner, check out the Parks and Recreation opportunities:

- **The Inflatable Water Park** was pulled from the Bay on Thursday, August 23rd. **Bayside Paddlesports** will be open for Labor Day: last day to rent paddleboards and kayaks will be Monday, 9/3.
- **Movies in the Park:** See the last movie of the season (The Parent Trap) at Bayside Park on 9/4 at 7:30 pm.

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

- **Muck It Up Adventure Race:** Saturday, 9/ 29 at Upper Bayside. This is an off-road triathlon with trail running, mountain biking, and paddling. Visit <http://bit.ly/MuckItUp> for details and to register.
- **Fall Program brochure** is available and there are many programs and events for you and your family. Choose from programs such as:
  - Primetime Slime Time
  - Intro to Video Media/Production
  - Flag Football- Grades 6-8
  - Backyard Pots and Plants
  - Fairy Houses
  - Hunter Safety
  - SAT Bootcamp
  - SUP Yoga
  - Beginner Fiddle

Check out our website at [www.colchestervt.gov](http://www.colchestervt.gov) for more information on the programs listed above.

#### Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Planning Commission:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:00pm. September meetings: 9/4 and 9/18
- **Development Review Board:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7:00pm. Next meeting: 9/12
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7:00am. Next meeting: 9/12 in the Champlain Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00pm, at the Bayside Activity Center or per agenda. Next meeting: 9/17
- **Selectboard:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm. September meetings: 9/11 and 9/25.

(All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor unless otherwise noted.)

#### Notices:

- **Routes 7/2, 2A Intersection Improvement Project Update – August 27-31:** Testing on 8/22/18 of the new traffic signal at Creek Farm Road was successful and the light will be functional after the lines (stop bars, crosswalks, lane markings) are painted on the final layer of pavement that will be installed soon. There will be two-lane travel until 8:30 AM weekdays with one-lane travel as the contractor works in various sections of the project area. Questions? Contact Jill Barrett at 802.272.1248.

### Wild Parsnip Growing at Colchester Pond



**AKA Poison Parsnip** (pictured left). This invasive species is a **first cousin** to **Queen Anne's lace** and has been found growing around Colchester Pond. The stem of the plant can reach **4' to 6'** tall. Wild parsnip can cause rashes and blisters on the skin, but exposure takes a little effort.



Unlike poison ivy or poison oak, simply brushing against wild parsnip **won't generally cause a problem**. But if you damage the plant and get its sap on your skin and then expose that skin to sunlight it can cause a severe reaction. So be careful not to damage, break, or cut wild parsnip when walking where it's growing.

If you do get poison parsnip sap on your skin, the Vermont Department of Health recommends you wash it off immediately and then wear clothes that prevent exposure to the sun for another 48 hours. If you develop a reaction, talk to a doctor about the best approach for management.

 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)

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