



TOWN OF

COLONIE CHRONICLE

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TOWN BOARD

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Supervisor

LINDA J. MURPHY
Deputy Supervisor

CHRISTOPHER CAREY
Board Member

DAVID GREEN
Board Member

PAUL L. ROSANO
Board Member

MELISSA JEFFERS VON DOLLEN
Board Member

JENNIFER WHALEN
Board Member

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR MAHAN



Dear Fellow Colonie Resident,

It's been a busy year, and many good things have been happening. One of the most exciting for me is that Colonie was recently named "Best Suburban Town" in the annual Times Union readers' poll – for the sixth time in a row! That's a huge honor for all of us in Colonie.

Congratulations also to the Colonie Town Library, deservedly named the region's "Best Library" once again. Our library staff and director do a wonderful job in providing outstanding service for our community.

I think we all agree that our outstanding level of public safety is one of the things that makes Colonie such a great place to live, and I am proud that we have brought staffing levels for both the Police Department and EMS department to new highs. The results speak for themselves. In 2018 crime in Colonie was down in every category. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Chief Jonathan Teale and the Colonie Police Department.

We are now are working on two exciting projects designed to cut energy costs and reduce the Town's carbon footprint. First, we're entering into a twenty-year hydropower purchase agreement that will offset over 50 percent of the Town's energy load with eco-friendly power. Second, we are planning to purchase the 4,000 streetlights located throughout Town and convert them to LED lighting, reducing the Town's CO2 emissions significantly!

Summer will soon be upon us, and I hope everyone will be able to get out and enjoy some of what makes Colonie a great place to be—our beautiful parks, our golf course, our Town pool and new splash pad, and our excellent Farmers' Market. Or drop by The Crossings or Pruyn House some evening to hear one of the many concerts that fill our summer nights with great music.



I hope you will all have a safe and happy summer!

Sincerely,
Paula A. Mahan
Paula A. Mahan
Colonie Town Supervisor

UPCOMING EVENTS

Farmers' Market at The Crossings

Saturdays, May 18—September 28 9 am to 1 pm

Fort Orange Garden Club Plant Sale

Preview: Friday, May 10, 3:00 pm-5 pm (\$5 entry)
Sale: Saturday, May 11, 9 am-2 pm (Free)
Pruyn House Buhrmaster Barn

Town Park Opens

Saturday, May 4 Daily, 10 am-Dusk

Town Pool Opens

June 22 & 23;
then reopens for season June 29 – August 25

Summer Enrichment Program

Limited Program due to Construction at Shaker HS
518-783-2760 for info

Learn-to-Swim, Guard Start & Water Safety Programs

June 24 – July 5 Colonie Town Pool
518-783-2760 or colonie.org for info, registration

Playground Program

July 1 – August 9 (Various Playgrounds)
518-783-2760, Ext. 2101 or colonie.org for info

Tennis Instruction Program

Programs begin July 8. Various Locations
518-783-2760 or colonie.org for info

Colonie Art League Kid's Workshops

July 9, July 16, July 23
(Ages 10 – 13)
Pruyn House
For info, calartcamp@gmail.com

Thursday Night Concerts at The Crossings

Thursdays, July 11 – August 29, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
(Free) Sponsored by ANJO Construction Ltd.
518-783-2760, Ext. 2101 or colonie.org for info

Pruyn House Concerts in the Barn

Wednesdays, July 10 to August 7, 6:30 pm—9:00 pm
(\$5.00 adult donation; children 12 and under, free)

Rabies & Dog Licensing Clinic

Saturday, September 7
Cats/Ferrets 1:00-2:30 pm; dogs, 2:30-4:00 pm
Village of Colonie Municipal Garage
2 Thunder Road, Colonie 518-783-2734 for info

Pruyn House Old Fashioned Sunday

Sunday, September 8-Noon to 4 pm (Free)
Family fun for all ages. 518-783-1435 or
colonie.org/departments/pruynhouse/

Harvest Fest—The Crossings

Sunday, September 15-Noon to 4:00 pm (Free)
Family fun for all ages.
518-783-2760, Ext. 2101 or colonie.org for info



Adding Strength to Strength: In December, the Town created eight new full-time positions in its EMS Department. Now the Department can cover the majority of shifts with full-time personnel and staff an additional ambulance during peak hours seven days a week. In addition, the Town will receive \$250,000 toward the purchase of a new ambulance in special funding arranged by Assemblyman Phil Steck. Shown with the officers (and one future officer?) are EMS Chief Peter Berry, far left; Supervisor Paula Mahan, third from left, first row; and back row, Town Board members Paul Rosano, Jennifer Whalen, Melissa Von Dollen, David Green, Christopher Carey, and Linda Murphy.

SUPERVISOR MAHAN GIVES 2019 STATE OF THE TOWN ADDRESS

Earlier this year Supervisor Paula A. Mahan delivered her annual State of the Town message before the Albany-Colonie Chamber and at a Town board meeting. Key points are summarized below. The State of the Town address is posted at www.colonie.org

- Our budget is balanced, and our fund balance keeps growing.
- Police and EMS staffing levels are at new highs.
- Colonie was once again named “Best Suburban Community” in the Times Union Readers’ Poll.
- I am proud that in 2018, violent crime was down 4.7 percent; serious crime was down 1.3 percent; and less serious crime was down 6.5 percent.
- We added eight new full-time EMS positions. Now, most shifts are covered by full-time personnel and we can staff an additional ambulance during peak hours.
- We are now looking at new ways to fund open space preservation through the development process.
- We’ve invested more than \$25 million in paving and stormwater improvements.
- Last year, we installed a state-of-the-art splash pad at the Mohawk River Town Park.
- I would like to thank Assemblyman Phil Steck for arranging almost \$2.7 million for special Town projects.
- When those funds are added to other grants, recent funding comes to more than \$5 million.
- With Albany County, we are applying for \$9.5 million in federal grants to address congestion and safety on three major roadways.
- A traffic light will be installed at the Shaker El intersection with a \$125,000 grant from Assemblyman Steck.
- Since 2014, we will have invested more than \$33 million dollars in our drinking water and sanitary sewer systems.
- Last summer, Latham Water replaced a mile of water mains along Route 9 and Maxwell Road. Another 3,800 feet on Route 9 will be replaced this summer.
- We will invest in hydroelectric power to offset a significant portion of our energy usage through green energy credits.
- Through the 2005 Comprehensive Plan review, we have an opportunity to determine if there are areas that should be updated and modify the land use law as necessary.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE NEARS COMPLETION AFTER HEARINGS

The Town is in the process of completing the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan Update, which is now before the Town Board for review.

The draft reflects changes made in response to comments received both prior to and following three public hearings held at Town Board meetings. It is anticipated the Town Board will hold at least one further public hearing before voting on the Update.

“Through the Comprehensive Review process, we had the opportunity to determine if there are areas of the 2005 Comprehensive Plan that needed to be updated,” said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan. “Later, the land use law will be modified to support the plan’s new goals.”

The process of updating the plan began in 2016, when a broadly based advisory committee was charged with reviewing the 2005 Comprehensive Plan and making recommendations for an update.

Working with a consultant, the advisory committee held five community meetings to hear the priorities and concerns of residents, which were later summarized and posted on the Comprehensive Plan Update webpage. The committee held regular meetings, all open to the public.

The process also included an independent resident survey conducted by the Siena Research Institute. In the survey, 95 percent of respondents rated Colonie as a good or excellent place to live and showed strong support for Town services.

The advisory committee presented its Comprehensive Plan Update in February at a public meeting. It was then transmitted to the Town Board for its input and final review.

A vote on the final Update is anticipated soon. Once the Update is adopted, it will be used to guide the Town in the future.

The draft Comprehensive Plan Update is posted at www.colonie.org



COLONIE NAMED BEST SUBURB IN T.U. POLL

“Hard to define. Easy to love.” That’s how Colonie was characterized in again being voted “Best Suburb” in the Times Union annual readers’ poll. That’s makes six years in a row that Colonie’s been named number one!

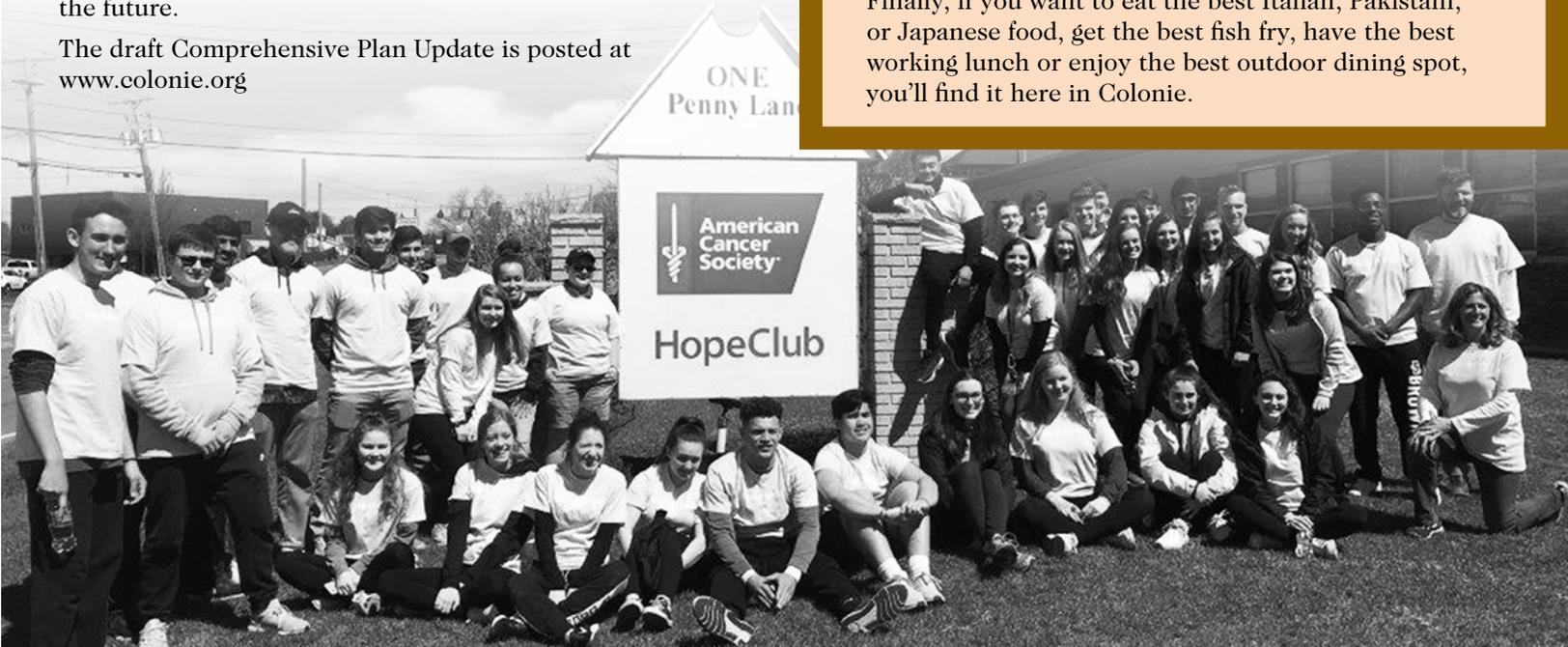
“The diversity in development, annual income, ethnicity, and politics belie a solidarity in pride that this complex town brings to the table, and it shows in this survey and in countless other ways” wrote the poll editors in the TU’s Upstate Magazine, where poll results were recently published.

Times Union readers once again chose The Colonie Town Library as the best local library. “Year in and year out, this heavily used and much-beloved library has easily won over its regional counterparts. And this year they even did it without an actual entrance for part of the year. Now that’s loyalty,” said the editors.

The North Colonie School District again took home “the first-place prize,” as it did last year.

Colonie also ranked first in many categories of locally owned enterprise, including best local restaurant, best new restaurant, and best local hotel. Want to visit the best movie theatre, shopping mall, bakery, import store, garden center, or bookstore? Come to Colonie.

Finally, if you want to eat the best Italian, Pakistani, or Japanese food, get the best fish fry, have the best working lunch or enjoy the best outdoor dining spot, you’ll find it here in Colonie.



Penny Lane Is In My Ears & In My Eyes: On April 10, students from Colonie high schools on the Town’s Youth Advisory Board spent a busy afternoon doing indoor and outdoor spring cleaning, organizing paperwork, and baking brownies at the American Cancer Society’s Hope Club at One Penny Lane in Colonie. A good time was reportedly had by all.



Fun in the Sun: A new splash pad at the Mohawk River Town Park was a big hit last summer. It was just the latest improvement to the park, which also has soft new pool liners, new pool filtration systems, and new ADA-compliant lifts for both pools.

COLONIE TO BENEFIT FROM ECO-FRIENDLY HYDROELECTRIC POWER

The Town recently entered into a renewable energy program that will substantially reduce its carbon footprint through a contract involving locally produced hydropower.

Under an innovative mechanism known as remote net metering, Colonie will receive credit for the hydropower produced at a local hydroelectric facility, which in turn will offset over 50 percent of the Town’s electric load with climate-friendly power.

The twenty-year purchase agreement will also reduce and stabilize the Town’s power costs.

“This renewable power arrangement is the right thing to do on every level,” said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan. “It not only makes strong financial sense for our Town, but it helps protect our environment and grows the regional economy over the long term.”

The agreement, with Gravity Renewables Inc., was facilitated by the Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance (MEGA), a New York not-for-profit that helps governments and public agencies with their energy procurement needs.

In 2014, MEGA selected Gravity Renewables to be the preferred provider of energy from small hydroelectric sites after a competitive process.

GRANT CAN HELP QUALIFIED SENIORS

The Town has been awarded an Albert J. and Elisabeth Field Memorial Fund grant to help income-qualified Town of Colonie seniors receive a useful new item such as a television set or a similar item.

To be eligible, applicants must be at least age 65 or disabled and meet the eligibility requirements for Medicaid or the SNAP programs.

“We are very pleased to have received the Field grant once again this year,” said Supervisor Paula A. Mahan. “This grant can improve the quality of life for qualified seniors by providing them a way to receive something they want and need, but which they might not be able to have without it.”

For more information, contact the Senior Resources Department at 518-459-5051.

Focus on Veterans: Veterans were the focus of Global Youth Service Day on April 11. Students from the Town’s high schools raised funds to buy personal items for the Veterans Miracle Center. Above, CBA students sort items to be donated. Top, children write letters of appreciation to veterans. About 100 young people participated in the event, organized by the Town’s Division of Youth Services and Albany County and held at The Crossings.

TOWN TO CONVERT STREETLIGHTS TO LED LIGHTING

There are almost 4,000 streetlights in the Town of Colonie. Besides the cost of the energy to operate the lights, National Grid charges the Town facilities charges of about \$424,000 to maintain the lights per year.

Now, the Town is planning to purchase the streetlights and convert them to LED lighting, which will provide better lighting and reduce the Town’s CO2 emissions by about 1,107 tons a year—an ongoing Town goal. The move will also cut the Town’s energy usage dramatically and eliminate most of the facility charges paid to the utility.

The cost to purchase the streetlights and convert them to LED will be offset by energy savings and the elimination of most of the maintenance charges, with an estimated 10-year payoff.

The Town must next work through the planning specifics and receive necessary National Grid approvals. Once the conversion begins it should take about six months to complete.

The New York Power Authority estimates a \$12.2 million savings to the Town over a 25-year period.



Number One Team: The Colonie Police Department's Tactical Team recently won the 'Tactical Week' training exercise at the State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany. Eight tactical teams from around the state participated in the three-day event, running through complex and evolving scenarios based on recent emergencies. Colonie's team posted the best time and performance to take first place. The Preparedness Training Center is operated by the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

EVEN AS DEMANDS GROW, CRIME IN COLONIE DECREASES AGAIN

Crime in Colonie decreased in 2018—as it did in 2017. Yet calls for service increased by more than 7,000 calls during those two years.

Last year for example, violent crime in Colonie was down by 4.7 percent, serious crime down 1.3 percent, and less serious crime down 6.5 percent. At the same time, service calls increased by more than 3,000 calls.

Similarly, in 2017 crime decreased by 6.7 percent overall with 4,000 more service calls than the year before.

“Thanks to our police officers our town is getting even safer, although the demands keep growing. That’s why I’m happy we are now able to fund staffing levels at 115 officers, a goal we worked hard to accomplish,” said Town Supervisor Paula A. Mahan.

“Keeping Colonie safe is our most important mission. At the same time, policing is becoming more and more complex,” said Chief Jonathan Teale. “Last year we made our highest-ever number of arrests for illegal handguns. Our computer crimes unit worked continuously to combat cybercrime and to take child predators off the street.”

Chief Teale said he was especially proud that the department was able this year to add a resource officer at Shaker High School. “Our School Resource Officers and DARE officers continue to work with our schools to keep them safe,” he said.

The Department also has two K-9 officers. One was funded with a grant and the other with donations and forfeiture money.

For many years one of the nation’s safest towns, Colonie’s tactical team last year took first place in a tough statewide competition of eight teams. And the department received a perfect 100 percent compliance rating on its most recent accreditation review.

The CPD has added both Facebook and Twitter accounts to its website to help keep the community informed of major events or traffic issues. It will be phasing out its NIXLE notification account, which has never gained wide user-ship.

“I think we have a great staff and officers who do a great job. We are a full service police department, selective and thorough in our training. We want to provide the best service we can,” Said Chief Teale.

Main Line	783-2700
Animal Control	783-2711
Assessor	783-2701
Attorney	783-2704
Building	783-2706
Civil Service	783-2721
Community Development ..	783-2718
Comptroller	783-2708
Emergency Management & Planning	782-2609
EMS	782-2645
Environmental Services ..	783-2827
Fire Services	783-2712
General Services	783-2726
Highway	783-2795
Historian	782-2601
Human Resources	783-2720
Justice	783-2714
Landfill	783-2827
Latham Water District	783-2750
Library	458-9274
Management Information Services	783-2895
Planning & Economic Development	783-2741
Police (Non Emergency) ..	783-2811
Pruyn House	783-1435
Public Works Engineering ..	783-6292
Pure Waters (Sewer)	783-2766
Recreation	783-2760
Senior Resources	459-5051
Supervisor	783-2728
Tax Department	783-2730
Town Clerk	783-2734
Youth Bureau	783-2760

The Colonie Chronicle

Paula A. Mahan, Town Supervisor
Sara Wiest, Editor

The Colonie Chronicle is published periodically by the Town of Colonie to provide residents with information on Town happenings and services. For more information, call 518-783-2728 or e-mail the editor at: wiests@colonie.org

2019 YARD WASTE BRUSH PROGRAM

ACCEPTABLE YARD WASTE

- Lawn Clippings
- Leaves
- Plant Debris
- Hay
- Branches & brush up to 3 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length, tied with string in manageable bundles (no wire) or in biodegradable bags

UNACCEPTABLE YARD WASTE

- Bags or Containers over 40 lbs. in weight or 32 gallons in volume
- Yard waste in plastic bags (including orange pumpkin bags)
- Wreaths (because of wire)
- Branches or brush not bundled with twine or in biodegradable bags
- Branches stuffed in containers
- Yard waste containing rocks, sod, or dirt, or garbage
- Yard waste frozen in reusable containers
- Treated wood
- Construction/demolition debris
- Non-organic material, including metal of any type
- Cardboard, plastic bags, bee's nests



REGULAR WEEKLY PICK-UPS RUN APRIL 15 – NOVEMBER 8

After November 8, the Town will continue to collect yard waste, but not on the regular weekly schedule. Unscheduled curbside collection will continue through December 6, weather permitting.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

For ease of handling, we prefer yard waste to be packed in biodegradable bags. Yard waste may also be placed in reusable containers **no larger than 32 gallons** in volume and weighing no more than **40 pounds**. It is no longer necessary to identify reusable containers with compostable yard waste stickers purchased from the Town.

Place the bags and/or containers at the curbside for your pick-up day.

Residents may also bring compostable yard waste at no charge to the Compost facility at:

1319 Loudon Road, Cohoes during normal business hours.

Through June: Monday—Friday, 7 am to 3 pm. Saturdays, 7 am—Noon
July, August, and September: Monday - Friday, 7 am–2pm. Saturdays, 7 am – Noon.
Residents may pick up free compost beginning May 6

Note: Compost is not recommended for vegetable gardens, but can be used as mulch, a soil conditioner, to establish a lawn, or as an ornamental plant potting soil.

HOLIDAY COLLECTION

When a legal holiday falls on a collection day, pick up for ALL fire districts may occur on another day during the week.



TOWN OF COLONIE
518-783-LEAF (5323)



VILLAGE OF COLONIE
518-869-7562



VILLAGE OF MENANDS
518-434-2922

WEEKLY COLLECTION IS SCHEDULED BY FIRE DISTRICT

SCHEDULED
PICK UP
RUNS
APRIL 15
TO NOV. 8

MONDAY

Midway & Stanford Heights

TUESDAY

Shaker Road/Loudonville

WEDNESDAY

Latham & Schuyler Heights

THURSDAY

Boght, Verdoy & Maplewood

FRIDAY

Fuller Road & West Albany

2019 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



PRE-REGISTRATION INFORMATION

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-494-2273
MONDAY – FRIDAY 9–5 pm

Reservations are accepted no sooner than 30 days prior to the scheduled drop off day. Residents of the Town of Colonie will be accepted by appointment only. Proof of Residency will be required at the time of disposal.

DROP-OFF DAYS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

4:00pm - 7:00pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

3:00pm - 6:00pm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

4:00pm - 7:00pm

WHERE

TOWN OF COLONIE LANDFILL
1319 LOUDON RD. (RT. 9)
COHOES, NY 12047

SPONSORED BY

TOWN OF COLONIE DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TOWN OF COLONIE DEPARTMENT
OF FIRE SERVICES

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION



PRACTICE POLLUTION PREVENTION

Stormwater runoff is rain that falls on roofs, lawns, or paved areas, and is carried away by a system of stormwater pipes or culverts and ditches. As it flows over the land surface, it can be contaminated by debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. This untreated water is then discharged directly into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water.

What you can do to help:

- Recycle used motor oil
- Participate in Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- Use hazardous substances in the smallest amounts possible

Please recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil and other fluids. Don't pour them onto the ground or into storm drains!

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

Remember the "best method" for disposal of unrestricted pesticides is proper use. If not banned, restricted, or outdated, use according to directions or give to a friend to use.

Acids	Muriatic Acid
Adhesives	Nail Polish
Aerosols	Nail Polish Remover
Boric Acid	No-Pest Strips
Brake Fluid	Oven Cleaners
Cements	Paints: Latex & Oil Based
Charcoal Lighters	Paint Remover
Chlorine	Paint Thinner
Cleaning Fluid	Permanent Solutions
Corn & Wart Remover	Pesticides
Degreasers	Photo Chemicals
Disinfectants	Pool Chemicals
Drain Cleaners	Rat Poison
Dry Gas	Rust Solvents
Dyes	Solvents
Epoxies	Spot Remover
Flea Collars & Powders	Toilet Bowl Cleaners
Hair Removers	Tub & Tile Cleaners
Herbicides	Turpentine
Inks	Varnish
Insecticides	Weed Killers
Insect Repellants	Wood Pesticides (Some)
Lacquers	Wood Polishes
Lubricants	Wood Stains
Moth Balls or Flakes	

We reserve the right to refuse any material which is not deemed acceptable to the managing chemist on site.

For more information call the Division of Environmental Services at 518-783-6292 | Or visit www.colonie.org

UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

Asbestos

Anti-Freeze

Biological or Medical Wastes

Dioxin Suspect Pesticides

(2,4,5T, certain formulations of Weed-Be-Gone and Silvex)

Electronics (tv and computer)

Explosives and Flares

PCB's

Pentachlorophenol

Pressurized Tanks and

Gas Cylinders (Propane Tanks)

Radioactive Waste (smoke detectors)

Waste Oil

* These materials can be brought to the Town of Colonie Landfill during regular business hours for recycling.





Office of the Supervisor
Town of Colonie
Memorial Town Hall
534 Loudon Road
Newtonville, NY 12128
www.colonie.org



Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy, Days of Summer: The Town Pool will open for the weekend on June 22 and 23. Then it will reopen for the season on June 29. Last one in is a rotten egg!

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE PROVIDES MANY SERVICES TO RESIDENTS

The Town Clerk's Office takes pride in providing courteous and efficient services for residents, including Notary Public, Voter and Absentee Voter registration, and issuance of Senior Courtesy Cards, to highlight a few. It issues permits for use of the Mohawk River Town Park/pool and the landfill and parking permits for people with disabilities. The office also issues a number of New York State licenses—including those for marriage, dogs, hunting and fishing, and games of chance, among others. Some services are outlined here. For more information, call the Town Clerk's Office at 518-783-2734.



Landfill Stickers: Residents who frequently use the Town's Landfill or transfer station may want to get a window sticker for their vehicle to make entry easier. The vehicle-specific sticker is free.



Park/Pool Permit: A permit for entry to the Colonie Mohawk River Town Park and/or Pool on Schermerhorn Road is available to any resident and/or property taxpayer with acceptable identification. Although the permit is free, parking and pool fees still apply.



Certificates of Residency: Residents planning to attend community college can realize significant savings by submitting a Certificate of Residency with tuition payments. Applicants will need documents in their own name to prove they have been New York State residents for one full year and have resided in Albany County for six months prior to application. Those with less than six months of residency will receive credit for only that time period.



Fishing Licenses: Fishing licenses are available for purchase. Everyone over age 16 is required to be licensed. Licenses can be purchased for one year, seven-days, or one day. Senior discount for those over 70.



Hunting Licenses: Hunting licenses are available for purchase. Hunting license applications must be accompanied by proof of required NYS training classes. No one under the age of 12 may possess a hunting license. Senior discount for those over 70.



Dog Licenses: NYS law requires that dogs be licensed. Anyone keeping a dog must apply for a license to the Town Clerk of the town in which the dog lives. Licenses are valid for one year; renewal notices are sent prior to expiration. Proof of current rabies vaccination required at both application and renewal, one time proof of spay/neuter required for discounted rate.