

**For the Week of September 12, 2022**

## Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager



## SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, October 1, 2022**

**10 AM – 3 PM**

### Severance Corners

What a way to spend a Saturday! Get outside and explore, meet your neighbors and local business owners, and join us for a fun day in Colchester! Enjoy local food trucks and music while having a picnic on the green, participate in kid-friendly fall activities and crafts, and support your local businesses at Severance Corners on October 1, 2022 from 10 AM to 3 PM.

“Community is much more than belonging to something; it’s about doing something together that makes belonging matter.”

---

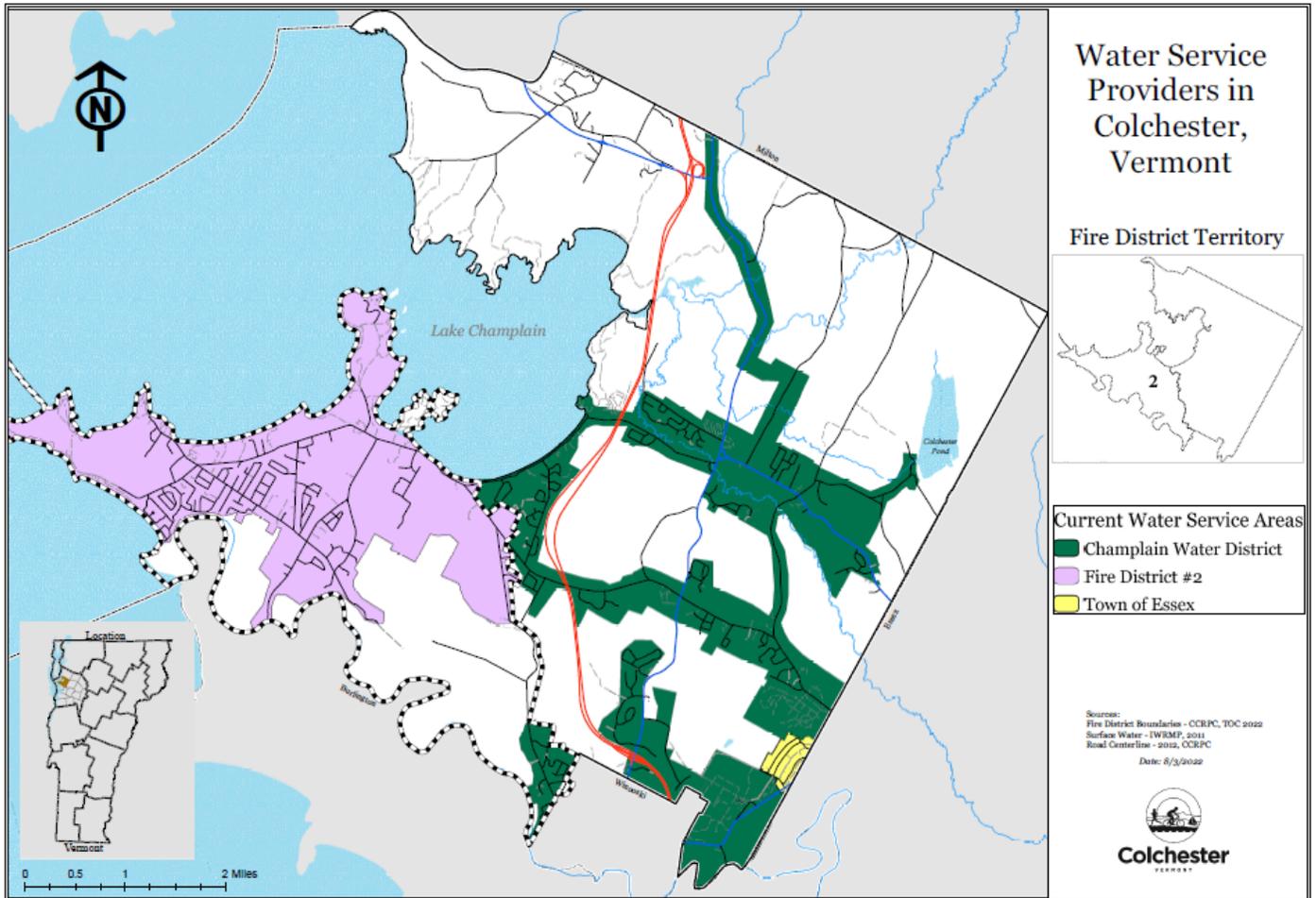
## Colchester Water Supply Services

The Town of Colchester does not operate a water department. Water supply services in Colchester are provided by three distinct water supply entities that are all separate from the Town. All water districts operate under individual governmental structures, boards, and bylaws. If you have questions about your water service or billing, please contact your water district.

1. **FIRE DISTRICT #2** provides water service and fire protection to the following areas: Malletts Bay area from Burlington to Bayside Park and turning right to a portion of Blakely Road and Malletts Bay Avenue. **MAIN NUMBER: [802-862-4621](tel:802-862-4621)**
2. **THE CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT** provides water service to the following areas: East Lakeshore Drive to the Village area; to the east to the Essex line; and to the north to the Milton line; Fanny Allen Campus of UVM Medical Center; Johnson Avenue; Red Pines Condos; Saint Michael's College; Severance Road; Sunderland Woods/Rathe Road to Hercules Drive; Village Area; Westbury Park; Winchester Place (Route 15) to Bayside Park; Windemere Park; Winooski Park Area; Other customers along College Parkway (Route 15)
  - i. Colchester Town Water Co: Exit 16 Water Tower Hill Area; Hercules Drive  
Lower Mountain View Drive; Upper Mountain View Drive



- ii. Malletts Bay Water Co: Morehouse Drive; Valleyfield Drive; Young Street;  
Other neighborhoods on the Winooski-Malletts Bay Avenue line  
**MAIN NUMBER:** [802-864-7454](tel:802-864-7454) [CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT WEBSITE](#)
- 3. **TOWN OF ESSEX** provides water service to the following area: Fort Ethan Allen  
**MAIN NUMBER:** [802-878-1334](tel:802-878-1334) [TOWN OF ESSEX WEBSITE](#)



## Town News Interviews



**What it Means to Wear Many Hats**  
*An interview with Seth Lasker, Special Projects Manager, by Alicia Tebeau-Sherry, Town Manager's Office, Communications Coordinator*

**ATS:** You hold several roles for the Town. What are they and what services do you offer to the community?

SL: I do wear many hats here—I complete the Emergency Management Plans for the Town, aid the Department of Planning and Zoning as a Building and Health Inspector, assist the Fire Chief, and perform or manage other tasks or projects with the formal title of Special Projects Manager. The Emergency Management aspect consists of emergency planning to ensure the community is prepared to navigate Town emergencies, whether the events are weather-related or man-made. A lot of information-gathering and preparatory work goes into this role, and it also allows the Town to apply to and obtain certain grants. As a Building Inspector, I certify that permitted work is being done according to the permit that has been issued. As a Health Officer, I work with people who are having a health-related issue with their residence, whether with the building itself or environmental concerns, like a leaking septic tank for example. As an Assistant to the Fire Chief, I still carry fire- and emergency-response tasks, so I help with incident and fire calls. Overall, I have an on-going supportive role for Town departments, and I assist any that may need help with special projects.



**ATS: Did your roles shift during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

SL: They shifted in the sense that I was in the Emergency Management role almost completely, especially during the first year. My job during that time involved a lot of planning, from how the Town was going to safely and efficiently deliver government services to protecting the citizens as best we could and obtaining protective equipment to offer our community and staff. I attended many State briefings and meetings, researched COVID updates, and I became the Town’s point-person to bring back information and report it to the Town Manager so that your leadership could make decisions on how the Town was going to operate. Along with all the planning and

information gathering and reporting, I managed many grants to ensure we had the funding to provide and implement these safety measures. In the end, I think the Town was successful in how it handled the pandemic—we were able to open up the building and offer regular services relatively quickly and our staff stayed healthy and well-informed.



**ATS: What are some things the community might not know about your roles?**

SL: I don’t know if people realize the level of emergency planning that occurs in the Town. Communities are mandated to maintain a certain level of planning, and we go well beyond that. The mandate is to make sure there is a certain level of education

implemented so that people in government have an idea of how to respond to an emergency and that they understand the different roles they may be put into. If there is one thing I'd like the community to take away from this is that the Town actively manages and maintains these emergency plans. The Town leadership is very well-informed and the plans are updated yearly. We practice different aspects of these plans throughout the year through staff trainings so that, if there was a community emergency event, everybody would know what the response plan is, how it works, and the basis of how to serve in potentially unfamiliar roles.

**ATS: What does a typical day look like for you? Are there on-going projects you are working on?**

SL: There are no typical days—Tuesdays are really the only scheduled days for me because it is when I complete inspections. Most of my time I spend time responding to the needs of the Planning and Zoning office, managing health complaints or grant funding, assisting daily to Fire and Rescue calls, or working on special projects for the Town Manager. A lot of my work is behind-the-scenes, so that is what makes my position a little different when it comes to projects. The most recent, big project was the re-approval of the Emergency Management Plan by the Selectboard.



**ATS: How do you collaborate with other departments to complete projects and services?**

SL: I think all the department heads work really well together and everyone is extremely flexible. If one department has an issue or needs help with a project or service, other departments will rise to the occasion to make things work and help out. It's the same with me, as my position includes me assisting others and their departments often, but they return the favor as well. For instance, when I am creating the Emergency Management Plan or preparing grant work, everyone here that I reach out to is responsive and helpful.

**ATS: What is your history with the Town of Colchester and what is your favorite part about working here?**

SL: I have a long work history in Colchester—it began in 1984 when I joined Colchester Rescue as a high school student. That really launched me into my emergency service career, and in 1989 I began working for the Burlington Fire Department, although I stayed working for Colchester as a Police Dispatcher. I retired from Burlington in 2015 and came back to work for the Town as the Assistant Rescue Chief, and now I hold my



current position as Special Projects Manager. No matter what position I have had, I've always had a connection to Colchester—I live here too and I think it is a beautiful place to be. In my eyes, the civic engagement is pretty unmatched as well, and I believe it is an honor and privilege to be able to serve the Town I live in.

**ATS: How can the community keep up with your work or contact you?**

SL: Most of my updates are funneled through other departments and shared on the Town website or in the Town newsletter. If community members have any questions and concerns, they can feel free to contact me by phone at 802-264-5601 or through email: [SLasker@colchestervt.gov](mailto:SLasker@colchestervt.gov).

---



Are you interested in alternatives to the criminal legal system? The Essex Community Justice Center is excited to offer an **Informational Night on Tuesday, September 20th** to connect with community members about the work we do and the opportunities for community involvement.

**Join us from 5:30pm-7:30pm** to meet current staff and volunteers and learn more about restorative justice initiatives in the towns of: Essex, Milton,

Colchester, Underhill, Jericho and Westford. Please see [this flyer](#) for additional information and how to register

The Essex CJC is committed to creating a volunteer pool that includes people from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, differently abled, and socio-economic backgrounds that better reflect our community and the clients we work with. We are also seeking more people under the age of 25 to diversify the age range of our volunteers and help us work with youth that are referred. The Essex CJC is funded by a State grant and the Towns of Colchester and Essex.

---

## Upcoming Town Meetings

**Selectboard:** Tuesday, September 13th, 6:30 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or alternatively send a note, up to 1,000 words, to [TownManager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:TownManager@colchestervt.gov) with "Citizens to be Heard" in the Subject and their name and address in the body of the email. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting (as the information packet for the current meeting is sent out along with the agenda).



- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: [www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

**Development Review Board:** Wednesday, September 14th, 7:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to [zmaia@colchestervt.gov](mailto:zmaia@colchestervt.gov) or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446.

**Recreation Advisory Board:** Monday, September 26th, 7:00 am at the Colchester Town Offices.

**Library board of Trustees:** Thursday, September 15th, 4:00 pm in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library.

**Conservation Commission:** Monday, September 19th, 6:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Champlain Room.

**Planning Commission:** Tuesday, September 20th, 7:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road for a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering amendments to the Colchester Development Regulations.

**Agendas available:** <http://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt>

**Note:** Agendas are posted at least 48 hours before the meeting, so you may find past agendas when clicking the link. Revisiting the link closer to the date of the meeting should provide you with the current agenda.

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

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov)