

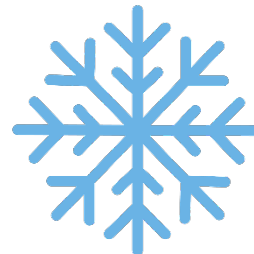
For the Week of December 5, 2022

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Winter Safety Tips from Colchester Public Works Department

While the use of road salt improves safety conditions in winter ice and snow, overuse of salt can have negative effects on bodies of water, aquatic plants, and animals, and can damage metal and concrete. Testing data from around Vermont indicates that road salt is accumulating in our waterways. While public safety is of the utmost importance, we also value our surrounding ecosystems and work hard to minimize the impacts of our maintenance programs.



Our primary salt trucks are equipped with computerized spreader controls that carefully control the amount of salt being placed on our roadways. We also closely monitor temperatures and other storm conditions to ensure we are using road salt as efficiently as we can. This not only minimizes environmental impacts, but also saves taxpayers thousands of dollars in salt costs.

As a property owner, you can also take steps to minimize impacts on our environment. If you are planning to use salt this winter around your property, please consider the following:

- * Salt should be stored in airtight containers to minimize loss and maximize effectiveness
- * Pre-treat walkways before the storm hits to limit post-storm usage
- * Shovel early after a storm to minimize the need for de-icing agents
- * Only use on impervious surfaces, never on lawns, or near wetlands or surface waters

Water Supply Services in Colchester

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

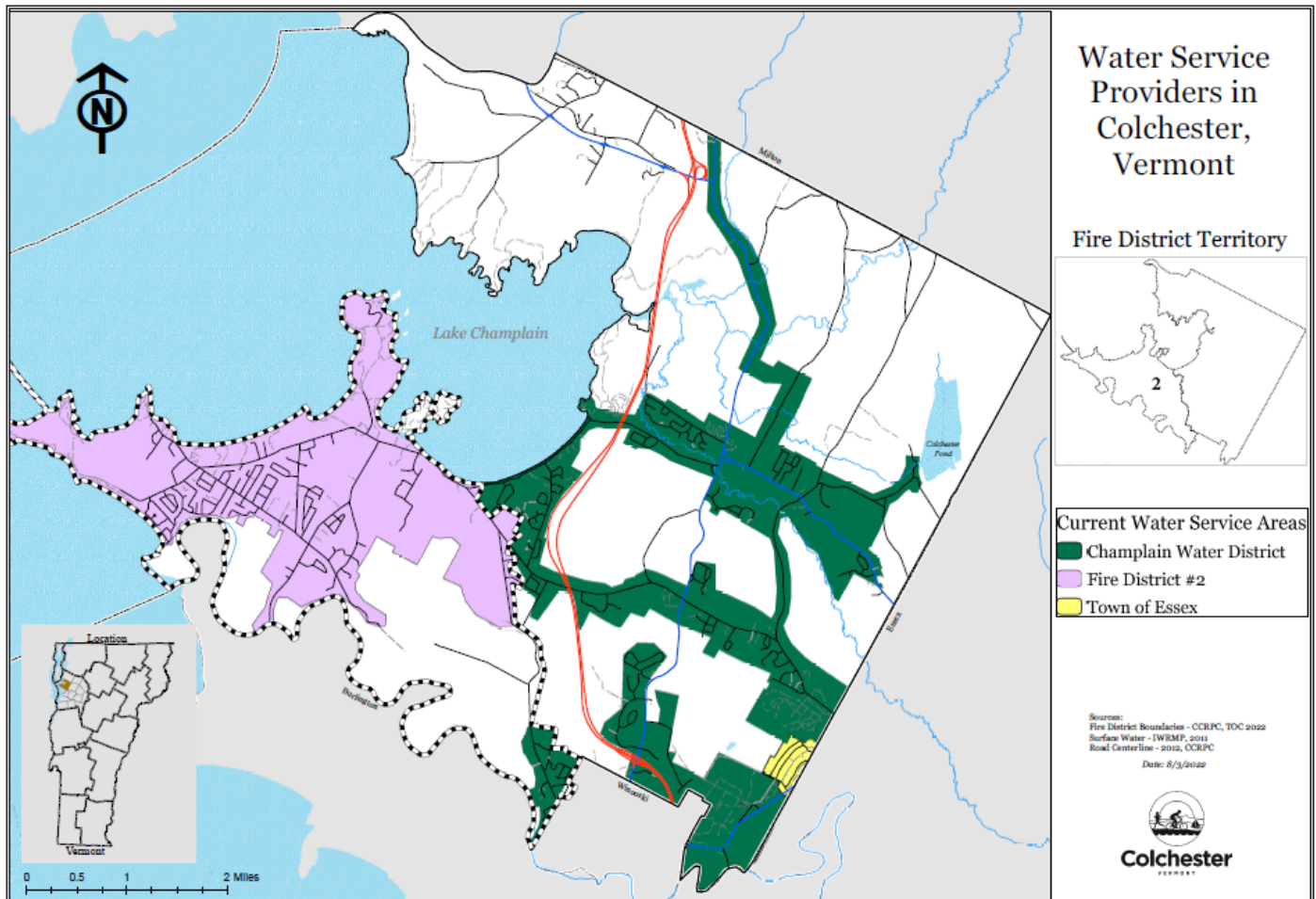
1. **FIRE DISTRICT #2** provides water service and fire protection to the following areas: Malletts Bay area from Burlington to Bayside Park and turning right to a portion of Blakely Road and Malletts Bay Avenue. **These areas are shown in purple on the map below.**
MAIN NUMBER: [802-862-4621](tel:802-862-4621)
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); Exit 16 Water Tower Hill Area; Hercules Drive Lower Mountain View Drive; Upper Mountain View Drive; Morehouse Drive; Valleyfield Drive; Young Street; Other neighborhoods on the Winooski-Malletts Bay Avenue line. **These areas are shown in green in the map below.**

MAIN NUMBER: [802-864-7454](tel:802-864-7454) [CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT WEBSITE](http://www.champlainwater.com)

- TOWN OF ESSEX** provides water service to the following area: Fort Ethan Allen. **Shown in yellow on the map below.**

MAIN NUMBER: [802-878-1334](tel:802-878-1334) [TOWN OF ESSEX WEBSITE](http://www.townofessex.com)



CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT: CFD #3 Billing Update

On July 1, 2022, the Champlain Water District (CWD) took ownership of the Colchester Fire District #3 (CFD #3) water system.

CWD set the current FY22-23 CFD #3 water rate at \$47 for the 1st 7,000 gallons and \$0.58 per 100 gallons over 7,000 gallons. This is the same rate that CFD #3 charged prior to transferring the system. **There has been no rate increase by CWD since taking ownership.**

The billing cycle for CFD #3 customers is quarterly with bills processed in January, April, July, and October on the 10th of the month. The typical billing period is 90 days.

There were challenges with transferring the existing account information into CWD's billing software that delayed the July 2022 quarterly billing. This resulted in CFD #3 customers receiving bills in September instead of July. Customer usage for this billing potentially ranged from March 29th to September 14th. Some customers may have seen a higher bill than normal if their meter was read in August and September versus end of June/July. The period for this billing potentially ranged from 90 to 166 days.

To stay on the quarterly billing cycle, CWD sent out bills for the next quarter on October 10th. Customer usage for this billing potentially ranged from July 1st to October 1st.

If customers are seeing higher usage than normal in their bills, please call CWD. It could be your internal plumbing and CWD can assist you in diagnosing usage issues.

CWD utilizes actual meter readings for billing. Several accounts had been previously estimated versus billed by the actual meter readings. This may account for some of the increases that customers have experienced.

Upgrading your meter is recommended to help improve the usage reading process and assist in identifying internal plumbing issues. **Meter upgrades are done at no cost to the customer** and appointments are made with specific dates and times Monday through Friday with the earliest appointment time of 7:30 am and the last appointment of the day at 3:00 pm (not windows of time).

Contact CWD with questions regarding water service and bills. Office hours are 7:00 am to 3:30 pm Monday thru Friday. Messages left after hours will be returned the next business day.

Champlain Water District
403 Queen City Park Road
South Burlington, VT 05403
802-864-7454
www.champlainwater.org

Jay Nadeau, Distribution Director
jay.nadeau@champlainwater.org

Julie Ringuette, Customer Service/Utility Billing
Supervisor
julie.ringuette@champlainwater.org

Colchester Historical Society

Holiday Choral Event
December 13, 7 p.m.
900 Main Street
Colchester Village



About this event:

The Colchester Historical Society and the United Church of Colchester are pleased to announce the return of the Annual Holiday Choral Concert and Party. Music for this event will feature the beautiful and festive musical styling of Colchester High School choral groups. Fellowship and a variety of refreshments will immediately follow the concert.

“Colchester is very fortunate to have this beautiful historical building in our community,” said Bonnie Potter, Historical Society President. “That it continues to be actively used and appreciated nearly 200 years after it was built is a wonderful added bonus. These talented high school students have been working diligently in their music practice and are excited to bring us their presentation.”

This event is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at the church, the library, the Meeting House, Historical Society, and overflow parking at Our Lady of Grace Church. Due to the increasing number of recent thefts around the community, please be sure to lock your vehicle.

Building history:

The First Congregational Church of Christ was organized September 14, 1804, at first in a schoolhouse on the Farrand farm, standing on the west side of East Road near the railroad. From there, the church held its meetings in various schools, barns, or homes. In 1838, the brick church was built by the Congregational Church and shared with the Baptist Church until 1861 when the Baptist Church was built.

In 1919, it became the United Church of Colchester. Electricity was installed in both the parish house and the brick church in 1921. Some remodeling also occurred at that time, including installation of the stained-glass windows. The kitchen, restroom, and a coatroom were added in 1927, as well as a furnace in the main room, and the horse sheds were torn down. Later, a new furnace was installed in the cellar.



The United Church of Colchester is Christ-centered and family oriented. The pastor is Reverend Doctor Russell E. Willis. For more information about this church, please visit <https://www.churchofcolchester.org>.

The Colchester Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and communicating the town's local history. For more information, please visit <https://colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>.

Department Updates



Operation Fire Cuffs

The Colchester Fire Department will be participating in the annual Operation Fire Cuffs toy drive this year. CFD will be teaming up with approximately 30 other agencies from all over Vermont to collect toys and gift cards for the children at the University of Vermont Children's hospital. **Colchester Fire will have three drop off locations this year:**

- The Malletts Bay Station, 844 Church Road, is available for drop-offs Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm
- The Colchester Center Station, 483 Main Street, is available for drop-offs Tuesday through Thursday, 8am-4pm
- A bin in the lobby of the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, is available for donations, Monday through Friday, 7:30am-4:30pm
- **The Colchester Police Department is also participating and is accepting donations 24/7 at 835 Blakely Road until December 19th.**

(please keep in mind that the first two locations are active firehouses and somebody may not be available to answer the door at all times)

They are looking for donations of new, unwrapped toys or gift cards for children, ranging from infants to teenagers, to be **dropped off any time before Tuesday, December 20th**. That afternoon, all of the participating agencies will send an emergency apparatus filled with toys to the hospital to deliver the toys with Santa Claus.

For more information, or to schedule a specific drop off time, please contact Firefighter Cootware via email at tcootware@colchestervt.gov.

Upcoming Town Meetings

Selectboard: Tuesday, December 13th, 6:30 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd 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 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

Selectboard - Municipal Services Budget Workshop: Tuesday, December 6th, 8:00 am at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Planning Commission: Tuesday, December 6th, 7:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Recreation Advisory Board: Monday, December 12th, 7:00 am at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Development Review Board: Wednesday, December 14th, 7:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd 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 or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446.

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, December 15th, 4:00 pm in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library.

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.

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For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email townmanager@colchestervt.gov