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December 2022

Volume 27 Issue 4

Join Colchester's CLIMATE CREW

Calling for student volunteers to help plan community climate action projects! Apply to be a part of the Colchester Climate Crew today!



VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Plan student-led community climate action projects and choose how project funds are spent. Choose to assist in categories such as social media, research, administration, community outreach, and events!

No experience necessary as training will be provided. Apply before December 28th by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://arcg.is/nCnuS0>

THE BENEFITS:

- Learn new skills and gain knowledge in local government
- Volunteer appreciation
- Flexible hours
- Mileage reimbursement
- Volunteer swag
- Support and mentoring
- Invite to a luncheon with Council
- Creative and fun environment!


CONTACT


✉ carbonfree@colchester.ca

☎ 902-897-3170

📷 @carbonfreecolchester

🌐 www.colchester.ca/carbon-free





Colchester
Climate Crew

From the Mayor's Desk

Hurricane Fiona: Colchester experienced devastating consequences from Fiona with power outages, lost food, extensive flooding, damaged roofs, downed trees, road washouts, and storm surges. Seven weeks later, cleanup continues, as it will for months, possibly years to come. Given the devastation, Council met as quickly as possible and allocated a \$500,000 budget for clean-up.

Our Kemptown Solid Waste facilities were severely damaged, and generators were required to keep our Wastewater Treatment facilities running. Public Works was working hard to clear Municipal roads and also assisted the Province on Provincial roads. Our Parks and Trails crews had their hands full with downed trees that were too many to count. Our Regional Emergency Management team was stellar, working long hours each day.

Garbage/compost/recyclables collection was cancelled the first week after Fiona due to facility damages and road access due to downed trees. Dumpsters for spoiled food were set up at three locations to assist in areas where collection was cancelled. On October 11th, dump and grapple trucks began the roadside clean-up of tree debris. Residents could also bring tree debris to Kemptown, where tipping fees were waived until November 18th.

Who Plows My Road?

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A very special thank you to our 17 Colchester Volunteer Fire Brigades who went beyond the call, clearing roads/driveways, helping NS Power, and opening community comfort centres. Many brigades had firefighters sleeping on chairs and sofas, to be available for calls for assistance. Our Volunteer Firefighters were exceptional during this emergency and we are most grateful.

Special thanks to our Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC), Dave Westlake, Dominic Fewer, and to Colchester staff including the CAO, Director of Public Works, Director of Solid Waste (lead on the cleanup), Director of Corporate Services, and Director of Community Development. Regional cooperation saw CAOs from the Towns of Stewiacke and Truro at the ECC, with staff from all 3 municipalities. Truly a team effort.

Your municipality is looking at cost recovery through the Federal Disaster Management funding program. The CAO and I have been in talks with the Hon. Bill Blair (Federal) and the Hon. John Lohr (Provincial), on the process going forward.

Again, thank you to everyone involved with the cleanup after Fiona's fury and especially the many neighbours who helped neighbours along the way.



A barn on the Sunrise Trail after Hurricane Fiona.



Remembrance Day, 2022: It was my privilege to honour our Canadian Veterans by laying a wreath on behalf of the Municipality of Colchester at the Truro Cenotaph Remembrance Day ceremonies. Along with representatives from three levels of government, among those who laid wreaths were WWII Veteran Lloyd Coady, and Colonel Bob Baxter. The Colchester Pipes & Drums led the parade, followed by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 26 colour party, our Veterans, military representatives, the RCMP and Truro Police Service. An outdoor ceremony had not been held at the Cenotaph since 2019 and it was wonderful to see over 2000 people in attendance, many with young children.

Throughout the County, Council representatives laid wreaths at local cenotaphs in honour of our Veterans. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

In Closing: Congratulations to the Municipality's 35th Annual Art Show held November 15th. The newest piece of art is a Cherrywood sculpted chair by artist, Glen Fox, of Bible Hill. There were 14 artists who exhibited 27 pieces of art. We are very fortunate to be part of such an artistic community.

Congratulations to the inductees of the Truro Sport Heritage Society, Colchester County Sport Hall of Fame 2022 Induction Ceremony held November 13th at the Marigold Centre. The inductees were Harold Barkhouse, Dana Fraser, Diane Crowe Earl (posthumously) and Richard Hayden (posthumously). It was my pleasure to represent the Municipality at this event.

Here we are, close to the end of 2022 with holiday celebrations soon to be enjoyed. My very best wishes to you, your families and friends, for a wonderful holiday season, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Kind regards to all.

Christine Blair, Mayor



Hurricane Fiona Support

The following are Hurricane Fiona support programs currently available to those who need them:

Fiona Food Cost Reimbursement Program

Apply for financial assistance to help with food loss from Hurricane Fiona. You can receive \$100 if you qualify for this program. Call 1-888-428-2256 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm).

Fiona Tree Removal Reimbursement Program

Apply for financial assistance to help with post-storm tree removal expenses. You can receive up to \$250 if you qualify for this program. Call 1-888-428-2256 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm).

Seniors Care Grant

An additional \$250 on top of the existing \$750 Seniors Care Grant to help with storm repairs. For more information on the Seniors Care Grant for low-income seniors, call 1-800-670-4357.

Disaster Financial Assistance for Damage or Loss

This program helps residential property owners and tenants with costs to repair or replace uninsurable, essential basic property loss (like appliances or furniture) due to Hurricane Fiona. The program is also available to small businesses and non-profits. Call 211 for more information.

Waste Resource Management

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

Waste Reduction Helpline: 902-895-4777

Website: www.colchester.ca

Twitter: @ColchesterWRM

Facebook: Colchester WRM

Instagram: ColchesterWRM

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, December 26th for Boxing Day and Monday, January 2nd for the New Year's Day holiday. On Tuesday, December 27th, there will be curbside collection and the site will be open only for residential curbside collection vehicles. The facilities will be closed to the public on December 27, 2022.

Winter Green Cart and Garbage Tips

- Collection trucks may be passing by your home at different times because of winter road conditions. To ensure your material is not missed, you **MUST** have your garbage and green cart to the curb by **7:00 am on your collection day**.
- Please remember that plastic and **bio-degradable plastic bags are NOT** permitted in the green cart. Paper bags are welcomed.
- To prevent your organics from freezing as a solid mass and sticking to the bottom of your green cart, try lining the bottom of your cart with a pizza box, newspapers, or leftover autumn leaves. To keep your organics from freezing to the inside of your compost bin, wrap moist organics in newspaper or boxboard (ie: cereal boxes).
- To ensure you maintain space in your green cart, put it out for collection regularly.
- 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.

Christmas is Around the Corner

Please remember that Christmas **wrapping paper** is **NOT recyclable**. This is 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**. Broken Christmas tree lights and decorations are also garbage.

Christmas Tree Collection

Please ensure that your tree is placed curbside on your collection day by 7:00 am. All trees must be visible (not buried under snow) and free of lights, tinsel, ornaments, stands and bags to ensure collection.

Collection will take place as follows:

Zone 1 - January 12, 2023

Zone 2 - January 5, 2023

Zone 3 - January 10, 2023

Zone 4 - January 3, 2023

Zone 5 - January 11, 2023

Zone 6 - January 4, 2023

Zone 7 - January 13, 2023

Zone 8 - January 6, 2023

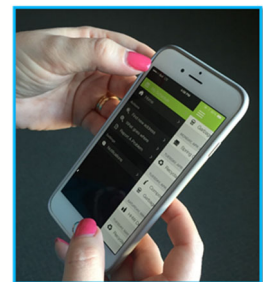
Town of Truro - January 9 – 13, 2023

Town of Stewiacke - January 6, 2023



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 and the drivers will collect up to twice the allowable amount. An alternate collection day will be scheduled only if collection is cancelled across the entire County due to inclement weather. If an alternate collection day is necessary, residents will be informed by public service announcements placed on the local radio stations, our website, and the ColchesterWRM Facebook page. 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 curbside collection in your area?



Sign up for service alert messages at www.colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling or download our free 'Colchester Waste' app and you will be notified by phone, email or Twitter the moment decisions affecting collection are made!


Information will also be posted on our website at www.colchester.ca.

2023 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 the Municipality of Colchester, 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 Truro – 408 Industrial Avenue, Truro
- Colchester County Community Development Office - 1 Church Street, Truro

Instead of mailing renewal forms, we’ve included the registration form in our newsletter! If you require additional forms, please visit our website at www.colchester.ca or give us a call at 902-897-3170 and we would be happy to mail out as many forms as you need.



Colchester
be centred here.

Municipality of the County of Colchester

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


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

Tag Fee:
\$12.00 / Dog
 C Ch D

Dog Registration Form

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

Winter Maintenance - Who Plows My Road?

While colour of your road name sign determines who owns it and provides regular maintenance, this may not be the case when it comes to winter snowplowing. The County and Province have an agreement in place to share snow removal services to save costs and time required for cleanup after storms.

The County provides snow removal services on the following roads. If you have a snowplowing comment or concern on one of these roads, please contact the County Public Works Office at 902-897-3175 or email engineer@colchester.ca.

BIBLE HILL	VALLEY		DEBERT
Armstrong Ave	Ashford Crt	Markland Crt	Acadia Ave
Austin Ave	Austin Ave	McCabe St	Bonaventure Pl
Brite Ave	Beaumont Crt	McCallum Dr	Bristol Cres
Clover Dr	Briarfield Crt	Mulberry Terr	Clinton Dr
Covington Pl	Burris Dr	Mystic Dr	Dieppe Ave
Dunromin Ave	Cambridge Dr	Oxford Crt	Dresden Way
East Court Rd	Carleton Crt	Parkside Dr	Fairchild Pl
Fenwood Ave	Cassandra Crt	Robin Rd	Hawker Rd
Fern Hill Dr	Coldstream Dr	Roxford Crt	Lockheed Cres
Fielding Ave	Connor Pl	Runway Crt	Mercury Dr
Forest Hill Dr	Cornerstone Dr	Sandy Pl	Messina Dr
Fox Hill Dr	Delaney Dr	Sillery Dr	Palaeo Dr
Greenvale Crt	Eaton Dr	Silverwood Dr	Passchendaele Ave
Justamere Dr	Edgehill Dr	Sunset Ln	Ventura Dr
Meadowland Ave	Englewood Crt	Teviot Pl	Vickers St
Murdock Dr	Hidden Valley Dr	Thrush Ln	Vimy Rd
Osprey Crt	Hillridge Dr	Tie St	
Pheasant Run	Hillvale Dr	Tower View Dr	UPPER ONSLOW
Raptor Way	Homestead Dr	Vernon St	Hub Centre Dr
Retson Dr	Huckleberry Ln	Village Line Ave	
Summit Ave	Kay Crt	Weston Dr	LOWER TRURO
Talon Crt	Krystal Dr	Wexford Dr	Tidal Bore Rd
Village Line Ave	Lexington Dr	Wood Grove Dr	

If you do not see your road on this list, it is plowed by the provincial Nova Scotia Public Works (NSPW) department, except for any privately owned roads (white signs). Residents living on private roads are responsible for their own snow removal. You can contact NSPW at 1-844-696-7737 or by email to dpw-occ@novascotia.ca.

Recreation



Follow Colchester Recreation on Facebook and watch our posts for FREE skates during the holiday season at the following arenas: West Colchester United Arena, Don Henderson Memorial Sportsplex, and the North Shore Recreation Centre.



Snowshoe Rentals

Call + 902 897 3185

email: recreation@colchester.ca

Pick up/ Drop Off

1 Church St ,Truro
3rd Floor
Recreation Services

Group Bookings

Individual Bookings

\$25
Deposit

Walking in a Winter Wonderland

Let's embrace winter and be active outside! Dress for the weather and enjoy winter by walking, snowshoeing, skiing, tobogganing, skating, and making snow creations! Dust off those winter boots and winter toys. Plan to visit a favourite outdoor place this winter. Most municipal parks and trails in Colchester County including the Cobequid Trail, Five Islands Lighthouse Park and Stewiacke River Park are available for walking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing during the winter months. Visit www.colchester.ca/parks-and-trails to plan your winter fun.

Note, there is no regular park and trail maintenance during the winter months. At time of publication, Nelson Memorial Park, Burnside Falls Park and some volunteer-managed trails in Colchester are still closed due to storm damage and ongoing cleanup. Please check status before leaving home by visiting resources at www.colchester.ca/recreation or contacting trail managers directly.

2022 Provincial Volunteer Awards

The Province of Nova Scotia and the Municipality of Colchester honoured Cara Carruthers-Fury of Tatamagouche as the 2022 Provincial Volunteer Award Recipient for Colchester County, at a ceremony at the Alderney Landing Theatre, Dartmouth, on Monday, November 7th. Congratulations Cara! We are truly appreciative of you and so many wonderful volunteers supporting Colchester County.





FundyConnect.ca is a one-stop spot to find things to do – arts and culture, parks and trails, activities and facilities in Colchester and Cumberland Counties. Try something new or explore outside! Visit www.fundyconnect.ca to browse listings or to suggest a new listing for the database.

Municipal Funding Opportunities for Community Groups

The Municipality of Colchester offers several grants to eligible community organizations. Please visit www.colchester.ca/grants-and-funding for information, guidelines, and application forms.

The **Not-for-Profit Grant** focuses on capital costs for community facilities, and programming and project costs for non-profit organizations. On-going operating costs (i.e., utilities) and salaries/wages are not eligible for grant funding.

The **Not-for-Profit Community Events Grant** provides contribution grants to organizations for the establishment and sustainability of events and festivals that create community and/or economic benefits for the County of Colchester.

Upcoming Deadlines:

Grants to Non-Profit Organizations - January 31, 2023

Community Trail Funding Program - January 27, 2023

Community Park Funding Program - February 24, 2023

Not-for-Profit Community Events Grant - Applications accepted throughout the year



EQUIPMENT Rentals

Call + 902 897 3185

email: recreation@colchester.ca

Pick up/ Drop Off

1 Church St ,Truro
3rd Floor
Recreation Services

List of Equipment available can be found at:
<https://www.colchester.ca/equipment-loan>

Group
Bookings

Individual
Bookings

\$25
Deposit

KidSport Deadlines

January 1 and March 1, 2023



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

You can apply online at www.kidsportcanada.ca/nova-scotia/provincial-fund/

Post-Fiona Cleanup



Materials Recovery Facility in Kempton

Hurricane Fiona was fierce in Colchester County. She was not kind to the Solid Waste facilities in Kempton, blowing in the doors, and removing part of the roof and wall of the Recycling Facility. She also blew off part of the Balefill Roof and walls.

The Compost Facilities three processing buildings have been unwrapped. Fiona spread the finished compost across the County and left very little for our Fall Compost Giveaway.

Municipal parks and trails were closed on Friday before Fiona hit and remained closed until they could be evaluated for damage and safety concerns. Recreation staff were on the ground assessing damage to municipal trails and parks as soon as it was safe to be outside. It was difficult to witness so much damage, not only in our greenspaces, but

throughout much of the County. Our first task, with the help of skilled community members and convenient tide times, was to retrieve the Stewiacke River Park floating dock which went on an adventure down the river, but luckily had minimal damage!

Clearing trails and playground areas of fallen trees and debris was a top priority immediately following the storm. We knew that with Victoria Park and many trails closed due to extensive damage, many people would be looking for safe places to walk, bicycle and play. Sections of the Cobequid Trail and most parks were assessed, cleared and reopened within a few days by staff and with the help of two local contractors. Several trees were lost in Stewiacke River Park, which was hit hard by Hurricane Juan in 2003, but overall the damage was relatively light. We were thankful to have no damage at Five Islands Lighthouse Park. Fundy Discovery Site also fared well. Unfortunately, two large parks were heavily impacted by Fiona: Nelson Memorial Park in Tatamagouche and Burnside Falls Park in Burnside suffered extensive tree damage and remain closed to the public as cleanup continues.

Despite the high winds and vast number of fallen trees along trails and within parks, there was relatively little damage to structures such as picnic shelters, washrooms and benches, and for this we are grateful. Many fences took a hard hit though, and repairing those will continue into next year.

We are very appreciative to everyone who helped, and continues to help, our team with the cleanup effort. With short notice, local contractors assisted with some of the cleanup and removal of some difficult trees.



Compost Processing Building in Kempton

Public Works (Wastewater Collection) staff were

also generous in lending a hand when we needed help.

Fall is typically a busy season for parks and trails, and Fiona certainly made it more challenging! In addition to Fiona cleanup, Recreation staff have also had to do all the regular tasks before winter sets in. Many park and trail improvement projects scheduled for fall 2022, have been delayed, or postponed until 2023. Hurricane cleanup and repairs will continue over the winter months, as conditions allow, and into spring 2023. Please be aware that heavy winter snow and each windstorm are likely to cause weakened trees to fall. If you notice an unsafe tree in a park, or along a trail, please contact Colchester Recreation at 902-897-3185.



Several trees narrowly missed hitting the new washroom at Burnside Falls Park.



Volunteers are busy clearing trails, such as the Devil's Bend Trail in Economy, after Hurricane Fiona

Did You Know?

Many trails in Colchester County (and throughout Nova Scotia) are maintained and managed by community trail organizations? Please be patient as these volunteers continue to clear trails and re-open them when it is safe to do so. They have already spent hundreds of hours to clear trees from the trails we all love, and there are many more kilometers to go. If you are a trail user wanting to get back out on trails, please consider volunteering with trail cleanup. Contact a local trail group (or Colchester's Parks and Trails Coordinator at 902-897-3180) and offer to help on scheduled trail clearing days organized by experienced trail managers. Trail clearing is hard work and must be done safely. It is also fun and rewarding, and a great way to meet new people. Many hands make the work lighter!

Beware of 'Flushable' Wipes

During this time of COVID, we are all using cleaning supplies more than ever. These supplies include disinfecting and cleaning wipes. Over the last few years, we have been finding large amounts of these wipes in our sewer system. Please be aware that 'flushable' wipes shouldn't actually be flushed down your toilet. These wipes can get trapped in your own plumbing and lead to expensive plumbing bills and home repairs. They can also get trapped in the piping under our streets and cause major sewer backups. Please put flushable wipes in your trash at all times!



1 Church Street
Truro, Nova Scotia
B2N 3Z5

www.colchester.ca

Toll Free (in NS):
1-866-728-5144

Reception - 902-897-3160,
902-897-3150, 902-897-3175
Administration
Tax Office
Public Works

Community Development - 902-897-3170
Building Inspection
Development Officer
Planning

Property Information - 902-897-3178
Colchester Recreation - 902-897-3185
recreation@colchester.ca

Materials Recovery Facility and
Regional Balefill Facility - 902-897-0450

Waste & Recycling Helpline:
902-895-4777
helpline@colchester.ca

Fax Numbers

Courthouse Building

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

External Locations

Regional Sewage
Treatment Plant - 902-897-0335
Materials Recovery Facility/
Waste Reduction - 902-897-0453
Regional Balefill Facility - 895-2307

Tax Office

The Municipality of Colchester 2022/23 property tax bills were due on August 31, 2022; any outstanding balances are accruing interest at 1.00% monthly.

Did You Know?

We have a variety of pre-authorized tax payment plans available!

You can set up a plan with us by filling out the Pre-Authorized Debit Plan Application. The application is available on our website at www.colchester.ca/payment-options, or in person at the Tax Office, 1 Church Street, Truro.

1. Pre-Authorized Debit Plan

- This program is available to all customers who are paid in full.
- These payments will be processed for twelve (12) months from September to August. Any outstanding balances/credits at the end of the 12 months will roll forward into the next year monthly payment, with no interest being applied. Withdraw date can either be the 15th or 30th of each month.

2. Due Date

- The full tax bill amount is withdrawn on the annual due date.

3. Recurring Payment

- You choose how much you want withdrawn monthly.

Credit Card Payment Option

- The Municipality of Colchester has partnered with Paymentus Corporation to bring you the convenience of paying by credit card. **This option is only available on our website, www.colchester.ca.**

For more information, call 902-897-3162 or email taxoffice@colchester.ca.

