



Municipality of the County of Colchester

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Perfect Day for Fundy Discovery

On September 21st, hundreds gathered to celebrate the completion of Phase 1 of the Fundy Discovery Site in Lower Truro.

Identified as a priority of Council since purchasing the property in 2015, the site features new washroom facilities, wheelchair accessible walkways, picnic areas, a natural playground, amphitheatre, a bicycle repair station, dyke trail and many landscaping enhancements.

The opening event involved free refreshments, live music from the Tim Bower Duo and the Dixieland Band and an official ribbon cutting ceremony.

The Fundy Discovery Site recently became part of the region's Cliffs of Fundy Geopark that is aiming to achieve a UNESCO Global Geopark designation in the Spring of 2020. Plans are also underway to develop an interpretive plan for the site and begin the design of a pedestrian bridge over the Salmon River.

From the Mayor's Desk

We've had a very busy Fall which saw the completion of a number of initiatives including Council's approval of the new Colchester Brand (see article on Page 2) and Phase 1 of the Fundy Discovery Site.

Thank you to the Branding Steering Committee and to all involved in the process to achieve this goal. Thank you also to the Committee involved in organizing the Fundy Discovery Site Open House; a very successful and well attended event.

Special Events: The Colchester East Hants Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association celebrated the opening of its new facility at 859 Prince Street on October 10th. Your Council recognized the need and the service this organization provides to the health and well being of Colchester County residents and supported the local branch by contributing \$100,000 over five years to help with the building.



Susan Henderson, Executive Director;
Mayor Christine Blair; Jim McMorran,
Board President

On October 19th, the Colchester Community Workshop (CCW) launched its fundraising campaign to expand the workshop premises to Delaney House (former Halliday's building). At the launch, \$1.1 million was received or pledged by: the Province of Nova Scotia (\$800,000); the Town of Truro (\$100,000); the Rotary Club of Truro (\$100,000); and the Municipality of Colchester (\$100,000). The CCW provides opportunities and support for

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adults with intellectual challenges and disabilities. Council recognized the value of an organization that works for the well being of Colchester County and our whole community.

Cliffs of Fundy Geopark: The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark boundary has been extended to the Fundy Discovery Site. Both Colchester and Cumberland County Councils saw this to be a logical decision as the Fundy Discovery Site is at the head of the Bay and a known tourist attraction with the tidal bore and now the developing park area.

As Mayor, I was asked by the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Society to attend the 15th European Geopark Conference in Seville, Spain, in late September. My attendance was sponsored by the Society, and by networking with fellow geoparks, the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Society will gain insight as it prepares for the future.

Truro Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity (TCPEP): Our Regional Enterprise Network TCPEP, has completed the “Truro Colchester - Love Where You Live,” Relocation Guide booklet and is distributing to those who may consider moving to the area. The Guide’s introduction makes a strong first impression: “In Truro Colchester, we have access to world-class facilities you would expect in a big city – a \$7.8M library, a \$50M recreational centre, and a \$185M hospital – but you won’t find smog, traffic and high real estate prices. We live in friendly communities with neighbours we can depend on, but plenty of wide-open space to explore and enjoy.” Learn more by visiting the website at trurocolchester.ca

Hurricane Dorian: All emergency response personnel and volunteers, the RCMP, Truro Police Service, and NS Power went above and beyond to deal with the challenges Hurricane Dorian. Thank you to all involved.

Closing Comments: Thank you to the Tatamagouche Legion Branch 64 for inviting me to join Veterans on the September 2nd Labour Day parade float.

Remembrance Day November 11, 2019 honoured our Veterans. Representatives from your Council placed wreaths and attended ceremonies throughout the County. *“We Will Remember Them.”*

On behalf of Council and Staff of the Municipality of Colchester, I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas (Happy Holidays) with family and friends. Best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year 2020.

Christine Blair, Mayor



New Brand for Municipality

Council recently approved a new brand for the Municipality. The new logo and tagline are part of an ongoing effort to improve public engagement, build a strong sense of community pride, and promote the County as a desirable place to live, work and visit.

The simple, three-word tagline “be centred here” captures the essence of the brand by highlighting Colchester’s central geographic location within the province and its unparalleled quality of life. Colchester is a place to live a centred and balanced lifestyle, and accessible to all the modern amenities typically found in an urban setting – without the common stresses of living there.

The logo was designed to be dynamic, progressive and intentionally abstract. Made up of four partial C-shapes that come together as one, it resembles the County’s highway interchange to emphasize the area’s importance as a central transportation hub. It promotes collaboration and togetherness of family, of the diverse communities and cultures that make up Colchester, and of the natural elements that contribute to the area’s centred way of life. The colours reflect Colchester’s vibrancy and diversity as well as key characteristics that represent the region’s natural beauty.

Watch for this visual identity on many things including County vehicles, stationary, public notices, social media, the website and even this newsletter.

Animal Control

2020 Dog Tags are available!

As per the County's Dog By-law, all dogs must be registered and tagged by January 10th of each year, but tags can still be purchased throughout the year. If you live in Colchester County, you can register your dog and purchase your tags at the following locations:

- Central Nova Animal Hospital – 29 Main Street, Bible Hill
- Fundy Veterinarians – 6 Greenfield Road, Murray Siding
- Fundy Veterinarians – 21089 Highway 2, Shubenacadie
- Truro Veterinary Hospital – 165 Arthur Street, Truro
- Pilot's Doggy Daycare – 1205 Salmon River Road, Salmon River
- Cross Road Boarding Training and Behaviour – 10 Cross Road, Great Village
- The Store – 1171 Highway 311, North River
- Stay N Play Canine Centre – 214 Crossley Avenue, Truro
- Futureworx – 229 Main Street, Tatamagouche
- SPCA – 408 Industrial Ave, Truro
- Colchester County Community Development Office - 1 Church Street, Truro

Instead of mailing renewal forms this year, we've decided to include the registration form in our newsletter! If you require additional forms, please visit our website at www.colchester.ca, stop by our office at 1 Church Street, or give us a call at 902-897-3170 and we would be happy to mail out as many forms as you need.



Tag Fee:
\$12.00 / Dog
 C Ch D

Municipality of the County of Colchester

1 Church Street Truro, NS B2N 3Z5
Ph: (902) 897-3170

Dog Registration Form

Dog owners are required to obtain licenses annually. Licenses may be purchased at the Municipality or by completing this form and mailing it with a cheque or money order to: Municipality of the County of Colchester

For Office Use Only:
 Issued By: _____ Date _____ Tag No. _____

Owner Information 

Name: _____
 Civic Address: _____
 Mailing Address: _____

 Telephone:
 (home) _____ (work) _____
 (cell) _____ (cell) _____

Dog Information 

Name: _____
 Breed: _____
 Colour: _____
 Sex: Male Female
 Spayed/Neutered: Yes No
 Microchip: Yes No

Emergency Contact (If you cannot be reached in an emergency)
 Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Additional Info:

Receipt
 Dog Name: _____ Date _____ Tag No. _____
 Paid Amount: C Ch D

Why do you have to fill out this form each year? A lot can happen and change in a year - we want to make sure we have the most accurate information possible when it comes to your pets.

Waste Resource Management

Waste Reduction Helpline: 902-895-4777

Website: www.colchester.ca

Twitter: @ColchesterWRM

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.

IMPORTANT - Holiday Collection Changes

Please note the following changes to waste collection dates due to the holidays:

If your regular collection day is scheduled to be **Wednesday, December 25th**, this collection will take place the **PREVIOUS MONDAY, December 23rd**.

If your regular collection day is scheduled to be **Thursday, December 26th**, this collection will take place the **FOLLOWING MONDAY, December 30th**.

If your regular collection day is scheduled to be **Wednesday, January 1st**, this collection will take place the **FOLLOWING MONDAY, January 6th**.

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

The Balefill and Materials Recovery Facilities will be **closed** on Wednesday, December 25th and Thursday, December 26th for the Christmas and Boxing Day holidays, as well as Wednesday, January 1st for the New Year's Day holiday.

Christmas Is Around The Corner

Christmas wrapping paper is **NOT** recyclable due to the large amount of dye within the paper and the contaminants that accompany it (tapes, bows, ribbons, etc.). Wrapping paper **should always be placed in your clear bag for garbage disposal.**

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. Residents will also receive reminders by email and telephone if they have signed up for service alert messages for collection service interruptions.

Want to know the moment winter weather affects collection in your area? Sign up for service alert messages at www.colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling or download our 'Colchester Waste' app and you will be notified by phone, email or Twitter the moment decisions affecting collection are made!



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 can check for oncoming traffic, prior to pulling out and passing these trucks. For your own safety as well as other motorists and collection workers, please always pass these vehicles with extreme care.

Winter Green Cart and Garbage Tips

- The collection trucks may be passing by your homes 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.
- To keep your organics from freezing to the inside of your compost bin, wrap moist material in newspaper or boxboard (ie: cereal boxes).
- 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 ten feet 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 or stuck in the snow.

Christmas Tree Collection

Please ensure that your tree is placed curbside the Sunday of your tree collection week. All trees must be visible (not buried under snow) and free of lights, tinsel, ornaments, stands and be de-bagged to ensure collection.



Collection will take place as follows:

Zone 1 - January 16, 2020	Zone 6 - January 8, 2020
Zone 2 - January 9, 2020	Zone 7 - January 17, 2020
Zone 3 - January 14, 2020	Zone 8 - January 10, 2020
Zone 4 - January 7, 2020	Town of Truro - January 6-10, 2020
Zone 5 - January 16, 2020	Town of Stewiacke - January 10, 2020

Please consult your waste collection calendar to determine your zone.

Biodegradable & Compostable Plastic Bags

Biodegradable, compostable and oxo-degradable plastic bags are **NOT** accepted in the green cart program. These bags cause operational issues at the composting facility when placed in the green carts. Carts containing **any** type of plastic will **NOT** be collected at the curb.

Some options for your green bin liner include newspaper, flyers, cereal boxes, paper bags or fall leaves.

Green carts are meant for **organic materials only**.



Reminder – One Large Item Pickup in Colchester County All Year Long

In Colchester County, each household can place one large item curbside on their regular collection day for pick up. This item could include household items such as a couch, a chair, a table, a freezer, etc. These bulky items are picked up by a separate collection truck. The regular collection driver makes a note of the bulky item location and forwards the information to the bulky waste collector. If the item is not collected on your allotted day, it will be picked up the following business day.

New Electronic Items Added to Recycling List

The Nova Scotia Department of Environment changed the Solid Waste Resource Management Regulations and, as of October 2019, the following items are now obligated products added to the electronics recycling list:

- Microwave Ovens
- E-Readers
- GPS Units
- Video Game Systems and Controllers
- External Hard Drives, Optical Drives and Modems

The regulation requires these materials to be recycled as of January 1, 2020 and they will be banned from landfill disposal as of March 1, 2020.

Electronic drop off locations in Colchester County are: Subway Bottle Exchange, 25 Pictou Road, Bible Hill; Tatamagouche Recycling, 102 Main Street, Tatamagouche; and TNT Recycling, 20711 Highway 2, Shubenacadie.

Visit www.recyclemyelectronics.ca/ns for more information.

Do You Know About the Safe Sharps Program?

Sharps should only be placed in an approved Safe Sharps container. These containers can be picked up, **free of charge**, at your local pharmacy. Make sure it has the safe sharps label on it.



Here's how to dispose of your sharps safely.

1. Pick up a free Safe Sharps container at your local pharmacy.
2. Place your used sharps into the Safe Sharps container.
3. When the container is full, return the sealed container to your local pharmacy.

Used Sharps must be handled properly. **DO NOT** put used sharps in plastic bottles or jugs for disposal. **DO NOT** place sharps in recycling or garbage bags because they can seriously harm collection and sorting staff.

For your safety and the safety of others, sharps must be placed in a Safe Sharps container and returned to your local pharmacy for safe disposal. It's **FREE**, easy and best of all, no one gets hurt!

Fall Compost Giveaway A Success

During Waste Reduction Week in October, 246 bags of compost were given away, 64 bags were sold and 8,645 kgs were purchased in bulk! Fall Compost provides a boost for gardens and lawns for next Spring. It is wonderful to see residents able to enjoy the benefits of the green cart program while also lowering green house gas emissions from landfilling.



Property Tax Commonly Asked Questions

How Are My Municipal Property Taxes Actually Calculated?

The Municipality of Colchester will set a tax rate each year that will be multiplied by your taxable assessed value per \$100 of assessment to determine your property tax. Property Valuation Services (PVSC) assesses property values yearly and mails you an assessment notice in January to advise you of your property's value for tax purposes.

Can I View My Property Assessment Information Online?

Property owners can view detailed information on their assessment by accessing their "My Property Report" on the Property Valuation website <http://www.pvsc.ca/en/home/default.aspx>. Use your Assessment Account Number and PIN access number to see your information. To obtain a PIN number, phone 1-800-380-7775.

What If I Do Not Agree With The Assessed Value On My Notice From PVSC?

All property owners have the right to appeal their property assessment if they disagree with the assessment value, ownership, or classification of their property. We encourage you to contact PVSC with any questions or comments you have about your assessment notice before you make the decision to appeal.

When Do I Appeal?

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

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 on your assessment notice by the date indicated.
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. **You are responsible for paying your tax bill by the due date, even if your appeal is still under review.** Once the appeal decision is made, and an overpayment was determined, the overpayment will be refunded to you.

When Is My Due Date?

The property tax bills are mailed annually in the month of June and are due on the last business day of August.

I Have Moved, How Do I Update My Mailing Address?

Please contact the Municipality of Colchester Tax Office and provide us with your updated mailing address. Alternatively, you can email taxoffice@colchester.ca.

How Do I Change The Name On A Deed?

You will have to provide proof of a name change such as a marriage certificate, court order, or death certificate to the Registry of Deeds. Contact the Land Registry Office by calling 1-800-670-4357.

What Do I Do if I Have Moved Or Sold My Mobile Home?

Please contact PVSC if you have demolished, moved, plan to move or sold your mobile home. You will need to fill out a Mobile Home Transfer Form with PVSC if you have sold your mobile home.

Public Works Winter Tips and Reminders

Please help us keep our roads and sidewalks clear of snow by following these simple tips:

- Refrain from parking vehicles on roadways and sidewalks before, during and after winter storms. This includes Debert Park and areas in Valley where no parking signs are installed.
- There is no overnight parking in County lots during the winter season. Vehicles may be towed if they are restricting snow removal activities.
- Please be sure not to place garbage, recycling or composters on sidewalks.
- Keep your garbage boxes and mailboxes clear of snow to help prevent damage to both boxes and equipment during plowing. Brightly painted guide posts can be placed beside garbage boxes to ensure visibility for those who are plowing.
- Remember to keep snow clear from fire hydrants when plowing driveways. Buried hydrants can cause problems in emergency situations.
- Moving snow from driveways onto the street is a hazard for vehicle traffic and is prohibited by law. Where possible, please keep snow removal within private property.
- If possible, wait to clear snow from the end of your driveway until after the snowplow has passed.
- Clear snow from catch basins and driveway culverts to help prevent flooding on properties, sidewalks and streets.
- 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, shoulders and sidewalks. If your stakes have been damaged by the plow, they are too close to the road or sidewalk.
- 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.

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 1-844-696-7737 or refer to the article on page 9.

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 not sure who plows your road, please call the Municipal Public Works Office at 902-897-3175.

When will my road get plowed?

Levels of Service	
100-Series and trunk highways, and other high traffic roads	Cleared within 8 hours after snow stops
Secondary routes and other medium traffic roads	Cleared within 12 hours after snow stops
Local paved roads, most subdivision and residential streets	Cleared within 24 hours after snow stops
Gravel roads	Cleared within 24 hours after snow stops

Salting ¹ 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 traffic 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 subdivision 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

There are more than 400 snow plows and other snow-clearing vehicles working to keep Nova Scotia's roads, highways, and bridges safe during the winter months. Crews are on the job day and night, 24/7, keeping the roads as safe and as clear as possible. Work starts before the storm and continues during and after the storm. At left is more information to help explain what you can expect this winter.



** In sanding only sections, acceptable driving condition is considered to be snow packed and sanded as required.*

¹ Note that salt will start to lose its effectiveness at temperatures below -12° C. In these conditions sand may be applied to increase traction for all service levels.



novascotia.ca/tran/winter
Highway conditions: 511

Follow us on Twitter @NS_TIR

Recreation

Walking (or Snowshoeing, or Skiing) in a Winter Wonderland

The best way to get through winter is to embrace it and be active! Why not make it a habit to spend time outside this winter and 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 favorite outdoor place this winter. 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 and www.colchester.ca/parks for details.

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

Snowshoe Loan Program

Colchester Recreation loans snowshoes (adult and children sizes) to community groups and individuals during the snowy winter months. Be sure to reserve in advance – our snowshoes are very popular! A deposit of \$25.00 is required and refunded when the snowshoes are returned in good condition. For more information, or to reserve, contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185 or recreation@colchester.ca.

18th Annual Mayor's Challenge Curling Event



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

Saturday, February 1, 2020

Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex, Brookfield

Starting at 9:00 am

Teams of 4 for \$40.00

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

Volunteer Recognition

**Are you looking for a way to say “Thank You” to a hard working Volunteer or Community Group?
Nominate them for the recognition they deserve!**

Volunteers are the heart of our communities. The Municipality of Colchester recognizes the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers that help make our communities thrive. We encourage people to nominate deserving volunteers in Colchester County for the following awards:

- Provincial Representative Volunteer Award
- 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 Provincial award nominations is **Friday, February 14, 2020 at 4:30 pm**

The deadline for Colchester County award nominations is **Friday, March 20, 2020 at 4:30 pm**

All nominees will be recognized at a special evening for volunteers in April. For more information and nomination forms, contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185, recreation@colchester.ca or visit

www.colchester.ca/volunteer-recognition.

Grants to Non-profit Organizations

The Municipality welcomes applications from registered non-profit organizations and charities which have a positive impact on local residents and the community as a whole. The deadline for 2020/2021 is January 31, 2020.

To receive an application form and details, please drop by Colchester Recreation at 1 Church Street, Truro, visit our website at www.colchester.ca/rec-grants or call 902-897-3185.

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 2020 are January 31st and June 7th.

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 2020 are February 28th and September 15th.

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

Upcoming KidSport Deadlines

January 1 & March 1, 2020

For more information about KidSport, contact Craig Burgess at 902-897-3181 or recreation@colchester.ca.

KidSport applications can now be filed online at www.kidsportcanada.ca/nova-scotia/.



FundyConnect.ca is a one-stop spot to find events, arts and culture, attractions and facilities, parks and trails, programs and activities in Colchester County, Cumberland County and Sipekne'katik. Meet new people, try something new, explore outside! Visit www.fundyconnect.ca to browse listings, or to suggest new events and listings for the database.

Passive House

Planning to build a house? Why not make your home as efficient as possible?

Passive House, or PassivHaus, is a standard of construction developed in Germany which has become the international standard for energy-efficient architecture. The Passive House standard is achievable everywhere in the world, including Canada's cold climate.

A popular myth about Passive House is that it is much more expensive to build than a conventional house, but it doesn't have to be. The key differences are in the project planning process. With the right design, a Passive House can be built with locally-available materials for a cost similar to a regular home – and since it uses about 75% less energy to heat and cool, investing in a Passive House can save you money in the long term.

Key Elements of Passive House:

- Extremely well-insulated walls, with high-quality doors and triple-glazed windows
- Passive design - maximizes solar heating in the winter and shading in the summer
- Airtight building envelope
- Thermal bridge-free design - eliminates heat escape through corners and connections
- Ventilation system with highly efficient heat recovery - no need for central furnace



Diagram showing the passive solar principles of Passive House. Image source: Eco Design Advisor, 2019.



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
Planning

Property Information - 897-3178
Colchester Recreation - 897-3185
recreation@colchester.ca

Materials Recovery Facility and
Regional Bafill 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 - 897-0453
Regional Bafill Facility - 895-2307

Municipality of the County of Colchester

What is it like to live in a Passive House? The biggest advantages of living in a Passive House are comfort and affordability. Thick insulation and solar gains from large windows allow Passive homes to maintain an even, comfortable temperature all year with very little energy input. The ventilation system keeps the air fresh all the time, and the airtight, well-insulated building envelope keeps the home quiet.

Economics: In Canada, it usually costs about 10% more to build a Passive House than a house built to the minimum code requirements, but the difference can be much lower, depending on the design of the house.

A Passive House uses up to 75% less energy for heating and cooling than a typical new build (up to 90% less than the average house in Canada), so any difference in capital cost is rapidly recovered in energy savings. Additionally, a Passive House does not require a central furnace system – just a simple, single-point heat source.

While a Passive House can be custom-designed, using ready-made building plans from a reputable designer can help to keep building costs down.

Net-Zero: A net-zero home is one that generates as much energy as it consumes. Passive homes use very little energy; therefore, the energy that is required can easily be generated by renewable energy, such as rooftop solar photovoltaic. Many Passive Homes are built to be 'net-zero ready' so that at some point in the future, solar panels can be installed to meet the home's minimal energy needs.

Resources

Passive House Canada
1-778-265-2744

www.passivehousecanada.com

Passipedia - The Passive House
Resource

www.passipedia.org

Passive Design Solutions
www.passivedesign.ca

Sources: International Passive House Association website and "Active for More Comfort" brochure. Passive House Canada website and "A Developer's Guide to Passive House Buildings" brochure. Passive Design Solutions website and blog.

Alert Truro Colchester and Social Media Prove Effective During Hurricane Dorian

New communication tools were put to good use recently when Hurricane Dorian passed through the region this past September. Colchester residents who subscribed to the County's new *Alert Truro Colchester* emergency notification system were among the first to receive communication updates on the storm. Others were further kept informed by following the Municipality's posts on Facebook and Twitter.

Although Dorian was much kinder to Colchester than many other parts of the Province, it remained an important exercise in emergency preparedness for the County. With winter weather on its way, those who have not already done so are encouraged to visit www.colchester.ca or to call 902-897-3182 to subscribe to *Alert Truro Colchester* to receive critical emergency notifications by phone, text, and/or email. Those who are on Facebook and Twitter are also invited to "Like" and "Follow" us at www.facebook.com/ColchesterNS or www.twitter.com/MunColchester.