

Recreational Tips for Water Safety

Help keep Malletts Bay clean for generations to come by being Bay-friendly Boaters and Beach-goers:

- Dispose of all trash at designated areas
- Retrieve trash that may be blown overboard as cigarette filters, soda bottles and cans, and plastic items are deadly to birds and fish
- Check your boat for seepage or leaks (inspect fuel lines often!) and make immediate repairs
- Limit opportunities for spills when fueling by using the correct containers and siphons
- Observe posted no-wake zones, which helps to prevent shoreline erosion

Water Quality Testing

Summer water quality testing at Bayside Beach, Rosetti Natural Area and other locations will again be conducted this summer. Testing will begin the week of June 19th and continuing through August 16th. Samples are taken on Mondays and Wednesdays and sent to a water quality testing lab to ensure the waters are safe for swimming and other recreational sports.

*In the unlikely event of a beach closure, signs will be posted at swimming areas and additional tests will be completed until it is determined the water is safe for swimming. Tests results and a map of testing locations are available on our website.

Stormwater Information

For more information about the Town's stormwater program, projects, and policies, please visit:

www.colchestervt.gov/1837/StormwaterUtility

Water Quality Hotline: (802)-264-5628

General stormwater inquiries: (802)-264-5620

Only runoff should go into storm drains! Never dump paint, oil, chemicals, or other substances into a storm drain. Those materials can contaminate waterways, threatening the health of plant & animal species that call our streams, rivers, and lakes home. Please report suspicious activity to the Town's water quality hotline.

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CLEAN WATER NEWSLETTER

Town of Colchester Public Works Department

CLEAN WATER NEWSLETTER SPRING 2023



With the return of warmer days along with bikes, beaches & barbecues, the Public Works Department has been preparing for another busy season of clean water projects.

- Adopt-A-Drain Updates & Achievements
- Green Up Day
- Stormwater Project Updates
- Boating & Beach Tips

? Did You Know ?

Colchester is home to 3,000 acres of wetlands, and enjoys over 50 miles of shoreline along Lake Champlain, the Winooski and Lamoille Rivers, and Colchester Pond.

Adopt-A-Drain Program



Protect local
waterways

Sign up!

adopt-a-drain.org

Since it's Chittenden County debut in April 2022, Adopt-a-Drain has welcomed 124 participants who have adopted 182 total drains, 22 in Colchester with over 200 pounds of debris collected! Want to get involved? Visit VT.adopt-a-drain.org today and:

Sweep Up, Rake Up, Pick Up!

Colchester resident Jacki Murphy started cleaning the drain in front of her home even before the Adopt-a-Drain program started. "It's easy to do and you know that it makes an impact on the lake and waterways," she said in early April. She also noted the hazardous conditions that clogged drains can cause on the roadways and suggested it was an easy thing to do after intense storms, before Town crews are able to come by with the street sweeper.

The Adopt-A-Drain program is designed to spread the message of how important it is to keep storm drains clean and limit the amount of leaf and other debris that may get to the Lake via drains.

Jacki has named her drain 'Leaf Lover' after the most common materials she finds. She encourages her neighbors and the residents of Colchester to get involved in keeping stormwater drains clean which only takes about 15 minutes twice a month.

"The health of the lake is very important—much of what is in the lake originates in storm drains."
Thank you, Jacki!



Stormwater Projects in Action

Recent Outfall Replacement Project on Williams Rd



Shore Acres Project Update

With the goal of improving water quality and being funded through over \$350,000 in grants awarded to the Town by the Agency of Transportation, the Shore Acres Project is ready to begin. The Department of Public Works is excited to announce that final approval plans have been received and construction is planned for late summer. As part of the Malletts Bay Initiative, a series of gravel wetlands will be installed to slow runoff and allow pollutants to settle and be absorbed by plants. There will also be improvements to ditches to guide runoff, installation of new structures and piping to expand the existing runoff collections system, and upgraded stormwater outfalls within the project areas to limit erosion and protect the Moorings Stream that eventually enters into Malletts Bay.

Four project areas are planned throughout the neighborhood, each with different treatments designed to meet the needs specific to that location. For more information, on this or any stormwater project, please contact Brett McCreary at the Department of Public Works: 802-264-5620 or visit our website for detailed maps of project sites:

<http://tinyurl.com/ShoreAcresProject>

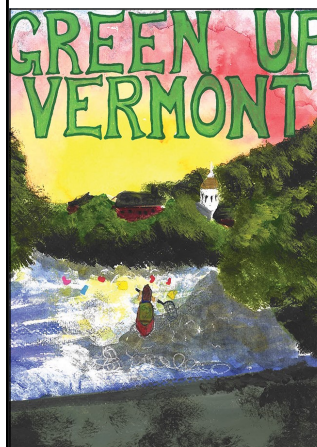
Progress on Middle Road Culvert

The Town of Colchester was recently awarded \$16,000 towards the preliminary design of a replacement culvert on Middle Road. The existing culvert at this location typically has the capacity to allow the headwaters of Malletts Creek to pass under the roadway. Unfortunately, this is not the case during larger storm events when the flow is increased and the roadway is overtopped. The resulting flooding, erosion and road damage are indications that the culvert is undersized for the amount of flow moving through it.

In order to address this problem, the Department of Public Works, with the help of Stantec Consulting Services, has been evaluating design alternatives to identify the proper engineering solution to replace the culvert given the existing roadway conditions, waterway characteristics, and state permitting requirements. Town staff members are researching grant opportunities that may be available to fund construction of the project, anticipated to take place in 2025-2026.

May 6: Green Up Day

Green Up Day 2023 is Saturday, May 6th! Come out and help clean up community roadsides and keep Vermont beautiful. If left in place, debris and



litter could be transported by stormwater to our lakes and streams. Filled Green-Up bags can be left on the side of any public road in a place where town staff and a truck can safely stop -- NOT on the bike path or school grounds. Tons of trash along with discarded tires have been collected each year.

Thanks to all of you who help keep our community clean and green! For more information, please email: greenupcolchestervt@gmail.com