



**Colchester**  
VERMONT

781 Blakely Road  
Colchester, VT 05446  
802-264-5500

Explore Your Town Services

## Town News for the Week of May 3, 2021



*What do you want to do today?*

### Manager's Message



**Aaron Frank, Town Manager**

#### Community Justice Update

One part of the Town of Colchester's community justice efforts includes funding the Essex Community Justice Center (ECJC) in partnership with the Town of Essex and the State Department of Corrections.

ECJC provides restorative justice programming

with a focus on crime prevention, conflict resolution, and meeting the needs of those affected by crime. Different programs include Community Restorative Justice Panels, Community Dialogue education, and the Circle of Support and Accountability Program (COSA), which helps those recently released from incarceration to successfully re-enter society.



In their spring newsletter, ECJC noted the largest trend in the Community Restorative Justice Panels since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic is a 60% increase in the number of referrals from Law Enforcement and the State Attorney's office. They explain this increase is due to the Chittenden County State Attorney's decision to send more cases to the ECJC while the courts remain closed during the pandemic.

For more information about ECJC, visit their [website](#). Read their full Spring 2021 report [here](#).



## ECJC Newsletter Spring 2021

"...because crime hurts, justice should heal."  
- John Braithwaite

### NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IS APRIL 18TH - 25TH 2021

Dear Essex CJC Volunteers,

At this time last year the pandemic was still relatively new to us. Our office had closed to visitors and our panel and CoSA meetings had begun meeting via Zoom. In our community, schools were closed, people were losing jobs and Vermont's unemployment website crashed, there were start-up mask sewing enterprises everywhere, virtual social gatherings were becoming more popular, the National Guard was distributing MREs, we all had learned what PPE stood for, there was toilet paper hoarding, and there were debates about who should be seen as an essential worker.

*A Heartfelt Thank You*  
**TO ALL OF OUR  
AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!**  
We couldn't do it without you!

## COVID-19 Update

**Recent Cases:** Chittenden County has had 277 new cases in the last 14 days. There are 12 new cases recorded as of today. Read more [here](#).

**Vermont Forward Plan Advances to Step 2:**

With more than 61% of Vermonters 16

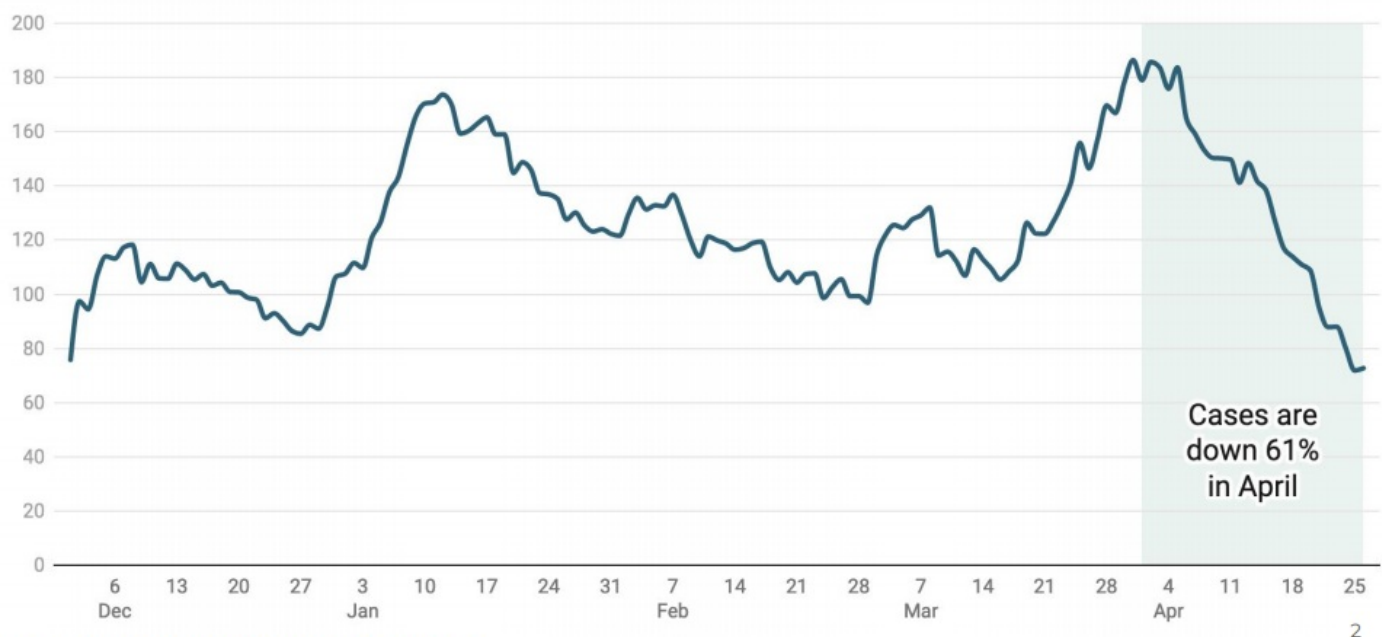
and older now vaccinated with at least one dose, the state has cleared the criteria to enter Step 2 of the state's Vermont Forward reopening plan. Gatherings will now be allowed to have up to 150 unvaccinated people indoors with spacing and 300 unvaccinated people outdoors. Any number of vaccinated people may gather. Masks and physical distancing are still required when not with your household. Restaurants and bars, hair salons, churches, gyms, museums and theatres, and manufacturing will move to the universal guidance.

# VERMONT FORWARD

## ROADMAP TO REOPENING

Daily case counts are still falling state-wide as vaccination rates increase. According to the [latest modeling](#) by the Department of Financial Regulation, cases are down 61% in April:

### COVID Infections per 100K in Vermont (7-Day Average)



Source: Vermont Department of Health—April 27, 2021

### When You've Been Fully Vaccinated:

The CDC announced new guidelines last week for those who have been fully vaccinated. Their definition of fully vaccinated means at least 2 weeks after either the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or 2 weeks after the single-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

After those two weeks, fully-vaccinated people can loosen mask-wearing restrictions outside, visit with other full-vaccinated people indoors without masks, attend a small, outdoor gathering without a mask, and more. Additionally, those fully-vaccinated can refrain from testing or quarantine before or after domestic and international travel (unless required by the destination).

Fully-vaccinated people, however, should still continue to take precautions by



wearing a well-fitting mask in indoor, public settings, as well as at crowded outdoor events, according to the CDC. They should also still take precautions if visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households, as well as those who are unvaccinated and are at increased risk for COVID-19.

For more information, visit the [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov).

## Choosing Safer Activities

	Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
		<b>Outdoor</b>	
Safest		Walk, run, roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	

### Face Masks Still Available

Free cloth face masks with tie backs in a variety of colors are still available at the Town Clerk's Office at 781 Blakely Road. Grab up to five masks for yourself or others at the office between 7:30 A.M. and noon, Monday through Friday. They will be available until they run out.

### Links

[DOH COVID-19 Dashboard](#)  
[Vaccine Dashboard](#)  
[CDC COVID-19 Information](#)  
[St. Mike's Dashboard](#)

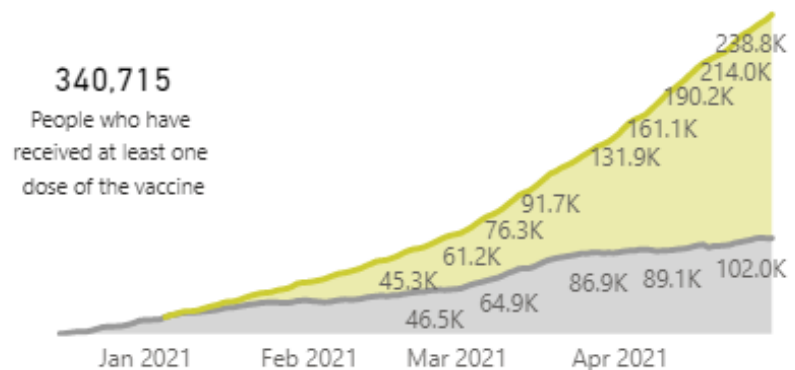
### Vaccination Progress

All Vermonters aged 16 and older are eligible to receive the vaccine. You may set up an account with the Dept. of Health to register for a vaccine [here](#).

As of Saturday, May 1, 340,715 Vermonters, or 62.3% of the state's population have had at least one dose of the vaccine. 238,800 Vermonters, or 43.7%, have been fully vaccinated. View the COVID-19 Dashboard [here](#).

### Total People Vaccinated

● Started ● Completed



Updated 5/1/2021 8:22:04 AM

# Department Updates

**Bryan Osborne**

*Director of Public Works*

- Working within the right-of-way phase for the reconstruction of the Prim and West Lakeshore Drive Intersection.
- Currently working on the design and engineering needed for the future construction of a single lane roundabout at the Bayside intersection.
- Working within the right-of-way phase for stormwater improvements in Shore Acres and the surrounding area to improve water quality in Malletts Bay.
- Advancing reconstruction efforts for a stormwater outfall located behind the Town's Police Station



**Kathi O'Reilly**

*Director of Economic Development*

Supporting local businesses is something Colchester residents have taken pride in for years. With the uncertain times and economic upheaval our business community has experienced since the onset of the pandemic over 13 months ago, they need our continued support.

With spring comes many opportunities to give gifts; Mother's Day, Father's Day, high school and college graduations, weddings, and more are right around the corner. We have something for everyone that can be bought right here in Colchester. Whether it is a gift, a dining experience, a walk and an ice cream cone, or just an opportunity to spend time with those you love, you can get whatever your loved one likes right here in town.

So, while you are busy trying to find that perfect something for your special someone, please remember to shop local and support our incredible business community. Let's help them overcome the burdens they have faced and continue to do so.

Happy Spring to all!

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## Upcoming Town Meetings

Agendas available at: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt>

- **Planning Commission:** May 18 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/9359846003>; *Zoom Meeting ID:* 935 984 6003
  - Live stream: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIjLFn4BZd2MtMV4SzmzYl6grkrjrcbym>
  - Mail or email public testimony prior to the hearing (shadd@colchestervt.gov or Town of Colchester Planning Commission, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446)
  
- **Development Review Board:** Next meeting: May 12 at 7:00 PM via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/9359846003>; *Zoom Meeting ID:* 935 984 6003
  - Live stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
  - Mail or email public comments prior to the hearing ([riddle@colchestervt.gov](mailto:riddle@colchestervt.gov)) or Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446) or participate at public comment periods during the Zoom meeting.
  
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Next meeting: TBA
  
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month. Next meeting: May 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM; *Dial in:* 1-929-205-6099; *Meeting ID:* 940 0941 6919; *Passcode:* 291046
  
- **Library Board of Trustees:** Next meeting: May 20, 2021 4:30 PM; *Dial in:* (929) 205 6099 *Meeting ID:* 992 1600 9241 *Passcode:* 988244
  
- **Selectboard:** Next meeting: May 11, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Attend *viaphone:* 1-929-205-6099; *Meeting ID:* 956 7585 8667; *Passcode:* 145966 Alternatively, send a note 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>

Selectboard Agenda: [www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:  
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jkMAO2v>

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

[More Info](#)

[Get In Touch](#)

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