



# Municipality of the County of Colchester

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May 2019

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## Fun in the Sun Day Camps 2019

Hey kids! Want to have fun and be active this summer? Join us for **Fun in the Sun** when we visit your community. Each week is packed with outdoor games, group activities, sports, and lots of fun to keep you moving.

Registration will take place beginning in late May at Colchester Recreation, 1 Church Street, Truro. For more information please visit [www.colchester.ca/fun-in-the-sun-day-camps](http://www.colchester.ca/fun-in-the-sun-day-camps), email us at [recreation@colchester.ca](mailto:recreation@colchester.ca) or phone 902-897-3185.



## From the Mayor's Desk

**International Women's Day in Jordan:** In March, I had the privilege of representing Colchester County, and indeed Canada, at an event celebrating International Women's Day in the country of Jordan.



The trip, funded by Global Affairs Canada, was part of Colchester's participation in the Jordan Municipal Support Project (JMSP). This is a five-year initiative being implemented by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) in collaboration with Jordan's Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

The project matches local governments in central and southern Jordan with Canadian municipal staff and elected representatives. It aims to strengthen municipal governance, improve solid waste management, and ensure all citizens, in particular women and youth, can engage in shaping their community.

Colchester County is fortunate to be one of just a few Canadian municipalities selected to participate in this project. On my four-day mission, it was an honour to exchange ideas and experiences with representatives of 12 Jordanian municipalities.

At the event, I gave a keynote address about our municipal government legislation and structure. I spoke of working as a team with Council and staff, cooperating with neighbouring municipalities, and about opportunities for women in municipal government.

Another speaker at the conference was the former Mayor of Al Hasa in Tafileh, southern

Jordan, Engineer Rana Hajaya. Former Mayor Hajaya spoke of her experiences as the first and only female Mayor in Jordan. She was first appointed and then elected to the position, after which she was hired by her municipality as their engineer. She spoke of challenges both as Mayor and as a municipal engineer who is a woman.

In the breakout sessions, there were many questions relating to hiring qualified staff, finances, and the relationship between mayors and council. The Jordanian Government has recently introduced a quota system to ensure at least twenty-five per cent of each municipal council is female. Unfortunately, it is rumoured that in many municipalities, female candidates



are discouraged from offering their candidacy once the quota is met. A question I also heard repeatedly was why Canada has low female representation rates on municipal councils and what we are doing about this: good question.

Participating in this event and the JMSP has shown to me, once again, that the FCM is a very valuable organization. Not only does FCM work with Canadian municipal governments for their benefit; it connects us with local governments around the world, which in turn, can help elected officials and municipal employees improve and enrich their own communities. It shares the expertise of people like our own Mark Austin, Economic Development Officer, and Darlyne Proctor, Waste Reduction Manager. It shows international partners respect. It attempts to achieve sustainability on important matters such as the environment, and does so by assisting and educating, not imposing.

Thank you to Council for approving my participation in this event and to staff for your support. This was a rewarding experience for me that earned positive recognition for our Municipality.

**Honouring our Volunteers:** Volunteers enrich our quality of life. They make a difference. Volunteers have unique and special roles to play, skills to offer, and make commitments because they care. They make our communities strong.

To express our thanks, Colchester County and the Town of Truro honoured volunteers at an awards ceremony in Truro on April 10<sup>th</sup>. I especially want to acknowledge the 2019 Volunteer Firefighter Awards, 50+ Years of Service, to Ron Logan, 55 years, and to Dana Smith, 50 years, both members of the Bible Hill Fire Brigade. I also want to acknowledge the considerable contributions recognized at the 2019 Provincial Volunteer Awards in Halifax, Richard Haines, who is involved with Special Olympics Cobequid Program. He has invested thousands of hours over the past 12 years to provide opportunities for more than 140 athletes with intellectual disabilities.

The same evening of April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Village of Bible Hill held its Volunteer Awards Ceremony. Again, Dana Smith was recognized for his 50 year contribution and Anna McNutt was also recognized for her 50 years of volunteer work in a number of venues.

Congratulations to all the volunteers who were recognized. Thank you to all of you who volunteer in your communities. You are the life blood of our society and are highly valued.

Christine Blair, Mayor



Solar Colchester was launched on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and received nearly 50 applications in the first two weeks. Solar Colchester allows eligible property owners in Colchester to install photovoltaic solar panels through a repayable municipal financing program. All spots for 2019 have been filled, but if you are interested in the program for another year, visit [www.mysolarcolchester.ca](http://www.mysolarcolchester.ca), email [solar@colchester.ca](mailto:solar@colchester.ca) or call 902-897-3170 for more information.

Thank you to everyone who has applied! We are excited to increase renewable energy generation in Colchester.

## Nova Scotia Quality of Life Survey – Don't Throw It Away

How can we work together to be happier, healthier and more fulfilled in all areas of our lives? We think these are questions worth asking. In late April, you may have been one of 80,000 Nova Scotians asked to participate in the Nova Scotia Quality of Life Survey. By filling out the survey, you will help ensure a unique Quality of Life Report is created for the Colchester region! It will also ensure the issues most important to the health and happiness of you and your family receive closer attention. By completing and submitting the survey before July 5<sup>th</sup>, you will have the opportunity to enter for a chance to win 1 of 25 Sobeys gift cards (valued at \$400 each). This is a first-of-its-kind survey for Nova Scotia and is an initiative being led by Engage Nova Scotia with the support of Nova Scotia Community College and a Local Leadership Team for Colchester. Learn more at [www.nsqualityoflife.ca](http://www.nsqualityoflife.ca).



## Alert Truro Colchester – Be the First to Know



When disaster strikes, being informed is often the first step to protecting you and your loved ones. The Municipality of Colchester and the Town of Truro are introducing *Alert Truro Colchester* – a mass communication system that can deliver immediate emergency notifications to residents throughout the County when it is needed most.

To receive the notifications, residents must first subscribe to the program and indicate how they would like to receive alerts: voice to phone, text message, email, fax, through the program's downloadable app or all of the above.

In addition to choosing how you would like to receive emergency notifications, you may also opt-in to receive other important advisories such as municipal road and facility closures, changes to waste collection schedules or planning notices.

Those interested in being fully engaged in the communities may also sign up to receive an e-newsletter that will inform them of upcoming events, programs and other news related to the Municipality (please note, this option will be available by email only).

**Don't wait, sign up today** by visiting [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca) and clicking on the *Alert Truro Colchester* link, by calling 902-897-3182 or by dropping by the office at 1 Church Street, Truro.

## Public Works

### County Flood Advisory Committee – Project Highlights

The Colchester County Flood Advisory Committee has been in place since the mid-1990's, and its main goals are to:

- receive and review applications from County property owners for repairs on flood-damaged properties,
- assist owners with carrying out repairs,
- look at ways to reduce flood damage within the County.

Here are photos from two projects carried out by the Committee last year.



*Project 1: Stabilization along an 80 metre-long gully which was causing major erosion and threatening a home as well as the site of a future trail. This was a joint project with the Village of Bible Hill, and the value of the work was \$19,000.*



*Project 2: Construction of a 50 metre-long rock berm along the edge of a river to protect a home from the effects of ice and flooding. The value of the work was \$6,800.*

## Help Save Water

Water is a precious resource and we can all do our part to only use what is needed for our day to day lives. Whether you have a private well, or get your water from the Debert or Tatamagouche Water Utilities, here are some helpful tips for cutting down on the amount of water you use:

- Repair dripping or leaky faucets. Even just one drop per second from a leaky faucet can waste up to 10,000 litres of water per year.
- Consider replacing old toilets, dishwashers or washing machines.
- Use low flow shower heads and take shorter showers.
- When cooking, peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.
- Install faucet aerators to cut down on flow rate.



- Turn off the water to brush your teeth.
- Repair leaky toilets or replace toilets with low flow models.
- Collect rainwater for watering gardens.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean off decks and paved areas of your yard.
- When washing your car, wet down car, then use a bucket of soapy water to wash the car before giving a light rinse. Always use a spray attachment on the end of your hose.
- When hand washing dishes, don't leave water running for rinsing.
- Only run full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator instead of letting the tap run while waiting for cool water to flow.
- Insulate your water pipes so hot water is more readily available. This avoids wasting water while it heats up. This can also prevent your pipes from freezing in the colder months.

### Where Does the Road End?

Public roads are usually built on a 20 metre-wide piece of public property, even though the paved surface of the road is only about 6 metres wide. This is done to leave room for things like sidewalks, ditches and the road shoulder on the public property. It also leaves enough room to store snow during the winter and carry out road repairs. Often people extend their lawns out into the public road property, leading to frustration when grass is damaged, or stones are left on the edge of the lawn. Although we don't mind when lawns are extended into the public road property, road crews need this space to carry out maintenance and County crews will not be responsible for cleaning up gravel or repairing grass on the public property. The pictures below show a sample of a road with and without the property lines shown. Thank you for your cooperation!



## Colchester Historical Society - Certificate of Appreciation



The Municipality was honoured to receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the Colchester Historical Society on February 28, 2019. It was presented by the Society in recognition of the County's contribution to the discovery and celebration of the history of Colchester County, during their annual *Heritage Night at the Historeum*.

## Support for the Fundy Discovery Site

The Municipality of Colchester greatly appreciates recent financial support for Phase 1 development of the Fundy Discovery Site from the following organizations:

- \$53,565 from the Province of Nova Scotia through Communities, Culture and Heritage for the natural playground;
- \$25,000 from the Province of Nova Scotia through Municipal Affairs for signage and landscaping;
- \$13,747 from the Province of Nova Scotia through Communities, Culture and Heritage's Community ACCESS-ability program for accessible playground equipment;
- \$42,400 from Trans Canada Trail for a new section of Cobequid Trail (part of The Great Trail) and related amenities;
- \$25,000 from Michelin for the natural playground;
- A generous donation of wooden poles from Stella-Jones for the natural playground.

The Municipality is very pleased to receive funding from these partners. Together, we are creating a unique community space for all to enjoy.

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## 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 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 Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> for Victoria Day, Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup> for Canada Day, Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> for the Civic Holiday and Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> for Labour Day.

## Help Keep Our Employees Safe – Use the Safe Sharps Program

Needles, syringes, and lancets should never be placed in your recycling or garbage bags. When this happens, it puts many people at risk of injury and disease. Every pharmacy has FREE Safe Sharps containers available that can be picked up and used at home for your sharps. Once filled, the containers can be returned to the pharmacy for FREE proper disposal. Utilizing this program helps keep many people safe. We appreciate your attention and cooperation on this!

## Spring Cleanup 2019 – Remaining Areas

Spring Cleanup is nearing completion for another year!

Remaining Spring Cleanup Dates are:

- May 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> – Zone 7**
- May 17<sup>th</sup> – Town of Stewiacke**
- May 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> – Zone 8**
- May 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> – Zone 1 and Zone 2**
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> - Zone 3 and Zone 4**

Please use the following tips to help ensure a successful cleanup:

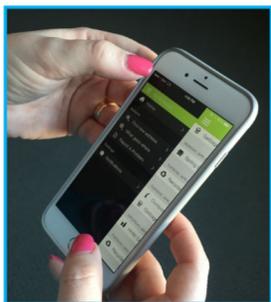
- **Smaller items must be placed in clear bags, bundled, or boxed for collection. Items placed in blue or black bags WILL NOT be collected.**
- **Items can only be set curbside the weekend prior to your collection week.**
- Material must be placed within 6 feet of the road by **7:00 am on the Monday of your cleanup collection week.**
- The total amount set out should not exceed 650 pounds (imagine the amount that could fit into the back of a half tonne truck). Individual items cannot exceed 50 pounds, except for furniture and appliances.
- A number of trucks will pass by your home collecting specific items. **These trucks will pass by once.** Roads are inspected at the end of the day to ensure all acceptable items are collected. **Material set out after the trucks have passed will not be collected.**
- Metal items are collected by a special truck. When placing material at the curb, please try to keep metal items separate from other items.
- Unacceptable items must be **promptly** removed from the curb by the resident after all of the trucks have passed.

If you have any questions on what items can or cannot be placed curbside or where you can dispose of unacceptable items properly, please phone the Helpline at 902-895-4777 or visit [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca).

### One Large Item Collection Will Resume Following Spring Cleanup

Each household can place one large item curbside on their regular collection day for pick up. For example, the item placed at the curb on your regular collection day could be a table, a chair, an appliance, etc.

### Stay up to Date with Us



Make sure you are signed up for our service alert and reminders. Check it out on our website at <http://www.colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling>. Enter your civic address and your customized calendar can be printed or synchronized with your own electronic calendar, and you can receive weekly reminders by phone, email or Twitter. Once signed up, we can instantly contact you when changes occur to collection in your area due to weather or other unforeseeable circumstances.

**Smart Phone or Tablet user?** Download our Colchester Waste Resource Management app for free on Apple and Android devices.

**Don't have a computer, printer, or smartphone?** No Problem! Call us at 902-895-4777 and we will be happy to mail you out a customized calendar and set this service up for you.

## Do You Have a Vehicle That's Lost Its Get up and Go?

The Municipality of Colchester will have it removed for free through the Annual Derelict Vehicle Program.

If you are interested in this program, please call **902-897-0450 ext. 111** with the following information ready: name, address, phone number, vehicle information including year, make and model, and VIN. After this information is received, the Waste Management Officer will arrange a site visit. Collection of vehicles takes place in the fall.

## Illegal Dumping

If you witness or find an illegal dump, it can be reported to the Colchester Helpline at 902-895-4777. Our goal is to have the sites cleaned up as soon as possible to protect the wildlife, water and soil from contamination. When evidence is found at a site that is linked to a person or property owner, the person is given an opportunity to clean up the site prior to tickets being issued and charges being laid.



## Litter

Litter is still an ongoing problem in our society. There are programs such as the Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up where citizens and groups can be outfitted with bags for free to do a community cleanup.

You can register your cleanup with the Great Nova Scotia Pick-Me-Up. They provide you with documents to help you plan your event: a copy of the Pick-Me-Up handbook, a poster that you can use to help promote your event and a data card which should be completed after the cleanup to document all the material collected. You can also fill out the data card by visiting their website at [www.nspickmeup.ca](http://www.nspickmeup.ca), clicking 'Submit Your Data Card' and completing the online form. This helps determine the impact of everyone's efforts as well as what types of litter troubles communities.

Please Note: If you are removing litter from roadsides you must obtain a permit. For help with obtaining a permit, or for more information, please contact the Nova Scotia Adopt-A-Highway Office at 902-843-3553 or email [info@nsadoptahighway.ca](mailto:info@nsadoptahighway.ca).

Supplies and Garbage/Waste Collection: Please contact our Helpline at 902-895-4777 at least two weeks prior to your cleanup to arrange pick-up of your supplies and to discuss your garbage/waste disposal options.

## Household Hazardous Waste Disposal – Dates to Remember



**Location:** Clean Harbors, 640 MacElmon Road, Debert, Exit 13, Highway 104  
**2019 Dates of Operation:** June 1<sup>st</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, August 10<sup>th</sup>, September 7<sup>th</sup>, October 5<sup>th</sup>, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**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.

## Plastics in Green Carts Causing Big Problems



When plastic, or biodegradable plastics, are placed in the green carts it is considered a contaminant to our composting system. Workers must pull them out of the load to prevent further operational issues in the grinding and turning equipment. These biodegradable bags, for the most part, look and act the same as regular plastic when they enter the composting stream. Imagine the difficulty of going through a truck load of organics and having to remove these plastic materials by hand. When plastics are not removed, it can also prevent air from moving freely throughout the organics piles, which the microbes need to do their job of breaking down the organics into a soil amendment.

The plastic becomes a nuisance and causes litter issues in the final product. Staff have contacted local retailers advising them to please stop selling these bags, but unfortunately, they can still be found on some retailer's shelves. The curbside collectors have been advised to inspect all bins and to not empty any carts that contain plastics. To prevent any inconvenience, please do not place plastic in your green carts. The Compost Facility fully supports using any paper products such as paper bags, newspapers and cereal boxes etc. to help keep your cart clean and reduce odours. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Community Paper Shredding Events

Mark your calendars for our FREE community paper shredding events!  
The events take place from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm or until the truck is full!

**Saturday, May 25, 2019 and Saturday, September 21, 2019**  
Rath Eastlink Community Centre Parking Lot  
625 Abenaki Road, Truro

These events are open to residents & small businesses in Colchester, Truro & Stewiacke. Please note that there is a limit of 10 file boxes or 5 large bags of paper per person or business. No plastic sleeves or binders are permitted.

## Recreation



**Sunday, August 25, 2019**  
**5K, 10K & Half Marathon**  
*Flat... Fast... Fun...*

[www.colchester.ca/colchester-cobequid-trail-run](http://www.colchester.ca/colchester-cobequid-trail-run)

Registration is now open for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Cobequid Trail Run!

Whether you are new to running or trying to set a personal best, the Cobequid Trail Run has something for everyone. This out-and-back route on a flat and fast trail surface is a must-try event! The run starts and finishes near the NSCC Truro Campus on Arthur Street and heads along the rail trail to Lower Truro and Old Barns, where the Cobequid Bay awaits.



## Funding Opportunities for Community Groups

Upcoming application deadlines:

Community Trail Funding Program - June 7, 2019

Community Park Funding Program - September 12, 2019

Funding for Insurance for Non-Profit Groups - October 25, 2019

Please visit [www.colchester.ca/rec-grants](http://www.colchester.ca/rec-grants) for program details and application forms.

## Municipal Regional Parks Now Open

Plan your visit today to one of the Municipality's three regional parks - Stewiacke River Park, Nelson Memorial Park, and Five Islands Lighthouse Park. These day-use parks have picnic facilities, walking paths, playgrounds, and river or ocean views. Admission is free. For directions and more information, visit [www.colchester.ca/parks](http://www.colchester.ca/parks) or phone 902-897-3180. To inquire about reservations for special events or group use, visit [www.colchester.ca/park-reservation-form](http://www.colchester.ca/park-reservation-form) or phone 902-897-3180.



Enjoy a picnic under the timber frame shelter, stroll along the beach, or sail away on the ship playground. During July and August, the 106-year-old lighthouse is open to visitors. Take in the panoramic view of the Minas Basin, home to the highest tides in the world. On a clear day you can see all five islands, the Old Wife (part of Five Islands Provincial Park), the Brothers (Two Islands), Cape Blomidon and Cape Split.



Photo credit: Tourism Nova Scotia

## STEWIACKE RIVER PARK

Situated in East Stewiacke, this beautiful, natural park is a hidden gem. Stroll on the walking trails. Sit under old growth pine and hemlock trees. Enjoy views of the river, spring wildflowers, birds and other wildlife. Bring a picnic to share at one of several shelters. Take the kids to the playground in the heart of the park. This park also features river access, and wheelchair-accessible washrooms and picnic shelters.

Situated in East Stewiacke, this beautiful, natural park is a hidden gem. Stroll on the walking trails. Sit under old growth



## NELSON MEMORIAL PARK

Located 2 km west of Tatamagouche, this park is a great place to spend an afternoon. Explore the walking trails through the forest and along the Tatamagouche Bay. Enjoy a picnic and the view from the picnic shelters. Stop and smell the flowers in the gardens. The kids will enjoy the playground and lots of open space. Bring your bicycle and ride along the Butter Trail (part of The Great Trail) to downtown Tatamagouche.

Located 2 km west of Tatamagouche, this park is a great place to spend an afternoon. Explore the walking trails through the forest and along the



## Volunteer Appreciation Awards

### Provincial Volunteer Award

Congratulations to Richard Haines of Bible Hill who was selected by the Municipality of Colchester as the 2019 Volunteer of the Year and is our 2019 Provincial Volunteer representative. The Honourable Lieutenant Governor Arthur J. LeBlanc and Premier Stephen McNeil presented Richard with his award at the Provincial Volunteer Award Ceremony and Luncheon held at Casino Nova Scotia in Halifax on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.



### Municipality of Colchester & Town of Truro Volunteer Appreciation Awards



Thank you to all volunteers for your dedication and service to your community. Your efforts are very appreciated and do not go unnoticed!

Congratulations to all recipients of the 2019 Volunteer Appreciation Awards!

**Provincial Volunteer Representatives:** Richard Haines (Municipality of Colchester) and Robert Fulton (Town of Truro)

**Royal Pettigrew Recreation Leadership Award:** Ed Hughes

**Individual Volunteer Awards:** Peter Mattatall, Murray MacKay, Carlon MacCallum, George Butt, Greg Cream, Tim Kubas, Maria Murphy, Jon Hutt, Lynda Marsh, Samantha Robichaud, Donald Reid, Heidi Smith and Daisy Roberts

**Youth Volunteer Award:** Jax Gaudet

**Family Volunteer Awards:** Lesley Jean Tucker & Christie MacDonald and The Fisher Family (Tim & Sandra)

**Community Group Volunteer Awards:** Brookfield Fire & Emergency Services

**Corporate/ Small Business Awards:** TML Construction Ltd

**Volunteer Firefighter Awards – 50+ Years of Service:** Ron Logan, 55 years, Bible Hill Fire Brigade; Dana Smith, 50 years, Bible Hill Fire Brigade

### Colchester County Trails - Pathways to Active Adventures

Adventures await on the wonderful trails in Colchester County. With more than 150 km of walking and cycling trails to explore, our county has something for everyone. Walk to your heart's content along the seacoast. Hike to waterfalls in the hills. Run like the wind through the park. Bike where train whistles used to blow. Stroll beside wonderful wetlands. Relax by the brook or the bay. Explore a new trail this summer! To plan your next trail adventure, visit [www.colchester.ca/trails](http://www.colchester.ca/trails). Happy Trails!



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

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

Property Information - 897-3178  
Colchester Recreation - 897-3185  
[recreation@colchester.ca](mailto:recreation@colchester.ca)  
Materials Recovery Facility and  
Regional Balefill Facility - 897-0450  
Waste & Recycling Helpline - 895-4777  
[helpline@colchester.ca](mailto: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 - 897-0453  
Regional Balefill Facility - 895-2307

## Municipality of the County of Colchester

# Colchester Bike Week

June 1<sup>st</sup> – June 9<sup>th</sup>

Cycling season is here! Are you ready to ride? The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Colchester Bike Week offers free activities to promote and celebrate cycling. Join a group bike ride, take part in local bicycle rodeos and other fun activities, or simply ride at your leisure with family or friends. Check for Bike Week details at [www.colchester.ca/bike-week](http://www.colchester.ca/bike-week) and in local media. If you would like to volunteer for Bike Week, please contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185. Bike Week encourages cycling as a healthy, efficient, practical, affordable, and fun part of community life.

## Animal Control

### Dogs Running At Large

This year in Colchester County we have had numerous complaints about dogs running at large. Dogs are considered running at large when they leave their property for any reason and are not under their owner's complete control. Dogs running loose or not being on a leash during walks is an offence against the Dog By-law. A copy of this by-law can be found on our webpage at [www.colchester.ca/residents/bylaws](http://www.colchester.ca/residents/bylaws).



The Dog By-law applies to all dog owners in urban and rural areas. When off your property, your dog must be on a leash and under your control at all times to ensure the safety of your pet and others around you. This includes our beautiful trails throughout the County. Not everyone loves your dog's kisses as much as you do.

When a dog is let outside at home, it is up to the owner to make sure that the dog stays on its own property. You can accomplish this by either supervising your dog, tying them or making sure they are in a fenced yard or kenneled.

It is important that dog owners understand they are responsible and liable for actions of their dog, even when it causes damage to another person or their property.

### Why do I need to fill out a tag form EVERY YEAR?

A year is a long time and people's lives and circumstances change. Maybe you have moved, got a new phone number, or had your pet spayed or neutered. Filling out a new form lets us know what has changed and what hasn't. Most veterinary clinics have printout stickers of your information and your pet's to help you when purchasing a tag at their office. Even if your information hasn't changed, maybe you want to appoint a new emergency contact in the event someone needs to authorize vet care after an emergency.