



# Municipality of the County of Colchester

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**2016  
Waste  
Reduction  
Guide  
Included**

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## Low Income Municipal Tax Assistance Program (Formerly the Low Income Exemption)

As in past years, 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 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:**

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Household Income</u>	<u>Exemption Amount</u>
Single	Less than \$24,685	\$186.47
Family of 2	Less than \$32,604	\$248.62
Family of 3 or more	Less than \$39,123	\$310.78

"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), the Child Tax Benefit or the GST rebate. It includes the income of all other members in the same family, except those attending high school on a fulltime basis, residing in the same household.

**The deadline for this year's exemption to be filed with the Tax Office, 1 Church Street, Truro, is May 13, 2016.**

**For income verification purposes, please bring a copy of your completed 2015 Income Tax Return**

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



## Possible Free Home Energy Assessment and Upgrades

The HomeWarming program offers a no-charge energy assessment and free home upgrades such as draft-proofing and insulation to income-qualified homeowners. Clean Foundation and Efficiency Nova Scotia are working together to offer these upgrades, with funding from Nova Scotia Power and the Province of Nova Scotia. For more information visit [www.homewarming.ca](http://www.homewarming.ca) or call 1-877-434-2136.

## Message from the Mayor

There has been a lot of talk recently, and a number of movements toward regional cooperation throughout the province. The County of Colchester has been a leader in regional cooperation for the last few years. This has resulted in a number of major projects and programs being completed or underway, which have had a significant impact on our region. This would not have happened if it wasn't for the partnerships we have formed, primarily with the Town of Truro but also with the Town of Stewiacke and Millbrook Band Council.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)



*Pictured are: Alex Cope, Peter Gloade, Barry Martin, Ward Markie, Natasha Bernard, Linda Maloney, Chief Bob Gloade - Millbrook First Nation; Bill Masters, Lloyd Gibbs, Doug MacInnes, Wade Parker, Mike Gregory, Tom Taggart, Mike Cooper, Christine Blair, Geoff Stewart, Mayor Bob Taylor - Municipality of Colchester  
Missing are: Bryan Brooks, Colin Bernard, Chris Nasson, Gordon Johnson, Adrian Gloade, Vernon Gloade - Millbrook First Nation; Karen MacKenzie and Ron Cavanaugh - Municipality of Colchester*

A joint meeting was held on November 30, 2015 between the Millbrook Band Council and Colchester County Council. This meeting was fittingly held in the Millbrook Room at the RECC and was attended by the Chief, Mayor, and several Councillors.

For 20+ years there had been a major shortage of ice time for minor hockey, public skating, and other on-ice activities. Installing artificial ice in Deuville's Rink helped fill a lot of the void. One of the drivers in building a civic centre (RECC),

was to provide another ice surface for more opportunities for on-ice events. With a downturn in demand for ice time, mainly due to the folding of some adult hockey leagues, and the addition of another ice surface in East Hants (which directly affects Brookfield), ice times are now available at all our arenas throughout the County. This is causing financial losses for these facilities. Our Recreation Department has been working with Arena Managers to introduce new activities for their facilities, including more opportunities for the much needed girls' hockey and an initiative to start sledge hockey. Other activities that come to mind are ringette and broomball, which have not been played here for a number of years due to a lack of ice time. We are very fortunate to have several good facilities in our region which offer opportunities for people of all ages to engage in more physical activity and stay healthy. It is important to support these facilities as they are vital to our communities. County Council is making every effort to do our part in supporting these facilities.

The pedway across Highway 102 on the McClures Connector Road is now in place. Construction on the walkway from the Truro Heights Road will start in the spring. This will offer safe travel for our residents from Truro Heights to the RECC, the hospital and shopping amenities. It will also greatly improve the appearance of the entrance to our County and Town.

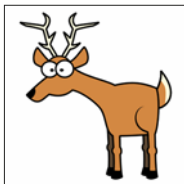
Our investments in infrastructure and desire to make this a great community appear to be having positive results. In spite of a slow economy, the County continues to show growth. For the 2015 calendar year, the County issued 426 building permits for a value of \$41,712,571 compared to 421 permits and \$37,572,289 for 2014.

The County's annual budget process is now underway. Budget meetings are open to the public and will be advertised in the local media and on our website at [www.colchester.ca/notices-advertisements](http://www.colchester.ca/notices-advertisements).

The County has appointed a new CAO, Rob Simonds, who starts duties in early April. Formally from Saint John, NB, Rob has many ties to the Maritimes, with 3 of his 4 children attending University in Nova Scotia. Rob has been the Fire Chief with the City of Hamilton, Ontario for the past 5 years, in charge of 550 paid firefighters and 250 volunteers. Rob will serve us well and will be a great resource to our Fire Brigades. Welcome Rob!

Bob Taylor, Mayor

## Feeding Wildlife - A Cause for Concern



Native birds and wildlife do not need extra food provided by people. Wildlife fed in residential areas lose their natural fear of people and become vulnerable, while younger animals may not learn the skills required to adapt in their natural surroundings. Also, remember your neighbours when feeding wildlife. Animals, especially deer, seldom confine their visits to one property and will damage shrubs, gardens and crops on adjacent properties.

It is also important to note that feeding wildlife can cause more harm than good to the health and safety of other animals as well as humans. "Backyard" feeding often means animals travel near and/or across roadways which can be dangerous, not only to the animals, but for drivers and passengers of motor vehicles.

## The Palliser Redevelopment Project Update

A masterplan for the former Palliser property is underway with the Project Steering Committee meeting for the first time in late January 2016. The Committee is comprised of Councillor Geoff Stewart, Chair, and Deputy Mayor Bill Masters from Colchester County; Councillor Greg MacArthur and Deputy Mayor Cheryl Fritz from the Town; citizen representatives Gregg Dill and Raven Knowles; as well as representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Central Nova Tourist Association and Millbrook First Nation. The group will provide guidance and oversight to a consulting firm, who will be tasked with developing a masterplan for the site with an emphasis on developing a series of recommended development components that will help establish the site as a competitive tourism destination and a gateway to the Bay of Fundy Region.

A Request for Proposals has been issued by the County of Colchester for "Tourism Development and Design Consulting Services" which closed in late February. This will allow qualified consulting firms to develop a proposed approach to the masterplan and preliminary design process and allow the Project Steering Committee to evaluate these and determine what team will best serve their needs. A significant component of the planning exercise will involve a stakeholder engagement program. The consultant and Committee will gather input and advice from the community, business's, tourism sector and government interest groups with a view to identify issues, opportunities and priorities that will lay the foundation for the overall redevelopment strategy. Details of the public consultation program have not yet been worked out but is expected to occur during the mid to late spring and will be advertised through a variety of media sources. Updates on the progress of the project and upcoming events can be viewed on the County's website, [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca).

## Service Recognition

The Municipality's Service Recognition Policy acknowledges employees reaching service milestones. Employees recognized for years of service to the end of 2015 were:

**5 years:** Rebecca MacLean, Meaghan MacLean, Scott Hoyt and Tim Smith

**10 years:** Jessica Rushton, Glenn Frank, Krista McNutt and Sedley MacKay

**15 years:** Murray Dawson, David Westlake, Michael Hughes and Wendy Johnson

**20 years:** William MacKenzie, James Whidden and Glen Scott

**30 years:** Crawford Macpherson

**35 years:** Donna MacCallum



## Animal Control

Thanks to everyone who registered their dog before the deadline of January 10<sup>th</sup>. This year's early bird winner was Linda Dittner of Valley!

It is not too late to register your dog. Tags can be purchased year round at the Municipal Building, 1 Church Street, Truro.

It is important to register your dog every year - information collected from the dog registration form is vital in identifying your dog if he/she is lost. Listing multiple contact numbers can help us reach you quickly in the event your pet needs emergency vet care.

For information on the Municipality of Colchester's Dog By-law go to [www.colchester.ca/residents/bylaws](http://www.colchester.ca/residents/bylaws).

## Waste Resource Management

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

Website: [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca)  
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 March 25<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> for Easter Monday and Monday May 23<sup>rd</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.

## Coming Soon – Foam Polystyrene (Styrofoam™) Recycling!

Residents and businesses in Colchester, Truro and Stewiacke are one of the first areas in Nova Scotia to be able to recycle Styrofoam™.

### When can I start recycling Styrofoam™?

Starting April 1, 2016, Styrofoam™ will be able to be placed in your blue bag for recycling.

### 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 will 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 recyclable containers
- 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 the sorting process

### What will happen to the Styrofoam™?

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

## Ready, Set, Spring Clean-Up!

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

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 10 feet (3 meters) of the road by 7:00 am on the MONDAY of your collection week.** All households, including apartment buildings of three units or less, are eligible for Spring Clean-Up collection. The maximum weight of individual bundles cannot exceed 50 lbs or one cubic meter in size, with the exception of furniture and appliances. The total amount to be set out should not exceed 650 lbs (picture the amount that can fit into the back of a half tonne 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 various items. If some of your items get picked up and other items are left behind (for example, metal items), please be patient. This usually just means that some items will be picked up later by another truck.

**Spring Clean-Up will take place as follows, please refer to your collection schedule for Zone descriptions or check the Municipality's website at [www.colchester.ca/collection-schedules](http://www.colchester.ca/collection-schedules)**

Zone 1 - May 16 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup>	Zone 6 - April 25 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup>
Zone 2 - May 16 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup>	Zone 7 - May 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup>
Zone 3 - May 30 <sup>th</sup> to June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Zone 8—May 24 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup>
Zone 4 - May 30 <sup>th</sup> to June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Town of Truro - April 18 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Zone 5 - April 25 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup>	Town of Stewiacke - May 6 <sup>th</sup>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Commercial waste is not included in Spring Clean-Up. This includes: farms, businesses and institutions

**Materials such as cardboard, recyclables, organics, 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 visit [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca)

### Please note - Important Change to Fall Clean-Up in Colchester County

Residents of Zones 1 to 8 in Colchester County will 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 6, 2016, 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 16, 2016. This means you no longer have to wait for your special Fall Clean-Up collection week or worry about missing it!



### 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 has conveyor belts with a very dedicated staff that do a great job sorting these valuable resources to keep them out of the landfill and give them a new life.

Staff has 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 get mixed with other recyclables, we lose these valuable resources.
- **Wooden Clementine Boxes** – These boxes should be placed into your regular garbage bag for disposal. We cannot recycle the wood so please don't place these in your blue or clear bags for recycling.
- **Household Batteries** - These do not go in the curbside recycling program. There are drop off sites across the Municipality and Household Hazardous Waste Events where they can be brought for recycling. Please place tape across the two terminals on the 9 volt square batteries, for safety. Call our Helpline to find the drop off site nearest you at 902-895-4777.
- **Milk Cartons** – These should always be placed in your containers recycling bag with your plastics, bottles, and cans. These are 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 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 many 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 [www.colchester.ca/recycling-in-colchester](http://www.colchester.ca/recycling-in-colchester) to 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 placed into your bags. We thank you for your continued cooperation!

### Cracking Down on Illegal Dumping

The Municipality continues to face problems with illegal dumping and is working diligently to tackle the issue. Recently, a Colchester resident was found guilty in Nova Scotia Provincial Court for permitting the act of illegal dumping of solid waste in an unapproved location.

The Municipality charged the resident with the offense that took place in the spring 2014 after household waste from Bible Hill was dumped on private property off the Camden Road near Middle Stewiacke.

**The fine imposed by the Court was \$233.95.**

For more information, or to report a case of illegal dumping, please contact J.P. Wood, Waste Management Officer with the Municipality of Colchester, at 902-897-0450 ext. 111 or [jpwood@colchester.ca](mailto:jpwood@colchester.ca).

### Clear Bag Garbage Collection Reminders

Remember...for each garbage collection day, there is a limit of six garbage bags per household. You are allowed only one coloured or non-see through bag and up to five non-coloured, transparent clear bags. **Please do not use blue bags for garbage.** They will be left at the curb for the contents to be properly re-bagged.

Please deliver any extra clear bags to the Balefill Facility within the appropriate hours or store them until the next garbage collection day. **Please note: Black Bags are NOT accepted at the Balefill Facility.** A family of four practicing proper waste reduction techniques can result in half a bag of garbage per week. Remember to reduce, reuse, recycle and compost!

**2016 Dates of Operation**

April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	August 6 <sup>th</sup>
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	September 10 <sup>th</sup>
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	October 1 <sup>st</sup>
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	November 5 <sup>th</sup>

**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.

**2016 Mobile Household Hazardous Waste Events**

This spring, mobile HHW events will be held on the following dates:

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Stewiacke Fire Hall**

**Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Economy Fire Hall**

**Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> – North Shore Recreation Centre, Tatamagouche**

**These mobile events take 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.

**The Annual Compost Giveaway is Back**

Great news! After a lengthy transition from our old compost facility to our new one, we will once again be hosting our Annual Compost Giveaway. The Compost Giveaway takes place at the Balefill Facility during the week of May 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> at 188 Mingo Road in Kempton 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.

**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) or download our app 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 up this service for you.

**Community Events Calendar**

There is always something happening in Colchester County, so remember to check the Community Events Calendar regularly! To add your community event, send your information to [events@colchester.ca](mailto:events@colchester.ca).

Please check the calendar of current events at [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca) for outdoor events this winter. Watch for upcoming hiking, snowshoeing and trail events in your area!

## Recreation



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, with prizes to be won each week!

**The Challenge begins April 2<sup>nd</sup> and runs until May 27<sup>th</sup>. Registration opens 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)



Sandy Cope Trail, Gully Lake Wilderness Area

### Step into Spring on a Trail!



Cobequid Trail, Old Barns

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 seacoast. 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).

## Colchester Bike Week

Cycling season will soon be here. As winter ends and you hang up your snowshoes, skis and sleds for the season, plan to tune up your bicycle now so you'll be ready to ride this spring! The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Colchester Bike Week will be held from **June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>** in conjunction with Nova Scotia Bike Week. The week will include many free and fun activities to promote and celebrate cycling. Bike Week details will be available by mid-May at [www.colchester.ca/bike-week](http://www.colchester.ca/bike-week) and in local media. If you have an event idea or would like to volunteer, please contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185.



## Municipal Regional Parks Open May 7<sup>th</sup>

The Municipality of Colchester's three regional parks open for the season on May 7<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 a finely-crafted picnic shelter, paths and a beach for walking, and the largest ship playground in the County! During July and August, the 103-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 pedal on the Butter Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail) to the Creamery Square or the Train Station Inn in downtown Tatamagouche.

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



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



*Enjoy a stroll at Stewiacke River Park. Several benches and picnic shelters are situated along the trails and the river, offering relaxing spots to enjoy views of the river and the forest.*



*Nelson Memorial Park near Tatamagouche offers a new picnic shelter overlooking the bay, where family and friends can gather.*

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<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 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.

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

**The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, April 1, 2016.**

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



### Supporting Healthy, Smoke-free Outdoor Spaces

The Municipality of Colchester created a Smoke Free Outdoor Recreational Spaces Policy in 2012. Watch for signs like this 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.

### Art Acquisition

Recently, the Municipality of Colchester held its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Acquisition show and reception, co-hosted by the Truro Arts Society. The event featured pieces from local artists that reflect the historical development and lifestyle of Colchester County. During the show this year, two pieces of art were selected by the Committee and both chosen selections have been added to the permanent public collection at the Municipality's Courthouse Building.

This year's winning pieces were Janice Guinan's painting of the "Phantom of the Northumberland Strait" and Christene Sandeson's painting of "Freeze and Thaw". Both Janice and Christene have been part of the Annual Art Acquisition for many years and are talented local artists. This year's selection was a difficult one for the Committee and in the end it was decided that both pieces would be purchased. The Municipality of Colchester is honoured to add these wonderful pieces of art work to our growing collection.



*"Phantom of the Northumberland Strait" by Janice Guinan*



*"Freeze and Thaw" by Christene Sandeson*

### Congratulations Scholarship Recipients



Through the Municipality's Scholarship Program, up to eight scholarships may be awarded annually to high school students residing in Colchester who are planning to further their educations. Five of these are awarded to students entering Bachelor Programs and three are awarded to students entering a trade.

For the 2014-2015 school year, the following students received scholarships: Jacob Bower and Amanda Brenneman from South Colchester Academy; Travis Tattrie and Elizabeth Glasgow from North Colchester High School; Josh Gamblin, Lacey Gilley and Tyler Gowan from Cobequid Education Centre; and Celine Thimot from École acadienne de Truro.

## Economic Development

### Do You Own or Manage a Business in Colchester County? We Would Like to Hear from You!

Local Economic Development comes about as our County businesses prosper and grow. The Municipality welcomes input and ideas from the business community. Your voice needs to be heard. Please complete our online questionnaire at [www.colchester.ca/businesses/business-development-questionnaire](http://www.colchester.ca/businesses/business-development-questionnaire).

You can request follow up or counselling regarding your business development needs, you can share your ideas with us, or you can submit anonymously. In all cases, we respect your confidentiality. We look forward to hearing from you!

### Mentor or Mentee - Which is Your Role in Business Development?

If you own a business that has growth potential, but feel you could use some input from another seasoned business person to achieve your goals, you could be a **Mentee**. If you are an experienced business person willing to provide some insight to a business owner who wants to grow their business, you could be a **Mentor**.

The Municipality of Colchester has completed the pilot stage of a Mentorship Program designed to match business owners who want to grow or improve their business, with capable, accomplished business people who may be helpful in achieving those goals. The Program is now ready to be enlarged to accommodate more interested businesses. Here's how it works:

- After discussions with you, Municipal staff will suggest a possible match, either as a Mentor or Mentee.
- An informal meeting with your Mentor or Mentee will be arranged, and you can decide if you could benefit from continuing to meet.
- Discussions to address challenges and opportunities can then take place as schedules permit, but usually once or twice a month works best.
- This Mentor/Mentee relationship can continue as long as both parties agree that it is of benefit to them.
- This service is provided absolutely *free of cost* – the only investment required is time and effort!

If you can see yourself in a Mentee or Mentor role and have a passion to grow the local economy, please contact Joy O'Neill, Economic Development Officer, at [joneill@colchester.ca](mailto:joneill@colchester.ca) or at 902-956-3239. Together we will determine if the Mentorship Program could be of benefit to you.

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## Serving your Community as a Volunteer Firefighter

Do you have an interest in learning a new skill while serving your community? Then volunteer as a firefighter.

Share your knowledge and skill in a different way; firefighting and rescue, medical first response, emergency vehicle operations, public education, fundraising, public relations, teaching and training.

To find out more, drop by your local fire station or contact David Westlake at 902-897-3178 for more information.

Being a volunteer firefighter is an experience of a lifetime.



## 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

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 - 897-0882  
Recycling Operations - 897-0453  
Regional Balefill Facility - 895-2307

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### Information from Public Works

- 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.
- When visiting a County park or trail, please remember to properly dispose of your garbage.
- Items such as cloth-type wipes, grease and oil can block your plumbing and our sewer pipes if flushed down the drain – these items belong in your garbage bin.
- 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.
- The new multi-use trail on McClures Mills Connector will begin construction this spring, and be complete by fall. When this project is complete, the new pedestrian overpass at Highway 102 will be available for use!

### Investment in Leachate Paying Off



When waste arrives at our Balefill site in Kemptown, any materials that cannot be recycled or composted are buried in our specially designed landfill cells. These cells include a double liner system to protect the soil and groundwater from the waste materials. Any rainwater or snowmelt that filters through the waste is called leachate, and is collected by the liner. Prior to 2012, leachate was trucked from Kemptown to our Sewage Treatment Plant in Lower Truro, which was very costly. In 2012, the County invested \$4.8M into a project to pre-treat leachate and pump it directly to the sewage plant. The costs of this project are very quickly being offset by the savings in leachate trucking, and in April 2015 alone, we saved \$355,000 in trucking costs!

### 2016 Municipal Election



Municipal elections will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2016 across Nova Scotia.

We will be providing you with information throughout the year including important dates, polling station locations and the nomination process. We will also post information on our website at [www.colchester.ca](http://www.colchester.ca) as it becomes available.

Stay tuned!