



# Municipality of the County of Colchester

## Inside this issue:

Business Networking Breakfast in Bible Hill	3
Recreation	3
Waste Resource Management	6
Employee Recognition	10
Information from Public Works	11
Animal Control	12

**Important  
Phone  
Numbers  
Page 11**

March 2017

Volume 22 Issue 1

## Low Income Municipal Tax Assistance Program

As in years past, the Municipality will once again be offering a property tax exemption. **If you qualified for the exemption last year, you will be sent an application form automatically.** These forms will be in the mail by March 31<sup>st</sup>. If you do not receive your application form by mid-April, contact the Tax Office at 902-897-3162.

Approved household income levels and exemption amounts are:

Family Size	Household Income	Exemption Amount
Single	Less than \$25,006	\$188.89
Family of 2	Less than \$33,028	\$251.85
Family of 3 or more	Less than \$39,632	\$314.82

"Income" means a person's total income from all sources for the calendar year preceding the fiscal year in the Municipality, excluding: any allowances paid pursuant to the War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada), pension from Veterans Affairs Canada, the Child Tax Benefit or the GST rebate. It includes income of all members in the same family, residing in the same household, except those attending high school on a fulltime basis.

The deadline for this year's exemption to be filed with the Tax Office, 1 Church Street, Truro, is **May 12, 2017.**

For income verification purposes, please bring a copy of your completed  
**2016 Income Tax Return**

**(NOT THE NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT FROM REVENUE CANADA)**

## From the Mayor's Desk

Greetings from the Colchester Municipal Building. Yes, I do have a desk here, but in the early months of my four-year term as Mayor, much of my time has been spent away from that desk out in our communities. Colchester has so much going on!

I want to take this opportunity to highlight just three things that are a part of Colchester County. One is a challenging issue without easy answers: Park Street flooding. Another is very positive, but has required a tough choice: the Rath Eastlink Community Centre. And, the final item is simply wonderful: our volunteers.

### Park Street Flooding

Again this winter, it became necessary to periodically close Park Street, a road crossing Town of Truro and Colchester County boundaries. A cycle of freezing temperatures, ice buildup on the Salmon River, heavy rain, and 30-degree temperature swings in December



*Municipality of Colchester Council Members. Front Row: CAO Rob Simonds; Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor; Mayor Blair; Deputy Mayor Masters; Councillor Cooper; Councillor Stewart. Back Row: Councillor Cavanaugh; Councillor MacKenzie; Councillor MacInnes; Councillor Taggart; Councillor Boutillier; Councillor Parker; Councillor Gibbs; Councillor Gregory*

### **Rath Eastlink Community Centre**

The RECC is really living up to the 'Community' part of its name. Recreational membership is now over 2,500, the walking track is very popular, and each sporting and cultural event brings new energy and economic benefit to our community. Along with many folks from our area, I recently enjoyed the RECC's wonderful Mi'kmaq Heritage Classic hockey game.

Unfortunately, when weather conditions are mild and large crowds are in the arena, fog and humidity build up inside. This impairs visibility and takes a toll on the rink's surfaces and mechanical systems. The RECC Board, on the advice of engineers, advised the Councils of Truro and Colchester, that the facility requires \$600,000 in dehumidification upgrades.

It's very frustrating to face the need for this investment so soon after the RECC was constructed, but, like every homeowner knows, ignoring a needed repair would cost even more in the long run. Recognizing the direction that climate change is going and that we want to attract major events that take place in fall and spring, both Councils have approved the expenditures and are seeking other financial assistance for this needed work.

On the bright side, RECC staff have done a great job in attracting major events for the coming years. These include a Travis Tritt concert in the Spring; the World Junior A Hockey Challenge in December 2017; and, the 2018 Down Syndrome World Swimming Championships. It is great to be able to showcase our community this way.

### **In Praise of Volunteers**

Selfless acts of kindness by volunteers express the best of who we are as communities, a province, and our nation. With their hard work and dedication, volunteers give hope to those who have suffered hardship, those in need of literacy education, and citizens facing medical or fire emergencies. Volunteers preserve our heritage, coach our young athletes, and raise funds for health research. They turn vacant buildings into vibrant hubs for community learning and recreation.

Volunteers donate their time and money to make sure no one is left out of the rich quality of life on offer in Colchester County. They put the needs of others ahead of their own, sometimes at great personal risk, and sometimes doing a job as ordinary as making a pot of tea and being a good listener.

Local volunteer awards presentations will be held on April 25, 2017. Please thank your volunteers.

Speaking of gratitude, I want to thank Colchester's Public Works staff for their tireless efforts to clear roads and sidewalks during February's heavy snowfalls. It's hard work done to a high standard. We all appreciate it!

Christine Blair  
Mayor

conspired to flood the road.

Park Street is located on a designated flood plain. When the area floods, it is doing what it needs to do to prevent overflow damage elsewhere. The Joint Flood Advisory Committee of Truro, Colchester, and Millbrook recommended measures that have helped alleviate the frequency and damage of flooding. The road has been closed for 10-12 days per year, on average, in the past decade. Still, drivers are understandably frustrated when faced with rerouting and delays. So, what can be done?

Should we build a long bridge or causeway? The cost would be enormous and the decision is not ours to make. Although partially in Colchester, Park Street is owned by the Town of Truro and the Province. The NS Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal is responsible for its upkeep. Any changes must also involve CN Rail, Stella Jones, and other private land owners. Council will continue to collaborate on ways to reduce the impact of flooding and is open to constructive suggestions.

## Business Networking Breakfast in Bible Hill



Businesses in the Bible Hill, Brookside, and Valley areas are invited to a complimentary networking breakfast taking place on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 8:00 am at the Bible Hill Fire Hall.

This networking breakfast will give business people a chance to meet our new Mayor, Christine Blair, and new District 1 Councillor, Eric Boutilier. This is your opportunity to share your ideas on business growth, economic development and municipal services with your local representatives and with others in the business community.

This is a complimentary event hosted by the Municipality of Colchester, to facilitate business networking and collaboration. Space is limited, so please reserve your place with an RSVP to Joy O'Neill, Economic Development Officer, at [joneill@colchester.ca](mailto:joneill@colchester.ca).

## Recreation Municipal Regional Parks Open May 8<sup>th</sup>

The Municipality of Colchester's three regional parks open for the season on May 8<sup>th</sup>, but until then visitors can explore these day use parks on foot, even when park gates are closed. Please note that these parks, including the trails in the parks, are not maintained during the winter and usual park services are not available until early May.

If you enjoy family walks, plan to explore the trails at Stewiacke River Park. Enjoy views of the river, spring wildflowers, birds and other wildlife. Bring a picnic to share together at one of several shelters beside the river. This park features wheelchair accessible paths and washrooms. Located just 14 km south of Brookfield, this quiet park is a gem for nature lovers.

A magnificent panoramic view of the Minas Basin awaits you at Five Islands Lighthouse Park. Located 70 km west of Truro and directly across from the Five Islands, the Lighthouse Park has the largest ship playground in the county. There is also a beautiful timber frame picnic shelter, and paths and a beach for walking. During July and August, the 104-year-old lighthouse is open to visitors.

Nelson Memorial Park is situated beside Tatamagouche Bay and just 2 km west of Tatamagouche. With a playground, picnic areas and a beautiful view of the Bay, this park is a great place to spend an afternoon. Bring your bicycle and explore the Butter Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail) to the Creamery Square or the Train Station Inn in downtown Tatamagouche.

For directions and more information, visit [www.colchester.ca/parks](http://www.colchester.ca/parks).



*A historic lighthouse, an ocean breeze, a panoramic view, amazing tides, a playship to sail...all this awaits at Five Islands Lighthouse Park.*



## Nova Scotia Hiking Summit being held in Tatamagouche

Hike Nova Scotia's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hiking Summit is April 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> in Tatamagouche. A celebration of hiking culture, it includes best practices, stories, networking opportunities and hikes. The Summit is hosted by Hike Nova Scotia, the Cobequid Eco-Trails Society and the Municipality of Colchester, and supported by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.

The deadline for registration is April 24, 2017. Learn more and register at <http://www.hikenovascotia.ca/projects/hiking-summit/>

## Volunteer Recognition

**Are you looking for a way to say "Thank You" to a volunteer or community group? Why not nominate them for the recognition they deserve?**

During the week of **April 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 29<sup>th</sup>** communities all across Canada will celebrate **National Volunteer Week**. The primary purpose of this specially designated week is to thank and honour people who donate their time to help others by supporting a cause in which they believe in.

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. The Municipality of Colchester and the Town of Truro will be hosting the Volunteer Award Ceremony on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn, Truro.

Nomination forms can be picked up at Colchester Recreation (1 Church Street, Truro), or found online at: <http://www.colchester.ca/volunteer-recognition>

**The deadline to submit nominations is Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.**

For more information contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or [recreation@colchester.ca](mailto:recreation@colchester.ca)



Spring is in the air! Get ready to step into spring with Colchester Recreation's eight week walking program. It's an easy and fun way to improve your current activity level.

### What is Step into Spring?

The Step into Spring walking program involves wearing a pedometer, recording your daily step counts and submitting your weekly total to Colchester Recreation by email or phone. A \$10 program registration fee gets you a pedometer, reusable bag, and other great incentives to keep you motivated throughout the program. There are prizes to be won each week!

**The Challenge begins March 21<sup>st</sup>** in Recreation offices at the Municipality of Colchester, Town of Truro, Village of Bible Hill, and Town of Stewiacke.

For more information contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or visit [www.colchester.ca/spring](http://www.colchester.ca/spring).

### Step into Spring on a Trail

Springtime adventures await you on our terrific trails in Colchester County! With more than 150 km of walking and hiking trails to explore, Colchester County has something for everyone. Walk to your heart's content along the sea-coast; hike to waterfalls in the hills; run like the wind through the park; stroll beside wonderful wetlands; bike beside a beautiful bay. This spring, make trails part of your active, healthy lifestyle! To plan your next trail adventure, visit [www.colchester.ca/trails](http://www.colchester.ca/trails).



*Sandy Cope Trail, Gully Lake Wilderness Area*



*Painted trillium, Gully Lake Wilderness Area*

### 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Acquisition



Each year the Municipality of Colchester, along with the Truro Art Society, hosts an Art Show featuring various pieces from local artists. During each show, a work of art is selected by a Committee and purchased by the Municipality to expand their collection. The selected piece is displayed on the main floor of the Municipal Building, along with a brief biography of the artist.

Congratulations are extended to Keith Cheyne on winning the Municipality's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Acquisition. Keith has been attending the Colchester Art Acquisition for a number of years and always brings a stunning piece to the table.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Acquisition is scheduled to be held in November 2017. The Municipality of Colchester welcomes all local artists to come out and participate in this great event and help celebrate art in Colchester County.

### Supporting Healthy, Smoke-free Outdoor Spaces

The Municipality of Colchester created a Smoke Free Outdoor Recreational Spaces Policy in 2012. Watch for signs posted at Municipal outdoor recreation facilities throughout the County as a reminder not to smoke at these sites. We thank you for your cooperation, as together we encourage healthy lifestyles and community wellness.



## Waste Resource Management

Waste Reduction Helpline: 902-895-4777

Website: [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca)

Follow us on Twitter! @ColchesterWRM

Like us on Facebook! Colchester WRM

### Colchester Balefill Facility

188 Mingo Road, Exit 18  
Highway 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  
Highway 104, Kemptown

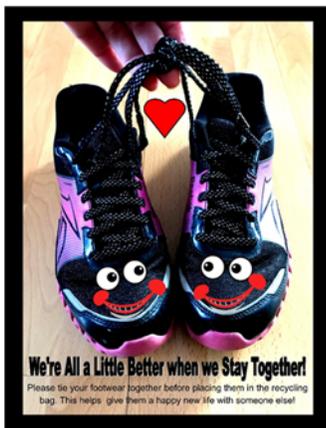
#### Hours of Operation:

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

**Reminder:** All visitors must report to the scalehouse prior to unloading materials. The scalehouse operator can accept cash, a personal cheque, or Interac as payment for disposal. The scalehouse 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 April 14<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> for Easter Monday and Monday May 22<sup>nd</sup> for Victoria Day.

If your regular collection day for organics and garbage or recyclables falls on a holiday, an alternate collection will take place on the **following Saturday**. Please refer to your waste collection schedule for details. Material must be curbside by 7:00 am on your collection day.



## Textiles Recycling

Clean and dry clothing, footwear, bedding, etc. is recyclable and should be placed in the bag with your paper products. If there is a hole or a missing button – no problem! Put it in the bag for recycling anyway. If you have that shirt or shoes that used to be favourites but you have moved on, place them in the bag too. These former favourites will make their way to the shelves of local thrift stores to start a new happy life with someone else.

We're all a little better when we stay together!

Please tie your footwear together before placing them in the recycling bag. This helps give them a happy new life with someone else!

## Stay Up to Date on Collection Changes When They Affect You!

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](http://www.colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling), download our free app from the App Store, or Google Play and you will be notified by phone, email or Twitter the moment decisions affecting collection are made. No computer, tablet or smartphone? No problem! Call our Helpline at 902-895-4777 and we will set this service up for you.



### Ready, Set, Spring Cleanup



Spring is drawing near. It will soon be time to clean out your sheds, basements and closets of unwanted items.

This special collection for all residents of Colchester County allows for the disposal of larger household items not normally picked up in the regular curbside program. **All items must be placed within 10ft/3m of the road by 7:00 am on the MONDAY of your collection week.** Each household, including apartment buildings of three units or less, are eligible for spring cleanup collection. The maximum weight of individual bundles cannot

exceed 50lbs or one cubic meter in size, with the exception of furniture and appliances. The total amount to be set out should not exceed 650lbs (picture the amount that can fit into the back of a half-ton truck).

**Residents are reminded that smaller clean up items must be packaged or bundled in a CLEAR GARBAGE BAG or box for collection.** To help ensure all of your material gets picked up, please make sure these small/loose items are placed in a clear bag or container.

**PLEASE NOTE:** More than one truck will pass by your house to pick up items. If some of your items get picked up and other items are left behind (for example, metal items), please be patient. This usually means that some items will be picked up later by another vehicle.

**Spring Collection will take place as follows:**

Town of Truro - April 24 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup>	Zone 5 – May 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>
Zone 6 – May 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>	Zone 7 – May 15 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup>
Town of Stewiacke – May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Zone 8 – May 23 <sup>rd</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup>
Zone 1 – May 29 <sup>th</sup> to June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Zone 2 – May 29 <sup>th</sup> to June 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Zone 3 – June 5 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup>	Zone 4 – June 5 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup>

Please refer to your collection schedule for Zone descriptions or check the Municipality’s Website at <http://www.colchester.ca/collection-schedules>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Commercial waste is not included in spring clean-up. This includes: farms, businesses and institutions

**Materials such as cardboard, recyclables, organics, tires, Christmas trees and electronic items are banned from landfill and will not be picked up at the curb as clean up items.**

**Car parts and construction and demolition debris can be brought to the Balefill Facility and dropped off for the appropriate tipping fee as they are not eligible for Spring Clean Up collection.**

Further questions can be directed to the Colchester Helpline at 902-895-4777 or by visiting [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca)

### Reminder – Bulky Waste Pickup in Colchester County

Beginning in 2016, residents of Zones 1 to 8 in Colchester County no longer have traditional curbside Fall Clean up. This change does **NOT** affect Fall Clean Up within the Towns of Truro or Stewiacke.

Starting June 12, 2017, within Colchester County **ONLY**, each household can place one large item curbside on their regular collection day for pick up.

As an enhanced service, Residents will be able to place one large item curbside every collection day until December 15, 2017. This means you don’t have to wait for your special fall clean up collection week or worry about missing it.

## Hazardous Waste Disposal – Dates to Remember

**Location:** Clean Harbors, 640 MacElmon Road, Debert,  
Exit 13, Highway 104

**Hours of Operation:** 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

This FREE service is for residents of The Municipality of Colchester and the Towns of Truro and Stewiacke.

### 2017 Dates of Operation:

April 1 <sup>st</sup>	August 12 <sup>th</sup>
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	September 9 <sup>th</sup>
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	October 14 <sup>th</sup>
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	November 4 <sup>th</sup>

## 2017 Mobile Household Hazardous Waste Event

This spring, there will be a mobile HHW event held:

**Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – Industrial Building, NS Provincial Exhibition Grounds,  
Bible Hill**

The mobile event takes place between the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

For further information check out our website at [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca) or phone our Helpline at 902-895-4777.



## Foam Polystyrene (Styrofoam™) Recycling!

We have been so pleased to see the amount of Styrofoam™ that residents and businesses have been sending us! We still get lots of questions on this program, so here are the answers to some of the most common ones:

### What foam items will be recycled?

- plates
- cups
- meat trays (**pads and wrap MUST be removed**)
- take-out containers
- egg cartons
- protective packaging blocks (e.g. blocks around a TV)
- disposable beverage coolers
- **No spray foam or packing peanuts please**

### How do I recycle expanded polystyrene?

- Remove leftover food and any absorbent meat pads/plastic wrap
- Rinse any foam product that has been in contact with food like you would all other container recyclables
- Place in a blue bag with your plastic, metal and glass recyclables
- Please do not wrap trays in plastic grocery bags as this will interfere with their recycling



### What happens to the Styrofoam™?

- The foam is densified into blocks with a specialized machine to remove the air inside the containers.
- The blocks are then sold to manufacturers worldwide.
- Post-consumer foam is primarily used to make decorative picture frames and moldings.
- This saves a HUGE amount of landfill space!

## The Open Burning of Garbage is Illegal and Hazardous to your Health

Open burning refers to burning garbage in barrels, open pits, outdoor furnaces, woodstoves, or fireplaces. Open burning of garbage is much more harmful to your health and the environment than you may think.

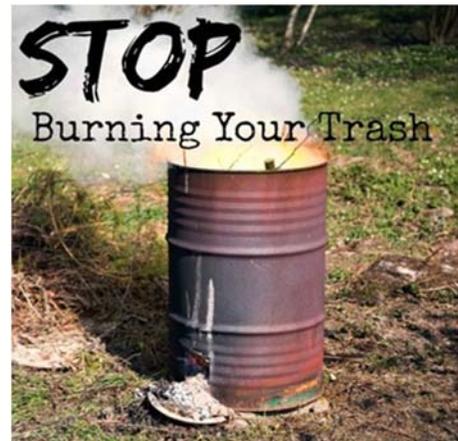
Some people may say, "We've been burning garbage for ages, so what's the big deal now?"

We now understand that open burning of garbage - even seemingly harmless materials like paper, cardboard, yard waste, and construction debris - releases a hazardous mixture of cancer-causing compounds and other toxic substances. It poses health risks to those exposed directly to the smoke. It especially affects people with sensitive respiratory systems, children and the elderly.

In the short term, exposure to smoke can cause headaches, nausea, and rashes. Over time, it can increase the risk of developing heart disease. Some of the pollutants contained in the smoke from open burning of garbage can include:

- Dioxins
- Lead
- Furans
- Carbon monoxide
- Arsenic
- Nitrogen oxides
- Mercury
- Sulphur oxides
- PCBs
- Hydrochloric acid

Some of these pollutants can also end up in the ash that is left behind from open burning of garbage.



### Dioxins, Furans, and Your Health

One of the greatest concerns with open burning of garbage is the health risks posed by the release of dioxins and furans into the environment. Exposure to dioxins and furans has been linked to:

- Certain types of cancers
- Liver problems
- Impairment of the immune system, the endocrine system, and reproductive functions
- Effects on the developing nervous system and other developmental events

In Canada, the open burning of garbage produces more dioxins and furans than all industrial activities combined.

(Source – Government of Canada – Environment and Climate Change)

## Annual Compost Giveaway

The always popular Compost Giveaway takes place at the Balefill Facility, 188 Mingo Road, Kemptown, during the week of May 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on weekdays and 8:30 am to 11:30 am on Saturdays. Each household is entitled to shovel 100 kgs of compost into three bags (while supplies last). Bags are provided but remember to bring your own shovel and wear appropriate footwear and gloves. Compost is sold for \$2.00 per bag or \$34.50 per metric tonne (HST included) throughout the year. Please phone the Helpline at 902-895-4777 to ensure availability of finished compost at the facility.

## Top 5 Alerts from our Recycling Facility

Have you ever wondered how all of those recyclable items you place in your blue and clear bags get sorted? Our recycling facility uses conveyor belts to move the materials, which are then hand sorted into separate streams. Our employees do a great job sorting these valuable resources, keeping them out of the landfill and giving them a new life.

Staff have been noticing some problem items that are arriving in recycling bags. Help keep the quality of our recyclables high by putting the following items in the right place:

- **Paper in the Wrong Bag** – Paper products **MUST** be placed in a separate bag from your container recyclables. When paper products are mixed with other recyclables, we lose these valuable resources.
- **Medical Waste, Syringes and Needles** – These products should **NEVER** be placed in your recycling bag, loose or in any sort of container. This puts collection and processing staff at a major risk for injury and illness. If you use needles or syringes for medical conditions, please pick up a free Safe Sharps container from your pharmacy. Once filled, these containers can be taken back to the pharmacy to ensure safe disposal.
- **Household Batteries** – Batteries do not go in the curbside recycling program. There are drop off sites across the Municipality and Household Hazardous Waste Event days where they can be brought for recycling. Please tape across the two terminals on the 9 volt square batteries, for safety. Call our Helpline at 902-895-4777 for the drop off site nearest you.
- **Milk Cartons** – These products should always be placed in your containers recycling bag with your plastics, bottles, and cans. This item is commonly mistaken for belonging in the paper recycling bag. So common in fact that each day, the staff at our recycling facility pull upwards of 250 milk cartons off of the paper sorting conveyor line to make sure they get to the right place with the other containers. Placing these in your container recycling bag at home helps keep our facility more efficient.
- **Clean Recyclables** – Please ensure that containers are empty and rinsed before placing them in your blue bag for collection. When containers are not empty or clean, they can contaminate other clean recyclables at our facility. We greatly appreciate your help in sending clean recyclables to us!



**See us in Action!** – All of the recyclables that arrive at our facility are sorted by hand by our dedicated employees. Check out our video to see us in action at <http://www.colchester.ca/recycling-in-colchester> and find out 'Where does it go?' This will give you a firsthand look at why it is so important to properly sort your recyclables and ensure they are clean when they are placed into your bags!

We thank you for your continued cooperation!

## Employee Recognition

The Municipality's Service Recognition Policy acknowledges employees reaching service milestones. Employees recognized for years of service to the end of 2016 were:

thank  
you!

**5 years:** Christian Mejorada

**10 years:** Chris Spencer, Wayne Colborne, Dave Willemsen, Irene Redmond, Krista Mont, Shawn Stewart, Blaise Watson, Sharon Hart, Scott Morrison, Dawn Rafuse, Luanne Whidden

**15 years:** Dave Henderson

**20 years:** Dave McElhinney, Therin Smith, Sean Sutherland, Jann McFarlane, Shirley Cameron

**25 years:** Donna Arnold, Paul Smith

## Information from Public Works

- Our regular road and sewer maintenance programs will be starting in the spring. Help protect our workers by taking extra care when driving through construction sites.
- Permits are required for any new water or sewer connections, as well as any changes to your existing connection. County staff need to inspect all connections and require **24 hours notice**.
- Live on a County-owned road and wish to fill-in your ditch? Visit the Public Works Office for a Frontage Culvert Permit.
- Cloth wipes and dusting cloths can clog your plumbing and our sewer pipes! Please dispose of these in your regular garbage.
- Property owners who have extended their lawns into the public right-of-way are responsible for repairing any sod damage or removing any gravel build up which has resulted from plowing. Remember, most public right-of-ways extend 10 metres or 33 feet from the road centerline.
- Planning a neighbourhood street party? Contact the Public Works Office at 902-897-3175 to obtain a permit for a temporary road closure.



## Important Phone Numbers

We often have residents calling the Municipal Office with questions on issues involving outside departments or agencies. Please find below a list of some of the more frequent questions we receive and the appropriate contact information.

Issue	Order of Government/ Independent Corporation	Department/Agency/Company	Phone Number
Your neighbour is burning garbage; you have a question regarding wells or septic on you property	Provincial	Nova Scotia Environment	902-893-5880
Road Maintenance/snow removal on roads with green signs or on major roads and highways	Provincial	Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal	1-844-696-7737
Questions regarding the assessment of your property or how to appeal the assessment	Independent Corporation	Property Valuation Services Corporation	1-800-380-7775
Connecting or disconnecting the power to your home; burnt out street lights	Independent Corporation	Nova Scotia Power	1-800-428-6230
Government programs and services for seniors	Provincial	Department of Seniors	1-800-670-0065
Low-income homeowners – housing repairs	Provincial	Department of Community Services - Housing	1-866-525-5454
Looking for a copy of your deed; change the name on your property	Provincial	Land Registry	1-800-670-4357



**Municipality of the  
County of Colchester**

**1 Church Street  
Truro, Nova Scotia  
B2N 3Z5**

**[www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca)**

**Toll Free Number  
1-866-728-5144**

Reception 902-897-3160,  
902-897-3150, 902-897-3175

Administration  
Tax Office  
Public Works

Community Development 902-897-3170  
Building Inspection  
Development Officer  
Animal Control

Property Information 902-897-3178  
Colchester Recreation 902-897-3185  
[recreation@colchester.ca](mailto:recreation@colchester.ca)

Materials Recovery Facility and  
Regional Balefill Facility 902-897-0450  
Waste & Recycling Helpline  
902-895-4777  
[helpline@colchester.ca](mailto:helpline@colchester.ca)

**Fax Numbers**

**Courthouse Building**

Administration 902-843-4066  
Community Development 902-843-4061  
Finance / Tax Office 902-843-4067  
Human Resources 902-843-4063  
Information Services 902-843-4068  
Property Information 902-843-4062  
Engineering/Public Works 902-843-4064  
Recreation Services 902- 843-4065

**External Locations**

- Central Colchester Sewage Treatment Facility 902- 897-0335
- Public Works Building 902-895-5251
  - Water Utilities 902-641-3102
  - Materials Recovery Facility & Waste Reduction 902-897-0453
- Regional Balefill Facility 902-895-2307

**Municipality of the County of Colchester**

**The 2017 Dog Tag Season is Off and Running!**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has already purchased their 2017 dog tags and to remind everyone else that it is not too late! Through Schedule M4 from the Department of Justice, dogs must be registered through your Municipality. Failure to do so could result in heavy fines, including:

- Dog running at large - \$352.50
- Dog that is not wearing a tag (as required by Section 8 of the by-law) - \$352.50
- Failing to register a dog - \$237.50



This year there were two early bird draws for residents who bought their tags on or before January 10, 2017. The lucky winners were Jean and Walter McElhinney and Keri Coulson. Congratulations!

**Some Statistics for Thought:**

In 2016, 1,022 Animal Control calls were received. 260 of these calls were related to lost and found dogs. Of these 260 calls, only 58 of the dogs were tagged with the Municipality.

Additional time and resources were spent reuniting these dogs with their owners than dogs who are tagged. It is not only important to register your dog, but to also provide detailed contact information at the time of registration and update this information as necessary.

**Tags can be purchased at the following locations:**

- Community Development Department, County Office
- All My Pets
- Central Nova Animal Hospital
- Truro Veterinary Hospital
- Stay N' Play Canine Centre
- FutureWorx Tatamagouche
- Fundy Veterinarians (both Murray Siding and Shubenacadie locations)



If you have found or are missing a dog, please be sure to call Animal Control at 902-897-3170. After hours and weekend calls are answered by an answering service. Please be specific regarding the nature of your call when speaking with this service so that it can be properly prioritized.