

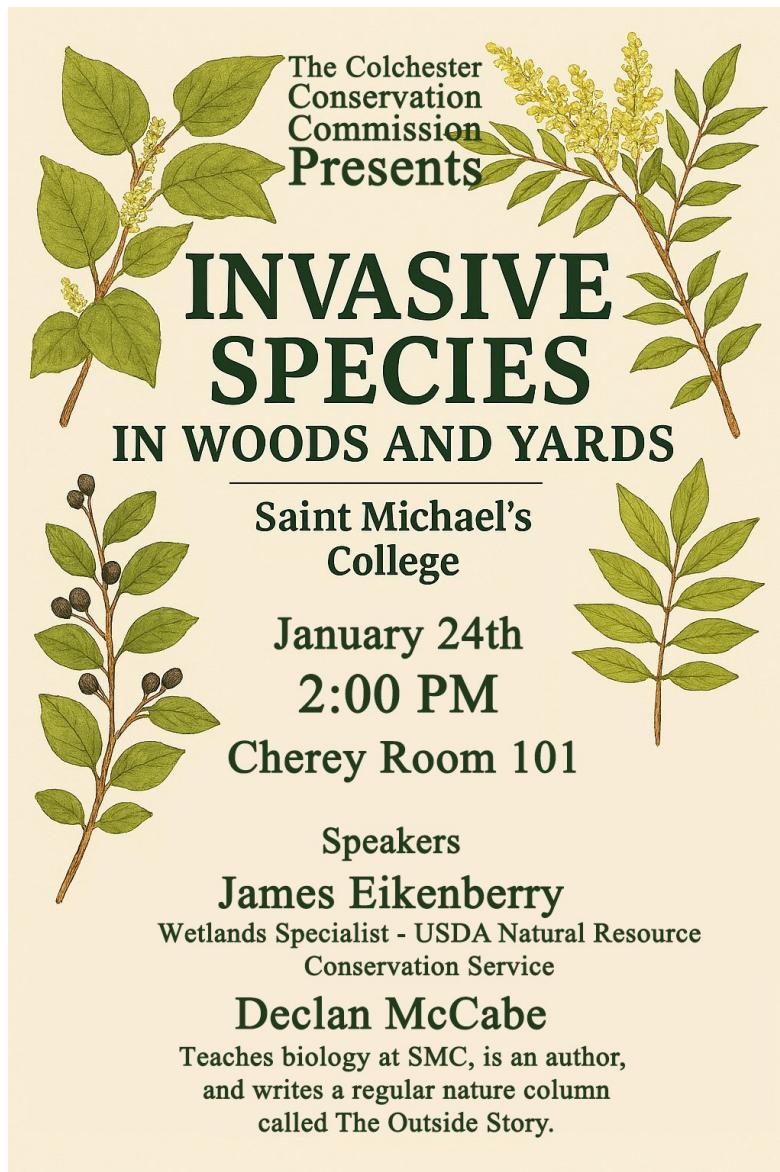


For the Week of January 5, 2026

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**Conservation Commission Guest Lecturers!**

Join the Colchester Conservation Commission on January 24th for a lecture on invasive species! This talk will be held at St. Michael's College in Cherey Room 101 at 2:00 PM. We hope to see you there!



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**Town Municipal Services Budget:**

The proposed FY27 municipal services budget would result in an estimated 6.6% increase to municipal services property taxes. This budget accounts for planned expenditures for maintaining our current level of Town services, and addresses additional resource needs for: 1) paid on-call



staffing for the Fire Department; 2) increases in salary, benefits & training for the Police Department; 4) increases in salary, benefits and training for the Rescue Department; 5) increased costs for necessary software for Information Technology (IT).

Forty-two percent, or \$7,967,487 of the FY27 Municipal Services budget is dedicated to the Town's public safety services – Police, Fire, Rescue, Technical Rescue, and Public Safety Dispatch. This amount doesn't include the other municipal support services provided for public safety equipment, vehicle/building maintenance, information technology, human resources, finance/payroll, and general management needs. With those costs included, the public safety services would represent well over half of our municipal services budget.

For a property with an assessed value of \$300,000, the estimated increase in FY27 municipal services property taxes would be \$134 compared to the current year.

<b><i>Estimated Municipal Services Property Tax Increase (Compared to FY26)</i></b>			
Assessed Value	200,000	300,000	400,000
Annual	\$90	\$134	\$179
Monthly	\$7.47	\$11.20	\$14.93
Weekly	\$1.72	\$2.58	\$3.45

The Colchester Selectboard will be holding a public hearing on the Municipal Services Budget at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at the Colchester Town Hall, 781 Blakely Road, in the Outer Bay Conference room, 3rd floor. For more information visit: <https://colchestervt.gov/342/Town-Meeting-Budget>

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### A Message from VTrans: Exit 16 Construction Update

**TRAFFIC IMPACT AND DURATION:** From Monday, January 5, through Friday, January 9, between 7 AM and 3 PM, lane closures and lane shifts will be in place on Lower Mountain

View Drive and Upper Mountain View Drive near their intersection with U.S. Routes 2/7 (U.S. 2/7). A lane closure and shift will also be in effect on the west side of U.S. 2/7 just south of Rathe Road.



**Exit 16 DDI**  
Diverging Diamond Interchange

*Independent utility companies will periodically be on-site conducting utility work along U.S. 2/7 between the Winooski town line and Sunderland Woods Road under lane closures.*

Visit the project website for more information:

<https://www.exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/stay-informed/weekly-construction-update-friday-september-19-2025/>



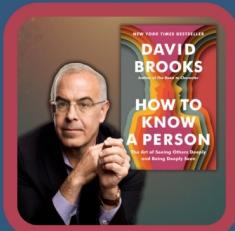
Questions and concerns about the project can be directed to VTrans by calling the project hotline at (802)595-4399 or emailing [info@exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov](mailto:info@exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov)

## Department Updates

### Burnham Memorial Library Online Speaker Series:

In the month of January, the following authors will be holding discussions on their works:

# BURNHAM ONLINE SPEAKER SERIES January Speakers



**The Creative and Compassionate Art of  
Seeing Others Deeply**  
with David Brooks  
**Tuesday, January 13, 2:00 pm**



**Nature, Art, and Service as Medicine**  
with Journalist Julia Hotz  
**Tuesday, January 20, 2:00 pm**



**Secrets and Second Chances**  
with Liz Moore  
**Wednesday, January 28, 7:00 pm**

Check our Website for More Information and to Sign Up!



## Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

**Selectboard Meeting:** Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Residents are welcome to attend the meeting. Alternatively, send a note, up to 1,000 words, to [TownManager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:TownManager@colchestervt.gov) with "Citizens to be Heard" in the Subject and your name. As with in-person Citizens to be Heard, we ask that you SHARE YOUR ADDRESS. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting.

- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: [www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

**Planning Commission:** Tuesday, January 6, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=PLANAGENDA>

**Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday, January 14, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Recreation Center, 80 Dick Mazza Drive. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2C>

**Development Review Board:** Wednesday, January 7, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to [zmaia@colchestervt.gov](mailto:zmaia@colchestervt.gov) or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Agenda: [https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=DRBAGENDA&path=DRB%2CDRB\\_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C](https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=DRBAGENDA&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C)

**Library Board of Trustees:** Thursday, January 15, 4:00 p.m. in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=LibBoard&path=BOARDS%2CLibBoard%2C>

**Colchester Conservation Commission:** Saturday, January 24th, 2:00 p.m. in Cherey Room 101, St. Michael's College. Agenda: [https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/ConservCommssn.htm#\\_CPA1](https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/ConservCommssn.htm#_CPA1)

**Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:** <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jkMAO2v>

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov)