



Colchester Newsletter

VOL 31 | ISSUE 1

APRIL 2025

Hello Colchester!

Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of Colchester's newsletter, where we share exciting news, helpful tips and much more with our residents!

Photo by Shelley Clattenburg

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Hello from Mayor Blair! **2**

Read about what's happening in Colchester, straight from the Mayor's office!

Department Updates

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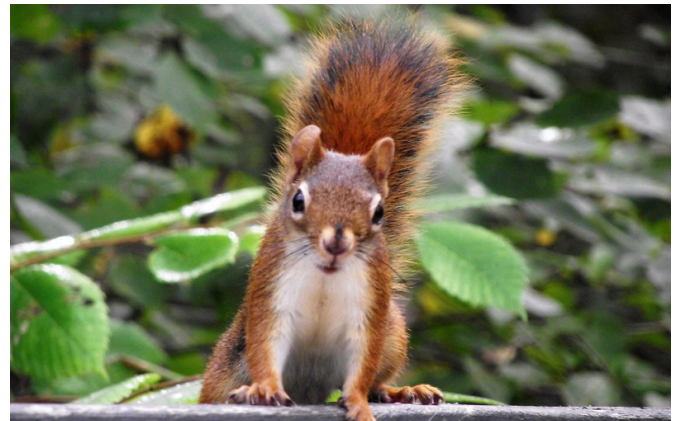
Dates to Remember! **6**

Mark your calendars - here's a list of all the things happening in Colchester this Spring

Odds & Ends

David Westlake Receives Emergency Management Award - Pg. 8
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Urban Deer Management - Pg. 9
Wind Projects Community Benefit Fund - Pg. 9

Be centred here.



CHECK THIS OUT!

Thanks to Shelley Clattenburg for submitting this photo! She was one of the winners from our most recent photo contest.

Want to be a winner?

Submit your photos and you will be entered to win a Colchester swag bag and could be featured in our next newsletter edition.

Visit www.colchester.ca/photo-contest or email photos@colchester.ca to enter!



From the Mayor's Desk

We Remember: April 18 and 19, 2025 marks the 5th Anniversary of the Mass Casualty in Colchester County, Cumberland County and East Hants where 22 men, women and an unborn child were murdered in Canada's worst intended mass shooting. This horrendous event impacted survivors, friends, neighbours, co-workers, and communities. It has impacted the whole of Canada and internationally. It continues to impact us as we grieve and live in the aftermath.

We remember them.

We also remember those who have been lost since April 2020.

Our heartfelt and deepest sympathies to all those who continue to mourn.

Our sincere gratitude to those who are working toward change to keep our communities safe.

Progress Monitoring Committee, Mass Casualty Commission Recommendations: As a member of the PMC, I want Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants communities to know the Committee continues its work, with due diligence, on the 133 recommendations from the Mass Casualty Commission. Our meetings are challenging and insightful given the expertise around the table and the accountability we are expecting from all those involved. Our first annual report may be accessed through the website at novascotia.ca/progress-monitoring-committee/docs/Progress-Monitoring-Committee-Annual-Report-en.pdf.

Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark: In August 2024, the "Old Wife" rock formation in Five Islands Provincial Park was added to the 100 International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) Heritage Sites list at the 37th International Geological Congress in Busan, South Korea.

The "Old Wife" is located within the Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark, and it highlights a significant geological event: the breakup of the supercontinent Pangea 200 million years ago. The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark, which received UNESCO status in 2020, spans the Fundy shore and is one of only five Global Geoparks in Canada.

Annual Budget: The Municipality of Colchester is currently working on its budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year. The budget must be balanced, with no deficit, and includes reserve funds for future expenses to avoid raising taxes. Reserve funds are set aside for known future costs that can't be covered by a single year's revenue. Despite rising costs and increasing demands, the Municipality is committed to keeping taxes low. The tax rate is set by Council and applied to the property assessments provided by the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC), which is independent of the municipal government. Colchester's tax rates are among the lowest in Nova Scotia and have only increased by ½ cent in the past seven years, due in part to property assessments and new construction. Further budget and taxation details will be shared in future newsletters.

In Closing: CONGRATULATIONS to Percy MacCallum, Valley, who celebrated his 100th birthday on March 10, 2025. Our very best wishes have been sent to Percy.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sherry Martell, Tatamagouche, a Councillor for the Municipality of Colchester, and a businesswoman in Truro, for her recognition as one of Atlantic Canada's most powerful women in business. Please offer Sherry your congratulations and best wishes.

Happy Spring everyone.
My kindest regards to all.
Christine Blair

Recreation

Photo by Hilary Paquet

Regional Parks – Spring Opening

Is “explore a new park” on your to-do list for 2025? Maybe you have a favorite park you look forward to visiting each Spring. Add a Colchester park to your list!

Experience the spectacular, panoramic view of the Minas Basin at Five Islands Lighthouse Park. Stroll along the paths beside the river at Stewiacke River Park. At Fundy Discovery Site, watch the tidal bore and enjoy the natural playground. At Nelson Memorial Park near Tatamagouche, explore the Butter Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail) and enjoy the coastal view. Each of these parks features picnic facilities, playgrounds, walking paths and washrooms.

Visit colchester.ca/parks-and-trails for opening dates, directions and more information about these and other parks in Colchester County.

As Spring approaches, Municipal staff will be busy preparing parks for the upcoming season. We look forward to seeing you!



Volunteer Week



National Volunteer Week 2025 runs April 27 to May 3!

The Municipality of Colchester recognizes the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers that help make our communities thrive.

We encourage you to nominate volunteers whether they are individuals, groups, youth, or families within Colchester County. Visit colchester.ca/volunteers to submit a nomination form.

Step into Spring

Join Colchester Recreation for Step Into Spring!
March 29 – May 24



Looking to add more steps to your day? Step Into Spring is back for another 8-week walking program designed to keep you motivated and moving! It’s an easy and fun way to improve your activity level. This is a great opportunity to set personal goals, stay active, and even invite a family member or friend to join you.

HOW TO JOIN

- 1 Register online at colchester.ca/spring or stop by in person to sign up. Registration is FREE!
- 2 Wear a pedometer or use a fitness/tracking device.
- 3 Track your daily steps and submit your weekly total to Colchester Recreation by email or phone.

Stay connected with us on our Colchester Recreation Facebook for fun tips, challenges, and motivation throughout the program!

Contact

Website: colchester.ca/recreation
Phone: 902-897-3150 Option 5
Email: recreation@colchester.ca
Facebook: @MunColRec

Solid Waste

Solid Waste Facilities

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 Balefill Scalehouse prior to unloading materials. The Scalehouse operator can accept cash, a personal cheque, or Interac as payment for disposal. The Scalehouse is not equipped with a credit card machine. All loads must be tarped to prevent litter problems. Untarped loads will be subject to a \$20 surcharge.

Solid Waste Closures & Curbside Collection Update!

The Balefill and Materials Recovery Facilities will be closed on the following holidays:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Good Friday | Friday, April 18 |
| Easter Monday | Monday, April 21 |
| Victoria Day | Monday, May 19 |

If your regular collection day is scheduled for Good Friday, April 18, this collection will take place on the PREVIOUS Monday, April 14. Ensure materials are curbside by 7:00 am on your collection day.

Curbside Program Change

Colchester Solid Waste curbside textile and clothing collection program is ending.

Clothing/Textiles will no longer be accepted curbside for collection after **March 31, 2025**



Textile Diversion Programs help reduce waste, save resources, and give textiles a second life. We encourage all residents to continue to donate to local drop boxes and charities across Colchester County.

All donations must be clean, dry, odor-free, and in a securely closed plastic bag. Let's keep textiles out of landfills and give them a second life!



Contact

Website: colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling
Phone: 902-897-3150 Option 1
Email: helpline@colchester.ca
Instagram: @colchesterwrm

Community Development

Attention Seniors: Cozy Colchester is Coming to You!

The Cozy Colchester team is hitting the road to connect with seniors in our community! We're excited to share details about our home energy efficiency loan program, designed to make your home more comfortable while saving you money on your energy bills.

As a token of our appreciation for your time, you'll also receive a special gift from our swag bag!

Call us at 902-897-3170 to schedule your visit today!



Changes to Building Codes

Nova Scotia will adopt the 2020 National Building Codes on April 1, 2025, enhancing building accessibility and energy efficiency. The changes will align the provincial building code with the latest National Building Code standards and improve safety for Nova Scotians. These codes include:

- 2020 National Building Code
- 2020 National Plumbing Code
- 2020 National Energy Code for Buildings.

Building permit applications submitted after March 31, 2025, must comply with the new 2020 codes.



Questions? Call us at 902-897-3170 or email building@colchester.ca to speak to a building inspector.

Regional Transit Study

The Municipality of Colchester and the Town of Truro will be issuing two public surveys to better understand the transportation needs of residents of Colchester County, including Truro, Stewiacke, and Millbrook First Nation. The feedback will support a Regional Public Transit Feasibility Study for Colchester County, funded by the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. The study began in January 2025 and will conclude by September 2025.

Survey 1: Existing Needs + Challenges
Open April 1 - 22

Survey 2: Potential Transit Solutions
Open May 1 - 22

You can complete the surveys online at colchester.ca/transit or pick up paper copies at locations like the Colchester Municipal Office (1 Church St, Truro), local libraries, and other locations listed on the website.

Fill out the surveys and share your thoughts on regional transportation and enter a prize draw!



Plan It Colchester Update

A Public Hearing was held on Thursday, March 27th for Council to consider the adoption of the Draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Draft Land Use By-law.

Visit colchester.ca/plan-it-colchester for more updates on the planning process.

Contact

Website: colchester.ca/community-development
Phone: 902-897-3150 Option 4
Email: comdev@colchester.ca



Colchester

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Municipal Dates & Meetings

April 2025

01 **Central NS Regional Transit Study Survey #1**
TUES Open until April 22nd. See page 5 for more info.

08 **Council Committee Meeting** 6 PM
TUES Maintenance Budget

10 **Council Committee Meeting** 6 PM
THURS

15 **Council Committee Meeting** 6 PM
TUES Additions and Deletions. Continues on April 22nd if necessary

18 **Municipal Office Closure**
FRI Good Friday

21 **Municipal Office Closure**
MON Easter Monday

22 **Colchester Clean Litter Clean-Up Begins**
TUES The program runs until May 3rd

24 **Council Meeting** 6 PM
THURS

25 **Colchester Home Show Begins**
FRI Continues on April 26th & 27th @ RECC, Truro

27 **Nominations for Provincial Volunteer Awards Open**
SUN Nominations close on May 4th

May 2025

01 **Central NS Regional Transit Study Survey #2**
THURS Open until May 22nd. See page 5 for more info.

Organics

Green Cart

All Food Waste

-  -Bread & pasta
-  -Meat, fish & bones
-  -Vegetables & fruits
-  -Cooking oil & bacon grease (allow to cool)

Used/Wet Paper

-  -Parchment paper
-  -Coffee grinds, filters & tea bags
-  -Paper bags, paper popcorn bags & paper plates
-  -Used napkins & paper towels

Yard Waste

-  -Grass
-  -Leaves & twigs
-  -Pet waste & kitty litter
(No poop bags)

**NO BIODEGRADABLE - PLASTIC PRODUCTS
NO COFFEE CUPS**

Recyclables

Containers

Recycling Bag #1

All plastic containers #1 through to #7











-  -All plastic bags
-  -Milk, juice cartons & juice boxes
-  -Steel (tin) cans
-  -Aluminum beverage containers & cat food cans
-  -Aluminum foil & pie plates
-  -Plastic beverage containers
-  -Clean styrofoam
-  -Glass jars & bottles

**NO NEEDLES
NO BATTERIES
ALL RECYCLABLES
MUST BE CLEAN & DRY**

Paper Recycling

Paper & Cardboard

Recycling Bag #2














-  -Dry newsprint & flyers
-  -Envelopes
-  -Loose-leaf & office papers
-  -Shredded paper & file folders
-  -Paper cores
-  -Paper egg cartons
-  -Kleenex box
-  -Boxboards (cereal & cracker boxes)
-  -Cardboard bundles (max 3ft x 2ft x 1ft)

**NO MILK & JUICE CARTONS
NO COFFEE CUPS
ALL MATERIALS
MUST BE CLEAN & DRY**

Garbage

Clear Bags

Regular Garbage

-  -Dog poop bags
-  -Chip, cookie bags & cereal bag liners
-  -Coffee cups & K-cups
-  -Cigarette butts
-  -Candy & bar wrappers
-  -Chewing gum
-  -Broken glass (safely packaged)
-  -Dirty aluminum foil & dirty styrofoam
-  -Plastic straws & cutlery
-  -Wipes (flushable, sanitizing & baby wipes)
-  -Diapers, gloves, masks & medical tests
-  -Gift wrapping paper
-  -Personal & feminine hygiene products

ALL GARBAGE TAKEN TO THE BALEFILL FACILITY BY RESIDENTS MUST BE IN CLEAR BAGS

Recycling Programs

Colchester County Enviro-Depots

Return beverage containers to your local ENVIRO-DEPOTS for a refund. Enviro-Depots also accept leftover household paint (tightly sealed in its original container with the lid and label still readable).

Note: Milk cartons are NOT accepted at Enviro-Depots. These should be placed in your blue bags with containers recyclables and placed curbside for collection.

Subway Bottle Exchange

25 Pictou Road
Bible Hill
902-893-8312

Tatamagouche Recycling

102 Main St.
Tatamagouche
902-657-9201

John Ross & Sons

85 Glassey Ave.
Truro
902-893-9429



TNT Recycling

20711 HWY #2
Shubenacadie East
902-758-2708

Paint Recycling

The Nova Scotia Paint Recycling Program aims to bring new life to unused paint. Try to use the "BUD" rule: - Buy only the paint you need. Use all the paint you buy. Dispose of leftover paint safely.

Residents can bring leftover paint and empty paint containers to their nearest Enviro-Depot.

Subway Bottle Exchange

25 Pictou Road
Bible Hill
902-893-8312

Tatamagouche Recycling

102 Main St.
Tatamagouche
902-657-9201

John Ross & Sons

85 Glassey Ave.
Truro
902-893-9429



TNT Recycling

20711 HWY #2
Shubenacadie East
902-758-2708



Many electronics are now banned from landfill disposal and should not be placed in the garbage or set out for curbside collection

In Colchester County, you can drop these items off FREE OF CHARGE at:

Subway Bottle Exchange
25 Pictou Road
Bible Hill
902-893-8312

Tatamagouche Recycling
102 Main Street
Tatamagouche
902-657-9201

TNT Recycling
20711 Hwy #2
Shubenacadie East
902-758-2708

For more information, please call EPRA Nova Scotia toll-free at 1-888-567-4535, email info@recycleMYelectronics.ca or visit www.recyclemyelectronics.ca

Electronics Recycling

What Can I Recycle and Where?



Display Devices & Portable Computers

Laptops, Netbooks, Notebooks, E-books, tablet, televisions & Monitors LCD, LED & Plasma



Cellular Phones, Pagers, Personal & Portable Audio/Video Systems

Handheld Devices



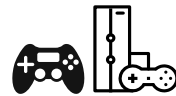
Computer Accessories, Desktop Printers & Scanners

Mice, Keyboards & Trackballs



Personal Care Appliances

Hair cutting, blow dryers, tooth care appliances, shavers & massagers



Video Gaming Systems & Accessories



Air-Treatment Appliances

(air conditioners not included)
Portable fans, air purifiers, heaters, diffusers and humidifiers.



Floor or Carpet Care Appliances



Non-Cellular Telephones & Scales
Corded & Cordless Phones



Desktop Computers & External Storage Drives & Modems



Appliances & Countertop Microwave
Built-In or Over-The-Range Microwave are excluded from the Program



Home Audio/Video Systems & Home Theatre Systems
Speakers, Projectors, DVD, VCR, & CD Players



Vehicle Audio/Video System & Global Positioning System

Recycling Programs

Used Oil

There are municipalities and local garages who will accept small quantities of used oil, used filters and antifreeze. There is no fee for the service.

For more information on collectors visit
<https://ns.uoma-atlantic.com/>

The used oil is refined and reprocessed into regenerated lubricating oil used as industrial burner fuel and other products.



Tire Recycling



You can return up to four tires 24.5 inches or less to any tire retailer in the province, free of charge. They must be off the rim, free of mud and debris. Leave used tires at the retailer when you buy new ones.

For more information on tire recycling visit
<https://divertns.ca/used-passenger-tires>

Up to 70% of returned used tires are recycled into Tire Derived Aggregate (TDA). Tires are cut into pieces to be used for civil engineering projects. Up to 30% of returned used tires are recycled and used as Tire Derived Fuel (TDF) as an alternative to coal.

Safe Sharps Bring Back Program



Under this program, residents who generate sharps in their home can pick up a plastic container at their local pharmacy. When the container is full, it can be returned to your local pharmacy for disposal.

Used Sharps Must Be Handled Properly

- DO NOT put needles or syringes in plastic bottles or jugs.
- DO NOT put needles or syringes in green cart garbage or recycling bags.
- DO NOT flush needles or syringes down the toilet.
- DO NOT burn needles or syringes.

For more information on SHARPS visit <https://pans.ns.ca/public/programs/safe-sharps>

Recycle your lights!

Lightbulbs are no longer accepted in the garbage. The Nova Scotia Lights Stewardship Program, a light bulb recycling program, launched on August 1, 2024. The program is run by Product Care Recycling and allows residents to drop off used light bulbs at selected Enviro-Depots for free.

Accepted Products



- Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)
- Fluorescent tubes (straight, curved, U, circular, square, etc.)
- High-intensity discharge (HIDs) and special purpose bulbs
- Incandescent and halogen bulbs
- Miniature bulbs
- Light emitting diodes (LEDs)
- Ultra High Performance (UHP) (replacement projector lamps)
- UV and germicidal bulbs

Not Accepted Products



- Ballasts and light fixtures
- Lamps integrated into products that are not intended for easily removal/replacement by end users
- String lights

Selected Enviro-Depots

Subway Bottle Exchange

25 Pictou Road
Bible Hill
902-893-8312

TNT Recycling

20711 HWY #2
Shubenacadie East
902-758-2708

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

Clean Harbors

640 MacElmon Rd
Debert, NS, B0M 1G0
9:00am - 1:00pm

First Saturday of every month; except December and January.

For more information on lightbulb recycling call our helpline at 902-895-4777

March 2025

15 Early Bird Registration **OPENS: Colchester Clean Litter Clean-Up**
SAT Register at: <https://www.colchester.ca/colchester-clean>

31 Early Bird Registration **CLOSED: Colchester Clean Litter Clean-Up**
MON **Colchester Clothing and Textile curbside Recycling Program ENDS.** (see last page)

April 2025

22 Colchester Clean Litter Clean-Up **STARTS**
TUE Clean up ENDS on May 3, 2025

25 26 27 Truro Home & Outdoor Show
FRI SAT SUN Rath Eastlink Community Centre, 625 Abenaki Road, Truro

May 2025

03 Spring Compost Giveaway
SAT 188 Mingo Road, Kemptown
Mon - Fri 8:00am to 3:30pm and Sat 8:00am to 11:30am

03 Colchester Clean Litter Clean-Up **ENDS**
SAT Submit your Data Card: <https://www.colchester.ca/colchester-clean>

05 - 10 Spring Compost Giveaway
MON - SAT 188 Mingo Road, Kemptown
Mon - Fri 8:00am - 3:30pm and Sat 8:00am - 11:30am

SAVE THE DATES!

Solid Waste Dates & Events 2025/2026

May 2025

24

SAT

Community Paper Shredding Event

Time: 9:00am - 12noon, Rath Eastlink Community Centre, 625 Abenaki Road, Truro

June 2025

14

SAT

Mobile Household Hazardous Waste Event

Time: 9:00am - 1:00pm, Rath Eastlink Community Centre, 625 Abenaki Road, Truro

September 2025

13

SAT

Community Paper Shredding Event

Time: 9:00am - 12noon, Rath Eastlink Community Centre, 625 Abenaki Road, Truro

October 2025

18

SAT

Fall Compost Giveaway

188 Mingo Road, Kemptown

Mon - Fri 8:00am - 3:30pm and Sat 8:00am - 11:30am

20 - 25

MON - SAT

Fall Compost Giveaway

188 Mingo Road, Kemptown

Mon - Fri 8:00am - 3:30pm and Sat 8:00am - 11:30am

Compost is available for bulk sale from our facility year round while supplies last! The cost is \$3.00 per bag and \$35.00 per metric tonne. You are allowed to come out with your truck and trailer to purchase bulk compost.



Household Hazardous Waste

Hours of Operation: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Location: Clean Harbors
640 MacElmon Rd
Debert, NS, B0M 1G0



| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| February - 1st | July - 5th |
| March - 1st | August - 9th |
| April - 5th | September - 6th |
| May - 3rd | October - 4th |
| June - 7th | November - 1st |

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

For information on acceptable materials visit
<https://www.colchester.ca/special-events#hazardous>

No commercial material.

Holiday Tree Collection



Colchester County Residents

Holiday Tree collection begins on January 13 and ends on January 23, 2026. To ensure your tree is collected, have trees out **ON** or **BEFORE** January 13, 2026.

Towns of Truro & Stewiacke Residents

Town of Truro - January 5-9, 2026
Town of Stewiacke - January 9, 2026

All trees must be visible (unburied), free of lights, ornaments and stands.
Trees must be debagged and **NOT** frozen to the ground to ensure collection.

Residential Leaf Collection



MUNICIPALITY OF COLCHESTER RESIDENTS

Residents can place up to three (3) bags of leaves each garbage collection day as long as the leaves are in **PAPER** leaf and yard waste bags.
Reminder: Leaves can also be placed in your green cart for collection.



TOWN OF STEWIACKE RESIDENTS

Residents can place up to six (6) bags of leaves each garbage collection day as long as the leaves are in **PAPER** leaf and yard waste bags.
This leaf program in the Town of Stewiacke starts on **October 24, 2025** and ends on **November 21, 2025**.
Reminder: Leaves can also be placed in your green cart for collection.

For more information on Leaf Collection in the Town of Stewiacke call 902-639-2231.



TOWN OF TRURO RESIDENTS

Residents can place up to three (3) bags of leaves each garbage collection day as long as the leaves are in **PAPER** leaf and yard waste bags.
Reminder: Leaves can also be placed in your green cart for collection.

For more information on Leaf Collection in the Town of Truro call 902-893-6078 or visit
<https://www.truro.ca/solid-waste-collection.html>

Construction & Demolition Waste

2025 Tipping Fees

Please note: All prices are subject to change

Asphalt Shingles



\$35 per metric tonne

Scrap Metal



\$35 per metric tonne

Clean Unpainted Drywall



\$35 per metric tonne

Clean Untreated Wood



\$35 per metric tonne

Concrete and Bricks



\$35 per metric tonne
Including asphalt, clean fill, rocks etc

Treated Wood



\$113 per metric tonne

Mixed loads

- Mixed loads of only construction material would go the public drop off bin - \$75 per tonne
- Mixed loads of construction and garbage would go to the tipping floor to be sorted - \$113 per tonne



Disposing of these materials in dedicated loads will save you money!

Due to the new Provincial C&D regulations, treated wood must now be separated so it can be ground up and sent to the Municipal Solid Waste landfill for disposal.

For information and to confirm the most up-to-date tipping fees visit:
<https://www.colchester.ca/colchester-waste-management-park#tipping>

Garbage & Recycling Reminders

Residential Curbside Collection Limit Reminder

One residential household is allowed:

Garbage



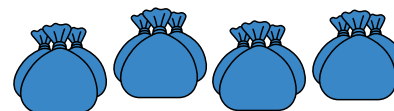
Six (6) clear bags or five (5) & one (1) black bag for privacy

Organics



One (1) green cart

Recycling



Twelve (12) blue bags

Two bulky items



&



On your regular garbage collection day

All materials **MUST** be curbside before 7:00am. Please tie bags with a secured knot.

Green Cart Reminder

Not accepted in the green cart!



Any types of plastics, including compostable and biodegradable plastic products, such as bags containers, cups and cutlery are **NOT PERMITTED** in the green cart. Your green cart will be **REJECTED** if these products are found in it.

These compostable/biodegradable plastics cause operational issues at our Compost Facility during the shredding and screening process. These materials also contaminate the finished compost product with small pieces of microplastic that cannot be removed and are then introduced into the soil.

For more Solid Waste information please call our helpline at 902-895-4777 or visit
<https://www.colchester.ca/garbage-and-recycling>

Curbside Textile & Clothing Recycling Ends!

Ends March 31, 2025!

Colchester Solid Waste curbside textile and clothing collection program ends on March 31st, 2025. Clothing/Textile will no longer be accepted curbside for collection after March 31, 2025.

Textile Diversion Programs help reduce waste, save resources, and give textiles a second life. We encourage all residents to continue to donate to local drop boxes and charities across the County of Colchester.

All donations must be clean, dry, odor-free, and in a securely closed plastic bag. Let's keep textiles out of landfills and give them a second life!

Important Facility Reminders!



- All garbage taken by residents to the Balefill Facility, whether residential or commercial, MUST BE in clear bags or you will be asked to re-bag into clear bags.
- Ensure that all loads brought to the site are contained using straps, nets, or a secured tarp to prevent unintentional littering. Unsecured loads have a \$20 load surcharge in addition to the applicable tipping fees.
- Cash, personal cheques or interac are accepted as payment. Credit cards are NOT accepted.
- 188 Mingo Road, Exit 18 HWY 104 - Monday to Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm and Saturday 8:00am - 12noon

Chapter 33 Solid Waste By-Law

Disposal at Municipal Solid Waste Management Facilities

12. No person shall place, cause to be placed or permit to place any solid waste at to adjacent to a municipal solid waste management facility when the facility is not open....

Visit: <https://www.colchester.ca/administration/by-laws>

No After Hours
Dumping!



Public Drop Off
Hours of Operation
Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm
Saturday 8am to 12 noon



The site is under surveillance. After hours dumping is strictly prohibited.

Solid Waste - Asbestos & Contaminated Soil

Please contact GroundFix Remediation Services at 902-396-6974 for more information on the disposal of asbestos and contaminated soil.



Stay Up To Date With Us!!

This service gives you all the sorting and collection information at your fingertips.

Once you sign up, we can notify you when collection is interrupted.

Download the FREE Colchester Waste App in the App Store or Google Play.



ZERO TOLERANCE



Abusive language or any act of violence will NOT be tolerated. Anyone giving verbal abuse to members of staff will be asked to leave the premises.

Questions or Concerns



Helpline 902-895-4777



Helpline@colchester.ca



Follow us @ColchesterWRM



Like us @ColchesterWRM



Connect with us @ColchesterWRM

Visit us at www.colchester.ca



02

FRI

Deadline to submit Low Income Tax Assistance Program Applications

For more info, see page 11

03

SAT

Household Hazardous Waste Event

Clean Harbors, Debert

Spring Compost Giveaway

Continues May 5th through 10th
188 Mingo Road, Kemptown

06

TUES

Council Committee Meeting 6 PM

Presentation Meeting (on as needed basis)

15

THURS

Council Committee Meeting 6 PM

16

FRI

Deadline for Colchester Volunteer Award Nominations

19

MON

Municipal Office Closure

Victoria Day

24

SAT

Community Paper Shred Event

RECC Parking Lot, 9 am - 12 noon

27

TUES

Council Meeting 6 PM

June 2025

03

TUES

Council Committee Meeting 6 PM

Presentation Meeting (on an as needed basis)

07

SAT

Household Hazardous Waste Event

Clean Harbors, Debert





David Westlake Receives Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award

The Honourable Kim Masland, Minister of the Department of Emergency Management, was pleased to welcome recipients of the Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award to the House of Assembly on March 4, 2025, to thank them for their work to help keep Nova Scotians safe. Among the recipients was Colchester's own David Westlake, Emergency Management Coordinator for the Municipality of Colchester, the Town of Truro, and the Town of Stewiacke.

David is a dedicated professional with over 30 years of experience in emergency operations, planning, and first response. He oversees a multi-jurisdictional approach to emergency preparedness, response, and recovery in the County. His work includes developing and updating emergency response plans, community evacuation plans, and modernizing the regional emergency operations center. David has introduced advanced technologies such as GIS mapping and drones for situational awareness and response planning. His leadership has enhanced the region's resilience to natural disasters, including hurricanes, flooding, and wildfires, positioning the communities to respond more effectively to emergencies.

David also serves as the Coordinator for the Municipality of Colchester Protective Fire Services and Chief of the Regional Special Hazards Response Team. In recognition of his service, David has received the 20 Year Fire Service Exemplary Service Medal, the 30 Year Bar, and the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal. His devotion to public safety and community preparedness has earned him respect and recognition in the field of emergency management. We are grateful for his dedicated service to our communities. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.



2024 Colchester Courage Award Recipients

2024 Colchester Courage Awards recipients, Nigel Leggett and Greg Whalen, were presented with awards at the January 16th Council Committee meeting.

In March of 2024, at a regular Friday pickup hockey game at the RECC, a fellow player suddenly dropped to the ice in a state of cardiac arrest. Nigel and Greg, both having backgrounds in emergency response, immediately took action performing chest compressions and prepping the AED, while another player called 911.

They continued to work on the player while EHS and Truro Police Service were enroute and miraculously, the player was responsive when EHS arrived and took over. If it were not for the immediate actions of Nigel and Greg, as well as others who assisted, the outcome could have been very different.

We commend Nigel and Greg for their very heroic efforts and congratulate them on receiving the much-deserved Colchester Courage awards.

Urban Deer Management

Rising deer populations continue to pose problems in many of our urban communities, including increased deer-vehicle collisions, damaged gardens and property, and health concerns involving ticks and Lyme disease. This Spring the Municipality will resume its deer population research in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources in the communities of Bible Hill, Valley, and Brookside. Additional communities to be added to the study this year include Salmon River, Lower Truro, Truro Heights, and Hilden. The study is required before a managed bow-hunt can be considered to address the problem. During the 2024 Municipal Election affected communities voted 77% in favour of this action.

Pellet Count Inventories will be conducted during Spring green-up by Wildlife Consultant, Mark Pulsifer. **IMPORTANT:** Residents should be aware that part of the data collection process may require Pulsifer to cross private property. As such, he will be wearing bright orange safety apparel so he can easily be identified. We appreciate your cooperation during this process.

PLEASE DON'T FEED THE DEER

Feeding deer may seem like a kind gesture but it has many negative effects on both the community and the deer. Feeding wild animals disrupts their natural foraging patterns and exposes them to greater risk from disease, predators and vehicle collisions. Altering a deer's natural diet can also lead to malnutrition or serious digestive issues.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact the Municipality by calling 902-897-3182 or emailing dtrefry@colchester.ca.



Wildlife Consultant, Mark Pulsifer

Wind Projects Community Benefit Fund – Call for Applications

The Truro Heights Community Wind Project and Truro Millbrook Community Wind Project Community Benefit Fund supports local community groups and initiatives within the Municipality of Colchester.

Funding applications will be accepted from locally based registered charities, not-for-profit organizations, schools, and individuals or groups at the discretion of the fund administrators.

Categories for funding include environmental enhancement; social welfare; arts and culture; health and wellness; education and science; and emergency relief. Funding is not intended for ongoing operations or expenses, but to fund projects, special events or initiatives.

Deadline to apply is May 1, 2025.

Questions about the fund and applications can be obtained from dtrefry@colchester.ca.

Public Works

Spring Clean-Up

As the snow is melting and Spring is upon us, the remnants of snow clearing activities are becoming visible. Public Works Staff are working hard to make any necessary repairs along sidewalks and roads, where our plows have affected the road shoulder and grassed areas.



The exception to this is any damage done to gravel or sod from buried frontage culverts. As property owners have extended their lawns into the public road right-of-way, staff will not be making any repairs caused by snow plowing in these areas.

Any maintenance to frontage culverts is the responsibility of the private property owner.

Re-surfacing of County Owned Roads

The County owns and maintains about 30km of roads, including both gravel and paved roads. Inspections on County owned roads are completed every spring in order to identify those roads requiring surface upgrades over the next five years.



Each road is inspected based on certain conditions including type of road surface, potholes, cracks, and shoulder conditions. Staff will then prioritize the list of roads requiring repaving or repairs and include them in the five-year capital plan.

Council reviews and approves the five-year plan every year, usually in August/September. Once Council has approved a road upgrade project, staff will then complete design work and prepare projects for tender. If you live on a road that will be resurfaced, you will be notified before the work takes place.

Frontage Culverts Maintenance

Did you or the previous owner of your property fill-in the roadside ditch to extend your lawn? If yes, you have what we call a 'frontage culvert'.

When properly installed, a frontage culvert includes a buried pipe along the entire ditch, and a catch basin that collects any water from the road and your property that used to enter the ditch.

Water from private property flowing onto the road creates safety issues for the public, maintenance issues for staff, and can deteriorate our infrastructure. Staff will continue to inspect these culverts and property owners will be notified if there are issues to be fixed.

Permits are required from Public Works before proceeding with any work to install a frontage culvert.

Contact the Public Works Office for more information.



Contact

Website: colchester.ca/public-works
Phone: 902-897-3150 Option 2
Email: engineer@colchester.ca

Finance

Low Income Municipal Tax Assistance Program

ELIGIBILITY

Submission Deadline is May 2, 2025

Residential property owners may be eligible for a reduction on their 2025/2026 property taxes of \$635.67. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy the property as their principal residence and fall into one of the categories listed below:

| Family Size | Gross Income |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Single | Less than \$31,491 |
| Family of 2 | Less than \$41,595 |
| Family of 3 or more | Less than \$49,915 |

WHAT IS GROSS INCOME?

Gross Income refers to the total gross income from all sources for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024. This must include the income of all members of the household, except full-time students.



You should not include income from the following sources:

- War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada);
- Veterans Affairs Canada Pension; or
- GST/HST Rebate

APPLICATION

Application forms will automatically be mailed to last years eligible applicants. If you have not received your application form by April 1st, please call 902-897-3162.



Late applications will not be accepted.

Applicants must reapply annually. You may obtain an application from the Municipal Tax Office, 1 Church Street, Truro, or by calling 902-897-3162. Exemptions are granted only for the current year. No retroactive exemptions will be granted.

For income verification purposes, please bring your 2024 INCOME TAX RETURN, which you submit to Revenue Canada. If you have filed via telephone through the File My Return service, please request a proof of income statement to provide as proof of income.

Notice of Assessments will NOT be accepted.

2024 Income
Tax Return



Notice of
Assessment



Submission Deadline
May 2, 2025

Contact

Website: colchester.ca/finance
Phone: 902-895-3150 Option 3
Email: taxoffice@colchester.ca

Public Notice: Closure of Lower Truro Spring

The Municipality has made the difficult decision to decommission the Lower Truro Spring due to health, safety, and liability concerns. While traffic issues and occasional altercations at the site have been factors, the primary issue is that the Municipality does not own the land where the water originates and therefore has limited ability to ensure its ongoing safety. Since both the fill site and water source are leased—and these agreements are set to expire—closure has been determined to be the most responsible course of action.

Work to dismantle the site will begin soon. The public will receive at least two weeks' notice before the official closure. We understand this may be disappointing for those who use the spring, and we appreciate your understanding as we prioritize community safety and responsibility.

Truro Home and Outdoor Show

April 25–27, 2025

Rath Eastlink Community Centre
625 Abenaki Rd, Truro, NS B2N 0G6

The Municipality is excited to be part of the Truro Home and Outdoor Show! Stop by our booths to learn about our initiatives, including waste sorting tips, recreation programs, sustainability efforts, permit applications, what not to flush and more.

There's something for everyone—enjoy fun games, win prizes, and chat with our teams. We can't wait to see you there!

Learn more at www.trurohomeshow.ca

Connect With Us Online



Website: Colchester.ca



Facebook: [@ColchesterNS](https://www.facebook.com/ColchesterNS)



Instagram: [@ColchesterCounty](https://www.instagram.com/ColchesterCounty)



LinkedIn: [@Municipality-of-Colchester](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Municipality-of-Colchester)

Accessibility & Inclusion

Do you, or someone you know, have challenges accessing municipal information or services, or participating in programs or community engagement opportunities (for example a visual or hearing impairment, mobility, or cognitive challenge)?

Please contact Devin Trefry by
calling **902-897-3182** or
email dtrefry@colchester.ca

to discuss ways that we may be able to accommodate or assist.

Contact

Phone: 902-897-3150

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
For evening and/ or weekend emergencies, call 902-897-3175