



Municipality of the County of Colchester

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December 2015

Volume 20 Issue 4

Solid Waste Open House – Thanks for Coming!



On Saturday, September 19th, we had 250 residents visit our Solid Waste Facilities in Kemptown. It was a fantastic day full of tours, games, food, fun and great weather!

Thank you to everyone who came out to spend some time with us and learn more about 'Where does it go?' in Colchester. We hope you enjoyed yourselves!

Mayor's Message

Welcome to our December Newsletter. I hope everyone takes the time to read all the informative articles that provide updates on the many projects and programs that the County has in the works.

As a community, we have more reasons to be proud of our Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC). On September 3, 2015, the facility was officially designated as a LEED Silver Building, which acknowledges our commitment to incorporating state-of-the-art building technology to optimize efficiency while minimizing its impact on the environment. Additionally, the RECC hosted the Pinty's Masters Grand Slam of Curling from October 27th to November 1st, which featured the best men and women curlers in the world. Hats off to the many volunteers, sponsors, RECC staff, and Town and County staff for a fine job. It is proof that this facility and community are capable of hosting a major international event which proved to be a great benefit to the facility and a tremendous economic benefit to our community.

Buildings at the old Palliser property have been demolished and a Committee is in place to advise the County on development of the property. This is an exciting project which is creating a lot of interest in our community and beyond.

A number of flood mitigation projects were completed this season which included major work in the Salmon and North Rivers, along with the Great Village River and Murray Siding. In addition, ten other small projects were completed. All this work will result in increased protection for many properties that have been susceptible to flooding.



Economic development continues to be a priority for Council and staff. Resources are concentrating on working with business owners to provide assistance in business operations, expansion and/or succession. Our Economic Development Officer, Joy O'Neill, continues to reach out to businesses to hear their concerns. Recently, business breakfast meetings have been held in Debert, Tatamagouche and Stewiacke. Additionally, a Mentoring Program has been developed for businesses with number of well experienced mentors available.

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Council and staff have received a number of calls over the past few years with concerns about feral cats throughout the County. As part of the 2015/16 budget process, Council allocated \$5,000 towards a program to help deal with feral cats and create a low income spay/neuter program. Our Animal Control Officer, Elsie DeBay, administered the program and worked with "Sympathetic Ear", a Not-for-Profit group that helps with feral cat colonies; a local vet clinic; the Dalhousie Vet Program; and residents. As a result, four sites were cleaned up this season in Bible Hill, Debert, East Stewiacke and Truro Heights. This has been a very successful program with very little cost to the taxpayers.

We are pleased that economic activity in Colchester County remains strong. As of September 30, 2015, the County has issued 295 permits valued at \$23,765,795 for this fiscal year. This compares favourably with the same period last year at 299 permits valued at \$23,825,490.

Just a reminder that all of our Council meetings are open to the public and are held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, unless otherwise noted. Presentation meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month, on an as needed basis. To make a presentation, a request must be made in writing through the Administration Office.

With the holiday season quickly approaching, on behalf of Council, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday.

Bob Taylor

Flood Advisory Committee – Great Village River



In the summer of 2015, Colchester County Council received funding from the Province to carry out major river channel improvements along the Great Village River downstream of the Highway 2 bridge. The work was completed in October of 2015, and included removal of gravel and bank stabilization along 560 metres (2,000 feet) of the river. In some locations, up to 1.5 metres (5 feet) of gravel was removed from the river! The work was valued at \$130,000, and costs were shared between the County and the Provincial Flood Risk Infrastructure Investment Program.

The Flood Advisory Committee takes on projects of all sizes. If you are experiencing property damage due to flooding and you are seeking repairs, you may be eligible for funding through the County. Request for Work Applications can be obtained by calling the Public Works Office at 902-897-3175 or on our website at www.colchester.ca.

The Palliser Redevelopment Project Update

Redevelopment plans of the former Palliser property in Lower Truro continue to be a priority for Colchester County Council and a great deal has happened since our last newsletter. All of the buildings at the site that had fallen into a state of disrepair over the years have now been demolished. A new temporary sign denoting "Tidal Bore Viewing" was erected on the site in mid-October to better identify the location.

The Central Nova Tourist Association (CNTA) began operating from the newly renovated Information Centre on the property in



mid-August and continued service until October 19, 2015. CNTA staff noted visitor origin spanned from many local communities, to the west coast of Canada, many parts of the USA, the UK, across Europe, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. On average, 150 people would visit on a daily basis. During the single high tide (super moon) on September 27th, more than 200 spectators lined the river bank to watch a single tidal bore. Visitors were encouraged to complete a short survey to get a better understanding of what types of amenities and services should be considered for the site.

Planning staff held two open houses at the tourist information centre on October 6 and 8, 2015. The purpose of the open houses was to enable an exchange of ideas for the property and talk about tourism opportunities throughout the Fundy Region. The open houses were attended by approximately 25 people and represented a fairly broad range of interests that included the Acadian and artist communities, business owners, tourism operators, not-for-profit organizations and residents. Participants came from the greater Truro area and along both shores of the Cobequid Bay.

Comments from the open houses and visitor surveys were very positive and revealed a number of common themes that would enhance visitor experiences: public washroom facilities and signage are the two most important components; visitor information services; restaurant and other types of food services; connections to the Cobequid trail system and reinstatement of the bridge; tidal bore and Acadian/cultural interpretation with interactive components; better viewing platforms and a pedestrian bridge over the Salmon River; and, park amenities including a boardwalk.

Planning staff have created a webpage for the Palliser Redevelopment Project that provides an on-going schedule of events, property history, a project overview, resource documents and an online survey for project ideas and feedback. The webpage can be viewed at <http://www.colchester.ca/the-palliser-redevelopment-project>.

RECC Achieves LEED Silver Designation

On September 3, 2015, the Rath Eastlink Community Centre (RECC) officially became designated as a LEED Silver Building by the Canada Green Building Council. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a rating system that is recognized as the international mark of excellence for green building in 150 countries which aims to reduce the environmental impacts associated with buildings. Since the outset, the Design Team and Project Steering Committee were committed to incorporating state-of-the-art building technology that would optimize operating efficiency while minimizing its impact on the environment.

Some of the key features at the RECC include an extensive geothermal heat transfer and recovery system that captures, stores and diverts waste energy; masonry and concrete products containing recycled glass content (waste glass from Kohler); structural steel containing recycled material; motion activated lighting; natural sunlight for illumination and passive solar heat; a high performance building envelope; low-flow water fixtures; on-site storm water management; low maintenance landscaping materials; a complex building automation and control system; and, wood products derived from sustainable forests.

The LEED Silver Designation is a significant milestone; it represents the highest LEED designation of all new construction projects in Colchester, Cumberland, Pictou and East Hants, and it is one of only six municipally owned projects in Nova Scotia that have achieved a LEED designation.

A plaque and official certificate commemorating this achievement have been installed in the main atrium at the RECC.

Snow Removal

For information on Provincial snow removal, please see the following article from Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.

When will my road get plowed?

Plowing Priorities	
1	100-Series and trunk highways, and other high traffic roads
2	Secondary routes and other medium volume roads
3	Local paved roads, most subdivisions and residential streets
4	Gravel roads

We are on the job day and night, 24/7, keeping our roads as clear and safe as possible. Road clearing and salting is scheduled according to the kind of road and traffic levels.

Salting and Sanding	
100-Series and trunk highways, and other high traffic roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salted to achieve bare pavement • Salt applied before, during and after a storm if required
Secondary routes and other medium volume roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salted to achieve a bare centre line • Salt applied at beginning of storm and after a storm if required
Local paved roads, most subdivisions and residential streets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salted to achieve a bare centre line • Salt applied only after a storm
Gravel roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow packed • Sanding as needed

We also use sand instead of salt in environmentally sensitive areas and when temperatures are too cold for salt to work below -10° Celsius.

Emergencies

Call 911 for medical and other emergencies. We clear roads for emergency vehicles at the request of emergency services providers.

Delays in service

We have more than 500 vehicles servicing roads throughout the province. During storms, most of our equipment is focused on keeping major highways passable. This may delay service to other roads.



www.gov.ns.ca/tran/winter
 Highway conditions: 511
 Local road information: 1-888-432-3233

Public Works

Snow Plowing Reminders

With winter approaching, plowing streets and sidewalks can be very difficult. We would like to remind residents, who have properties on Municipally owned streets, of a few simple tips that will help our snow plowing crews during this time:

- Refrain from parking vehicles on roadways and on sidewalks before, during and after winter storms. This includes streets in Colchester Park, Debert, as they are narrower than most residential streets.
- Please be sure not to place garbage on sidewalks on your collection day.
- Keep your garbage boxes and mailboxes clear of snow to help prevent damage to both boxes and equipment. Brightly painted guide posts can be placed beside garbage boxes to ensure visibility for those who are plowing.
- When placing stakes on lawns to protect grass from plows, please place the stakes far enough back to allow crews to keep snow well off the roads and sidewalks. If your stakes have been damaged by the plow, it may be that they are too close to the road or sidewalk.
- Remember to keep snow clear from fire hydrants when plowing driveways. Buried hydrants could cause problems in an emergency situation.
- Moving snow from driveways onto the street is dangerous to vehicle traffic and is prohibited by law. Where possible, please keep snow removal within private property.

Also, lawns extending in close proximity to the roadways and sidewalks may be subject to gravel accumulation as a result of snow plowing activities. Please note that the Municipality will not be responsible for cleanup of these areas in the Spring.



During and following any snow events, the main priority for County snow removal crews is the clearing of public roads. Residents may therefore see a delay in the clearing of sidewalks, and we ask for your patience as we are working hard to provide the best level of service possible to all members of the travelling public.

The Public Works staff greatly appreciates your cooperation during the snowplowing season.

Not Sure Who To Call About Snow Removal?

- **Provincially Owned Roads (Green Signs)** - contact Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal at 902-893-5760 or refer to the article on page 4.
- **Municipally Owned Roads (Blue Signs)** - contact our Public Works Department at 902-897-3175.
- **Private Roads (usually White Signs)** - contact the person or company responsible for snow removal on your road.

In some cases, County owned roads may be plowed by the province and vice versa. If you are unsure who plows your road, please call the Municipal Public Works Office at 902-897-3175.

Call Before You Dig

Buried water and sewer lines are sometimes found in unexpected places! Excavating near buried infrastructure can be dangerous and risky. Our Public Works Staff can assist with locates for buried water and sewer lines before you start your project. Call us at 902-897-3175 for more information.

Recreation

Volunteer Recognition 2016

**Are you looking for a way to say “Thank You” to a hard working Volunteer or Community Group?
Why not nominate them for the recognition they deserve?**

The Municipality of Colchester promotes volunteerism by encouraging communities to nominate volunteers, groups, youth, families and businesses and by emphasizing the recognition of all volunteers. Please consider nominating volunteers in your area for the following awards:

- Provincial Representative Volunteer
- Provincial Youth Volunteer Award
- Provincial Family Volunteer Award
- Colchester County Pettigrew Recreation Leadership Award
- Colchester County Community Group of the Year Award



The deadline for all nominations is **Friday, February 12, 2016 at 4:30 pm.**

For more information and nomination forms, contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185, recreation@colchester.ca or visit our website: www.colchester.ca/volunteer-recognition

Grants to Non-profit Organizations

The Municipality of Colchester is pleased to announce the upcoming deadline for the Grants to Non-profit Organizations. Annually, the Municipality of Colchester accepts applications from registered non-profit organizations and charities which have a positive impact for the local residents and the community as a whole.

The deadline for 2016/2017 is **January 31, 2016.**

To receive a copy of the policy and application form, please drop by the Colchester Recreation Office at the Municipal Office, 1 Church Street, Truro, visit our website at www.colchester.ca/rec-grants or call 902-897-3185.

Funding for Insurance for Non-profit Groups

Does your non-profit recreation or community group have insurance? Are you having trouble finding the funds to properly insure your organization? The Municipality has a program to support eligible non-profit organizations which require financial assistance for general liability insurance. The Municipality will contribute up to 50% of premium costs, up to \$1,000 per organization, to eligible organizations.

For more information, guidelines and application forms, visit www.colchester.ca/rec-grants or contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3181. The application deadline is **February 28, 2016.**

Grants for Community Trails and Community Parks

The **Community Trail Funding Program** provides grants to eligible non-profit organizations for planning, constructing, maintaining and promoting public recreational trails. Application deadlines for 2016 are **January 29th** and **June 3rd**.

The **Community Park Funding Program** provides grants for capital improvements to public, outdoor recreational facilities, such as parks, playgrounds, sports fields, and multi-purpose courts. Application deadlines for 2016 are **February 26th** and **September 15th**.

For more information on these programs, visit www.colchester.ca/rec-grants or contact the Parks and Trails Coordinator at 902-897-3180.



Walking (or snowshoeing, or skiing) in a Winter Wonderland

The Municipality's Recreation Department has several pairs of adult and children's snowshoes available for community groups and individuals to borrow over the snowy winter months. Be sure to reserve your snowshoes in advance. A deposit of \$25.00 is required with reimbursement to the group or individual when the snowshoes are returned. The best way to get through winter is to embrace it and be active! Why not make it a habit to get outside this winter to enjoy activities with family and friends - walking, snowshoeing, skiing, tobogganing, skating, making snowmen! Dust off those winter boots and winter toys. Plan to visit a favourite outdoor space this winter! For more information, or to reserve your snowshoes, contact

Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or recreation@colchester.ca

Municipal parks and trails in Colchester County including the Cobequid Trail, Five Islands Lighthouse Park, Stewiacke River Park and Nelson Memorial Park, are available for walking, snowshoeing and cross country skiing during the winter months. Visit www.colchester.ca/trails & www.colchester.ca/parks for details.

**Note there is no park and trail regular maintenance during the winter months.*



Upcoming Kidsport Deadlines

January 1, 2016

March 1, 2016

For more information on Kidsport contact Craig Burgess at 902-897-3181 or recreation@colchester.ca

14th Annual Mayor's Challenge Curling Event

Fun for the whole family! No experience needed! Draw to the button challenge!

Saturday, February 6, 2016

Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex, Brookfield

Starting at 9:00 am

Teams of 4 - \$40.00

Must pre-register by contacting Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or recreation@colchester.ca



Winter Fun on Ice!

Lunchtime, Christmas or anytime, ice skating is a great way to have fun and be active. Local arenas are great locations to invite family, friends or co-workers to be active with you this winter!

Support your community arena!

West Colchester United Arena in Debert
902-662-4014 or email westcolarena@ns.aliantzinc.ca

North Shore Recreation Centre in Tatamagouche
902-657-3121 or email kellyajcr@gmail.com

Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex in Brookfield
902-673-2063 or email al.dhms@gmail.com

Rath Eastlink Community Centre
902-893-2224 or email info@ratheastlinkcc.ca

Looking To Get Rid Of Your Old Skates?



Colchester Recreation is looking for your slightly used skates to add to our local arenas for a community lending program.

Drop off location is:

1 Church Street, Truro, 3rd Floor Recreation Services

Upcoming Events

Snowshoe/Hike in Gully Lake Wilderness Area

December 29, 2015 at 1:00 pm

Join Cobequid Eco-Trails Society for a snowshoe/hike on Juniper Head Trail, trail length is 6.8 km return. Visit <http://www.cobequidcotrails.ca> for up-to-date details.

Family Snowshoe/Hike at Stewiacke River Park

February 13, 2016 at 2:00 pm

Join Colchester Recreation for snowshoeing fun on the trails in the park (and hot chocolate and cookies!) Bring your Valentine! Bring your own snowshoes if possible, ski or walking poles if you wish, and water. Dress warmly. Meet at the park entrance at 528 Stewiacke River Park Road. Visit www.colchester.ca/parks for directions. If there is not enough snow, we will walk. Need more information? Call 902-897-3180. If borrowing snowshoes from Colchester Recreation for this event, please arrive at least 15 minutes early.

Snowshoe/Hike in Gully Lake Wilderness Area

February 14, 2016 at 1:00 pm

Bring your Valentine and join Cobequid Eco-Trails Society for a snowshoe/hike! Two options: Hike 1 is approximately 10 km, on Sandy Cope Trail and Yellow Birch Trail; Hike 2 is approximately 5 km, on Yellow Birch Trail plus a portion of Earltown Lake and Portage Trail. Visit <http://www.cobequidcotrails.ca> for up-to-date details.



Interested in participating in any of these events, but don't have snowshoes? Call Colchester Recreation's snowshoe lending program at 902-897-3185 to reserve a pair. Snowshoes are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserve early!

Registering Your Dog

Annual dog registration is due January 10, 2016. Purchase your tag before this date and your name will be entered for a chance to win an early bird prize! Annual registration fees are \$12 for dogs and \$50 for kennels. Tags can be purchased through the following:



The By-law Enforcement Officer	Dogs by Kat (Tatamagouche)
County Courthouse (Tax Office)	Stay n' Play Canine Centre
All My Pets	Colchester SPCA
Central Nova Animal Hospital	Truro Veterinary Hospital
Fundy Veterinarian: Murray Siding & Shubenacadie locations	

Registering your dog is one of the most important steps you can take to increase your chances of reuniting with your dog should they become lost!

Waste Resource Management

Waste Reduction Helpline: 902-895-4777
Follow us on Twitter! @ColchesterWRM

Website: www.colchester.ca
Like us on Facebook! Colchester WRM

Colchester Balefill Facility

188 Mingo Road, Exit 18
HWY 104 Kemptown

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Materials Recovery Facility

185 Mingo Road, Exit 18
HWY 104 Kemptown

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00pm

Reminder: All visitors must report to the scale house prior to unloading materials. The scale house operator can accept cash, a personal cheque, or Interac as payment for disposal. The scale house is **not** equipped with a credit card machine. All loads must be tarped to prevent litter problems. Untarped loads will be subject to a \$20 surcharge.

The Balefill and Materials Recovery Facilities will be **closed** on Friday, December 25th for Christmas Day, Saturday, December 26th for Boxing Day and Friday, January 1st for New Year's Day.

Important – Holiday Collection Changes!

Please note the following changes to waste pick up due to the holidays:

If your regular collection day is scheduled to be **Friday, December 25th**, this collection will take place the **PREVIOUS SATURDAY – December 19th**.

If your regular collection day is scheduled to be **Friday, January 1st**, this collection will take place the **FOLLOWING SATURDAY – January 2nd**.

As always, material must be placed at the curb by 7:00 am on your collection day.



2015 Community Paper Shredding Event



On Saturday October 3rd, the Municipality hosted a community paper shredding event in the parking lot of the Rath Eastlink Community Centre. 97 residents arrived throughout the three hour event with boxes and bags of confidential documents they wanted recycled responsibly and securely. In total, 2180 kilograms or 2.18 metric tonnes or 4796 pounds of paper was recycled! Thanks to everyone who came out!



Far too much litter is being dumped along roadsides. Litter is not only unsightly, but it can also be harmful to the environment and wildlife. Please be mindful of this when discarding your garbage out the car window; keep it until it can be disposed of properly in a waste receptacle.

Help keep Colchester clean and beautiful!

2016 Christmas Tree Collection

To ensure your Christmas tree gets collected, it must be free of any decorations, lights, stands and bags. **Please place your tree curbside by 7:00 am on the Monday of your collection week.** Collection will take place as follows:



Zone 1 – January 11th – 15th

Zone 2 – January 11th – 15th

Zone 3 – January 11th – 15th

Zone 4 – January 4th – 8th

Zone 5 – January 4th – 8th

Zone 6 – January 4th – 8th

Zone 7 – January 18th – 22nd

Zone 8 – January 18th – 22nd

Town of Truro – January 4th – 8th

Town of Stewiacke – January 22nd



Please consult your collection calendar, visit our website to enter your address on the collection schedules page to receive a customized calendar or phone the Helpline at 902-895-4777 if you require further information regarding Christmas Tree Collection.

Safety Alert!

With shorter hours of daylight upon us, we would like to take this time to remind motorists to use extreme caution when passing garbage and recycling trucks along their collection routes. Ensure that you have a clear line of vision and are able to check for oncoming traffic prior to pulling out and passing these trucks at their stops. For the safety of yourself, other motorists and collection workers, please use extreme caution when passing these vehicles.

Snow Days



Winter weather is unpredictable. If collection is missed on your road due to icy or snowy conditions, hold on to your material until your next collection day. The drivers will collect up to twice the allowable amount. An alternate collection will be scheduled only if collection is cancelled across the entire County due to inclement weather. If an alternate collection is necessary, residents will be informed by public service announcements placed on the local radio stations and our website.

Want to know the moment winter weather affects collection in your area? Sign up for a service alert message at www.colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling or download our app for notifications by phone, email or Twitter the moment decisions affecting collection are made!

Christmas Reminders

- **Wrapping paper is NOT recyclable** due to its heavy dye content and high level of contamination (tape, bows, foil, etc.) and **should be placed in CLEAR BAGS for regular garbage disposal**. For a change this year, try wrapping with fabric ribbon and bows. They are reusable and more environmentally friendly.
- Think green this Christmas - green gift giving that is! Give gifts in reusable bags rather than wrapping paper....give gift cards from a favourite store and always try to keep from purchasing over packaged items!
- Throughout the Christmas party season, remember to recycle and compost. Compost all soiled paper napkins and leftover food.
- Plastic food, beverage and cleaning product containers that have the recycling symbol and the numbers 1 through 7 on them are recyclable. The only exception is Styrofoam which is to be placed in the garbage.
- Metal and glass food and beverage containers are recyclable.
- During and after the season of giving, remember those that are less fortunate. Instead of throwing things in the garbage that still have value or use, keep in mind that donations are gratefully received by many local charities.



Winter Green Cart and Garbage Tips

- The collection trucks may be passing your home at different times because of winter road conditions. To ensure your material is not missed you **MUST** have your garbage and green cart to the curb by 7:00 am on your collection day.
- Please remember that plastic and bio-degradable plastic bags are **NOT** permitted in the green cart.
- To keep your organics from freezing to the inside of your compost bin, wrap moist organics in newspaper or boxboard (ie: cereal boxes).
- To prevent your organics from freezing as a solid mass stuck to the bottom of your green cart, try lining the bottom of your cart with a pizza box, newspapers or leftover fall leaves.
- With the increase of snow in driveways and roadsides, please use caution when placing garbage and recycling bags curbside for pick up. Uneven snow piles may cause the bags to fall onto the road and cause traffic hazards.
- Please remember that all bags and bins must be 10 ft or less from the road and in a safe location.
- To ensure collection, please make sure that garbage bins, bags and green carts are not buried in snow on your collection day. It makes it very difficult for collection crews to access your materials if they are not visible.



Congratulations to the Tim Horton's Children's Camp in Tatamagouche!

A huge congratulations is extended to the Tim Horton's Children's Camp in Tatamagouche for winning the RRFB Nova Scotia 2015 Mobius Award of Environmental Excellence for Institution of the Year! The award was presented during a luncheon celebration at Pier 21 in Halifax on October 14th. Through many innovative waste reduction strategies, the camp and its staff have been working closely with Municipal staff to ensure its waste management program is well laid out and easy to follow for the 3000 campers it welcomes each year. Great job everyone and a well deserving win!



Battery Drop Off Stations

Several businesses throughout Colchester County host battery drop off stations where you can take your batteries to ensure they are properly disposed care of. Please note that these stations are for the drop off of batteries **ONLY**. For the safety of our employees, needles, sharps or anything other than batteries should never be dropped off at these locations.

Economic Development Do You Own A Business in Colchester County?

Businesses operating in Colchester County will now be able to provide feedback to the County online. The survey, to be completed by business owners or managers, will allow businesses to provide feedback on Municipal services, share their ideas on how the County can best develop our local economy and how we can help businesses to grow. At the end of the survey, businesses can also request a meeting to discuss their needs with the County's Economic Development Officer.

This online outreach is part of Colchester County's ongoing Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) initiative. We recognize the enormous contributions made by small and medium sized businesses to the local economy and want to work with them to meet their needs, thereby generating economic growth and increased job opportunities in the County. The survey can be accessed at <http://www.colchester.ca/businesses> by clicking on "Business Development Questionnaire"



Municipality of the County of Colchester

1 Church Street
Truro, Nova Scotia
B2N 3Z5

www.colchester.ca

Toll Free Number
1-866-728-5144

Reception - 897-3160, 897-3150, 897-3175
Administration
Tax Office
Public Works

Community Development - 897-3170
Building Inspection
Development Officer
Animal Control

Property Information - 897-3178

Colchester Recreation - 897-3185
recreation@colchester.ca

Materials Recovery Facility and
Regional Balefill Facility - 897-0450

Waste & Recycling Helpline - 895-4777
helpline@colchester.ca

Fax Numbers Courthouse Building

Administration - 843-4066

Community Development - 843-4061

Finance / Tax Office - 843-4067

Human Resources - 843-4063

Information Services - 843-4068

Property Information - 843-4062

Engineering / Public Works - 843-4064

Recreation Services - 843-4065

External Locations

Regional Sewage
Treatment Plant - 897-0335

Public Works Building - 895-5251

Water Utilities - 641-3102

Materials Recovery Facility
- Waste Reduction - 897-0882

- Recycling Operations - 897-0453

Regional Balefill Facility - 895-2307

Municipality of the County of Colchester

Assessment = Taxes



The Municipality of Colchester would like to provide a quick overview as to how your municipal tax bill is generated as well as steps that can be taken to ensure both your property assessment and the amount of your municipal tax bill is accurate.



How are my municipal property taxes actually calculated?

Municipal taxes are calculated based on the assessments received from Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC). The Municipality sets tax rates on an annual basis that are then applied to your property assessment amount. This in turn calculates how much property tax is owed.

When Do I Appeal?

Your annual assessment notice is mailed in January. If you decide to appeal your assessment, you **MUST** appeal within 31 days from the date on your assessment notice (date mailed).

What if I don't agree with the assessed value on my notice from PVSC?

We encourage you to contact PVSC with any questions or comments you have about your assessment notice before you make the decision to appeal.

What are my steps to appeal?

- 1) **Review Notice** – Is the information on the assessment notice correct?
- 2) **Contact** – Contact PVSC via website, phone or in person. They will review your assessment with you.
- 3) **Complete Appeal Form** – Complete your appeal form found either in your assessment notice or via the web.
- 4) **Send to PVSC** – Once completed, fax, mail or drop off your form to your local PVSC office.

Mail: 15 Arlington Place
Suite # 6
Truro, NS
B2N 0G9

Phone: 1-800-380-7775
Fax: 1-888-339-4555
Website: www.pvsc.ca

If my appeal is successful, will my tax bill be automatically adjusted?

Yes. The Municipality will receive notification of the appeal decision and will adjust your tax bill to reflect the correct amount.

Correct Assessment = Correct Taxes!

Important Notice

The **Land Registration Office** (Registry of Deeds) is now located in Amherst, NS. Inquiries can be directed to **Access Nova Scotia** at **1-800-670-4357**.

When prompted press the following

#1 for Language
#3 for Other Government Services
#2 for Other Government Services

Then ask to be connected to the Land Registration Office in Amherst, or you can find the office at:

144 Robert Angus Dr.
Amherst, NS B4H 4R7

Phone: (902) 667-3131
Fax: (902) 667-5657