

Flu Vaccination Update

As flu season ends, the Columbia/Boone County Health Department (CBCHD) reports more than 6,000 flu vaccinations given to citizens throughout late 2006 and early 2007. The CBCHD held three large public flu clinics at its location on Worley Street, in addition to many other out-reach efforts throughout the Columbia and Boone County area. New this year was a "drive-thru" flu clinic. The event was a success with over 475 people taking advantage of the service. The purpose of the clinic was to practice alternative methods of dispensing vaccinations/medicine in the case of a public health emergency, such as pandemic influenza.



**Green Lawns/Blue Waters:
A Show-Me Yards Field Day
Saturday, May 19
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Environmentally Friendly Ways to a Healthy Yard

Are you interested in having the best possible yard for your home while also protecting the environment? Check out the Show-Me Yards Field Day.... nine locations will be open for you to view innovative new yard care ideas that promote a healthy environment. Just stop by any of the locations and pick up the self-guided brochure and map on the day of the event, or download it at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. Brochures will also be available starting May 9 at Columbia City Hall lobby, Superior Gardens, HyVee Garden Center, the ARC, and Total Environments. Most sites will be staffed with experts to answer your questions.

SHOW-ME YARDS Field Day Sites:

- Lawn Management Demonstrations (Everything about Grass)*
10 Et11 a.m., Noon and 1 p.m., Shelter Gardens Parking Lot
Presented by University of Missouri Extension Turf Specialists
- Shelter Gardens/Organic Gardens*
Shelter Gardens Entrance, 1817 W. Broadway
- Dry Rain Garden/Organic Lawn and Native Plants*
408 S. Garth
- Stephens Lake Park Rain Garden*
West edge of park, next to parking lot off Old 63
- Native Plant Makeover/Rain Garden* 3016 Meghann Drive
- Dry Rain Garden* 612 Laurel
- Rain Barrel Et Show Me Yard* 1201B Sunset Lane
- Rain Garden* 302 Edgewood
- Native Plant Makeover* Corner of Windsor and William (1516 Windsor)
- Watershed-Friendly Lawn Demo with Native Plant Garden*
Always Open; Not staffed
Upper Parking Lot Entrance to Rock Bridge State Park.
Lawn and garden at Hickem Cabin.

Professionals will be stationed at most of the sites to answer your "how to" questions. For information, call 874-7616 or email mona.menezes@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Council Action

The Council on Feb. 5:

- Authorized an on-system bridge replacement and rehabilitation program agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission relating to replacement of a bridge over Hinkson Creek on Old Route K Outer Road, south of Reactor Park. The funding is authorized in the Federal-Aid-Highway Act. The preliminary estimate is \$1.8 million, which includes engineering, right-of-way, utility relocations and construction. Federal funding of \$900,000 was approved for replacement of the bridge. Costs of the sidewalk and the pedway on the bridge were not eligible for this grant. The grant requires a 20 percent match.

The Council on Feb. 19:

- Authorized the upgrade of water main along the north side of Walnut Street, between 10th Street and College Avenue. The project would upgrade approximately 1,300 feet of 4-inch cast iron water main to 8-inch PVC along the north side of Walnut connecting to existing 8-inch mains on 10th Street and College Avenue. This upgrade will improve domestic service to existing customers and bring fire protection infrastructure up to current standards. The estimated project cost is \$232,150.
- Authorized an agreement with Boone County for animal control services. The Boone County Commission contracts annually with the City of Columbia for animal control services. This renews the ongoing agreement. The contract for calendar year 2007 is \$146,351.

This is just a brief look at the Council's actions. Complete minutes are available at the City Clerk's Office, 701 E. Broadway, the Columbia Public Library or on the Web at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page.

Are Your Conservation Efforts Working?

City of Columbia utility customers can access their account history on the Web. First-time users will need to establish a personal identification number, so have a copy of your bill handy. Once you have logged on, you can track your consumption and also pay your bill online.

www.GoColumbiaMo.com/utility/

Landfill Gas to Produce Electricity

April 19 Open House

Columbia Water and Light and its partners, the State of Missouri, Allied Waste, and Ameresco, invite the public to share in our excitement as we break ground on a new renewable energy project. The project will convert landfill gas to electricity in Jefferson City, Mo. This innovative project will provide Columbia Water and Light with 2 percent of its renewable energy needs, and the waste heat from the generation facility will be used by two state prisons to meet their thermal needs. It is anticipated that construction of this 3.2 MW facility will be completed by the end of 2007.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held April 19 in Jefferson City and will be attended by Governor Matt Blunt and other local dignitaries. For more information, or to receive an invitation, please email Shelley Cohen at scohen@ameresco.com or call Columbia Water and Light at 874-7325.

701 East Broadway www.GoColumbiaMo.com

City of Columbia

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

874-7111 City Hall Switchboard
874-7650 Community Line
874-7697 TTY Users
Pre-Recorded Information 24 Hours / Day
874-7282 Bus System & Information
874-7325 Energy Conservation
874-7460 Parks And Recreation
874-7663 Recreation Hotline/Cancellations

911 Fire, Rescue, or Medical Emergency
874-7391 Fire non-emergency 8 a.m.–5 p.m. M-F
874-7450 or 442-6131 Fire non-emergency 5 p.m.–8 a.m. & weekends
874-7355 Health Department
911 Police Emergency
874-7652 Officer Voice Mail & General Information
442-6131 or 442-6132 Non-Emergency

874-7405 Columbia Police Programs/Crime Prevention
874-7525 East District Commander
874-7523 West District Commander

874-7229 Prosecutor—City
874-6291 Recycling Information
874-6291 Roll-Off Service
874-7663 Recreation Hot Line
874-6291 Solid Waste Collection
874-6289 Street Maintenance
874-6292 Street Sign Maintenance
874-7230 Traffic & Parking Violations

Utilities
874-7380 Account Information
874-7380 Water & Light Turn On & Off
445-9426 Sanitary Sewer Emergencies—24 Hours
874-6289 Storm Sewer Maintenance
875-2555 Power Emergencies—24 Hours
875-2555 Water Emergencies—24 Hours

874-7499 Volunteer Services
874-7339 Weeds & Health Complaints Hotline

On the Web

You can find information on cancer prevention and early detection on the Columbia/Boone County Health Department's Web site. Additional cancer awareness resources are also available. Go to www.GoColumbiaMo.com (GoWord: GoHealth).

Commission Openings

The City is accepting applications for the following boards and commissions. Applications and current vacancies are on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page. Call 874-7208 for information and specific requirements.

- Disabilities Commission
- Environment & Energy Commission
- Housing Authority
- Board of Mechanical Examiners
- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Board of Plumbing Examiners

Memorial Day Holiday

City offices will be closed Monday, May 28. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made on that day and will be delayed for one day throughout the week. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Also, city buses will not operate, the landfill will be closed and parking meters will not be enforced.



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City of Columbia
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Darwin Hindman

City Council Members:
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Almeta Crayton

Second Ward
Chris Janku

Third Ward
Bob Hutton

Fourth Ward
Jim Loveless

Fifth Ward
Laura Nauser

Sixth Ward
Barbara Hoppe

City Manager
Bill Watkins

CITYSOURCE

www.GoColumbiaMo.com

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Your source for city news and information

Council Reserves Unique Land for Regional Park



This expanse is just one feature of the Crane property. It also includes a stream and wooded areas.

When City Council members agreed to purchase land for a new regional park last March, they took a giant step to reserve a scarce resource for Columbia's future. Known as the "Crane property," this 320-acre tract lies at the city's southeast edge, near the intersection of Gans Road and Highway 63 South. It's a great location accessible to a new generation of park users who will live, work and attend school nearby.

Interest in a new regional park is based on the City's 2002 master plan, which identified a need to relieve the pressure on Cosmo Park. With its ball fields already scheduled beyond capacity, Cosmo Park can't handle full seasons for youth leagues now and won't satisfy future demands. Columbia also treasures its natural areas and understands the value of protecting them.

Acquiring this land through a voluntary sale is all about planning to serve Columbia families. The total price is \$8,075,000 (or \$25,000 per acre) for the land, plus \$75,000 to pay the cost of borrowing. The City will cover \$4.3 million of the total with fund balances in the Park Sales Tax and Parks Capital Fund accounts. Future revenue from the Park Sales Tax will repay the rest over four years.

Because voters had the foresight to authorize these resources in 2001, the City can purchase the Crane property without disrupting other park projects associated with a 2005 ballot issue and can operate and maintain existing facilities. These dedicated park funds, by law, are not available for other City services.

With a good plan, it's no accident when needs and opportunities come together. The Crane property is large enough to develop the ball fields and facilities needed for active sports over the next 15 – 20 years. It also protects a section of Gans Creek and shares a common boundary with Rock Bridge State Park. And it can connect with the adjacent Phillips Park, nearby Nifong Park and residential and commercial areas through trails and bikeways.

Volunteers keep our trails and parks safe



The Park Patrol, established in 1997 to keep our parks and trails safe and in good repair, is the city's largest volunteer program. In 2006, 80 volunteers logged more than 4,500 hours in city parks and trails serving as ambassadors to other users, reporting maintenance issues to park staff and assisting with special events and activities.

Volunteering with the Park Patrol is fun and easy, since it can be done while enjoying the outdoors. Volunteers can participate at their own pace and schedule and at the parks or trails they frequent.

Park Patrol is a joint program of the city's Office of Volunteer Services, Parks & Recreation Department, Police Department and U.S. Cellular, who has sponsored the program since its inception.

Park Patrol volunteers must be 18 years of age, agree to a background check, and must participate in a two-hour video training. To become a Park Patrol volunteer, contact the city's Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

More Water for Columbia

In 2003, Columbia voters approved a revenue bond issue to increase the capacity of the water system. The first step was to add a new well and upgrade the water treatment plant to deliver up to 32 million gallons of water a day. The new well is located near the existing wells and tap into an aquifer 100 feet below the ground. The expansion of the treatment plant included a new aerator, primary basin, secondary basin, two filters, pumps and a new lime processing system.

Expanding the water system from a capacity of 24 million gallons to 32 million gallons required an additional 36-inch water main. The new transmission line from the treatment plant to Columbia will be completed this spring. Also part of the bond issue were other water distribution improvements including a new pumping station on the north side of town, a water storage facility and water main upgrades. All of these water system projects will keep the water flowing to Columbia residents, when and where they need it, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Water Treatment Plant Open House

Please join Columbia Water and Light for the dedication of the newly expanded Water Treatment Plant. Tours will be available.

**Wednesday, May 9, 2007
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

Directions: Travel south on Providence Road/Highway K for approximately 10 miles past Stadium Boulevard. The Columbia Water Treatment Plant is on the north side of the highway, right before the Katy Trail parking lot.

Xeriscaping: water efficient landscaping

Up to 60 percent of all household water used during the summer months is outdoors on the landscape. A considerable amount of water can be saved through well-planned and well-managed landscapes. So, try xeriscaping and spend less time watering and more time enjoying your beautiful landscape!

- The key is to select plants according to the site conditions and stresses. Native Missouri plants are good choices since they tolerate wet spring soils and late summer drought.
- Clay soil types commonly found in Columbia don't absorb water well. Deeply cultivated, amended soil will improve drainage, save water and keep your plants healthy.
- Divide the landscape into three water use zones: low, moderate and high. Place plants with high water requirements in areas that receive the most water, like drainage ways, depressions or bottom of hills.
- Shade, whether from plants or structures, helps cool the landscape and reduces water loss. A shaded landscape can be as much as 20 percent cooler than full sun areas.
- Pay close attention to moisture in the soil to determine when to water. It also pays to do your homework on the water needs of the plants that you have selected for your yard.

- Mulch to retain moisture in the soil and prevent water-robbing weeds. Avoid using rocks around your plants since the heat they radiate will increase evaporation.
- See our Web site for a list of shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennial flowers to use in your yard: www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

May Volunteer of the Month

Boone County Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel



BCMRTA members get together for a group photo to recognize their efforts in the City's Cleanup Columbia event.

The Boone County Unit of the Missouri Retired Teachers Association (BCMRTA) and Public School Personnel, organized in 1973, has more than 260 members. Many of them who are retired Columbia and Boone County school teachers volunteer for a variety of Columbia programs.

BCMRTA members have volunteered for nine years at the City of Columbia's Cleanup Columbia event. They pick up litter around several area elementary schools each year. In addition to volunteering with Cleanup Columbia, they volunteer for the Central Missouri Food Bank monthly, local hospitals, the American Red Cross, the Boone County Historical Society, Show-Me Games, Senior Games and the Special Olympics.

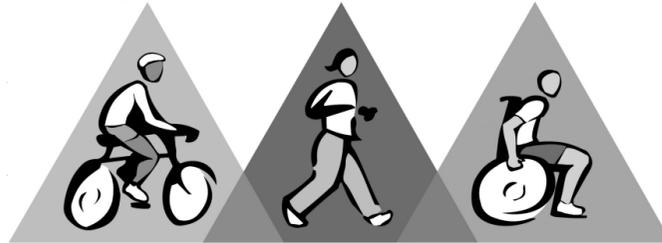
"Teachers and other school personnel are can-do people," says Joyce Hulett, longtime BCMRTA member. "When they see a need, they step up to fill it. Our members are community-minded and want to see Columbia continue to be a great place to live."

The City of Columbia expresses its gratitude to the BCMRTA volunteers; we appreciate their efforts in our community.

For more information on how to volunteer with the City of Columbia, visit the Office of Volunteer Services Web site at www.GoColumbiaMO.com or call 874-7499.



Bike, Walk & Wheel Week



6th Annual Mayor's Challenge Columbia, MO • May 12-19, 2007

Mark your calendars for May 12-19! The 6th Annual Mayor's Challenge: Bike, Walk, Wheel Week is an opportunity to build physical activity into daily routines and to identify safety issues that need to be addressed to make Columbia a more walkable, bikeable, wheelchair-friendly city.

- Events for the week include:
- Friday, May 11—Bike/Car Celebrity Challenge—The Alpine Shop—11 a.m.
 - Saturday, May 12— Kickoff Celebration and Group Trail Ride & Walk on the Wild Side—Flat Branch Park—1:30 p.m.
 - Sunday, May 13 – Cycle-Recycle—Columbia/Boone County Health Department—1 p.m.
 - Monday, May 14 – Skate Party—Empire Roller Rink—6:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday, May 15 – Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health Spring Health and Fitness Expo—Activity & Recreation Center—5:30 p.m.
 - Wednesday, May 16 – Keeping Kids Safe on Columbia Streets —Daniel Boone Regional Library—6:30 p.m.
 - Thursday, May 17 – PedNet's Scavenger Hunt—Grill One 5—5:30 p.m.
 - Friday, May 18 – Breakfast Station Day throughout Columbia—7 a.m.
 - Saturday, May 19 – Final Rally—Stephens Lake Shelter—2 p.m.

Check PedNet's Web site at www.pednet.org for more information regarding all programs. Please plan to support this event, and bike, walk or wheel yourself to your destinations throughout the week of May 12-19.

Outdoor Cinema Series is Back!

Columbia Parks and Recreation has planned another series of movies for residents to enjoy on the big screen outdoors! The Outdoor Cinema Series is fun for all ages. Most movies are shown at Flat Branch Park, with the exception of the August movie, which will be shown at Stephens Lake Park.

The movies resemble a drive-in without cars, yet offer better sound, soft grass, a beautiful venue, and the gorgeous stars above. Pre-show entertainment will vary with each movie. The fee is \$3 per person; children 6 & under are free.

Here is the summer line-up:

Friday, May 4, 8:30 p.m.- Happy Feet (PG).

Thursday, June 7, 8:45 p.m. (after Twilight Festival)—American Graffiti (PG). Pre-show entertainment features Twilight Car Night with the Mid Missouri Corvette Club and music by The Bubbas from 6-8 p.m.

Friday, July 6, 9 p.m.- Charlotte's Web (G).

Friday, Aug 3, 8:30 p.m.- Casablanca (PG). Take the Broadway entrance into Stephens Lake Park.

Grab a blanket or low lawn chair and head out for an unforgettable evening of cinema this summer! The cinema series is sponsored by Flat Branch Pub & Brewing and U.S. Cellular, and presented by Columbia Parks and Recreation, Columbia Daily Tribune, the Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Ragtag Cinema.

The Power of Trees



Save 30 percent on cooling costs.

Qualifying electric customers: Get a FREE a free six to ten foot shade tree when you sign up for the Tree Power program. There is a limit of one free tree per electric meter.

Sign up on our city's Web site or call 874-7325.

Let's Get Moving!

Get involved with Parks and Recreation's new programs. Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound is a fun and effective way to interact with shelter dogs. Register for new BIKE ON! Bike education classes such as Confident City Cycling for Beginners, Commuting, Bike On Kids I and II, which are cosponsored by the PedNet Project. Join us for National Trails Day events or, if you're ready to dance the night away, don't miss the new Summer Mix 'n Mingles! Call 874-7460 for more information about these events.

- Walk a Hound, Lose a Pound: Saturdays, 9 a.m.- noon
Location: Central Missouri Humane Society, 616 Big Bear Blvd.
Starting Times: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. and/or 11 a.m. (choose one hour slot or all three)
Fee: \$10 per session (regardless of how many slots per day you choose).
Session 1: April 21- May 12
Session 2: May 19-June 9
Session 3: June 16- July 7
Session 4: July 14- August 4
- Summer Mix n Mingle: Friday, June 1 and August 17, 8-11 p.m., Riechmann Indoor Pavilion at Stephens Lake Park, \$5
- National Trails Day 5K Walk/Run and 10K Bike, and Trailside Nature Expo: Saturday June 2. 9 a.m. start for bikes, 9:30 a.m. start for walk run at Stadium entrance of MKT Trail. Trailside Expo at Forum Nature Area from 9 a.m. to noon.

Youth Recreation Scholarships

Columbia Parks and Recreation offers youth financial assistance scholarships for Columbia residents through the Youth Enrichment Services (YES) program. The program is open to those between 3 and 17 who meet the income/household criteria established by the USDA's free and reduced lunch program.

Financial assistance is available for 50 percent or 75 percent depending on the household. Scholarships can be used for recreational classes and programs, outdoor pool passes and ARC memberships.

For more information, call 874-7460. Application forms can be obtained at www.GoColumbiaMo.com then typing in GoYes at the GoWord prompt.

Community Line

By dialing the City of Columbia's Community Line at 874-7650 (TTY 874-7697), message 176, you can learn about City employment opportunities.

Columbia Parks & Recreation CALENDAR

Register online! www.GoColumbiaMo.com
(GoWord: GoRecreationRegistration)
Call 874-7460 for more information.

May

- 1 Paquin Art Show, Paquin Tower, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Free
- 4 Outdoor Cinema at Flat Branch Park, Happy Feet, 8:30 p.m., \$3 per person, 6 and under are free!
- 5 Hershey Track and Field, Hickman High School Track, 9 a.m., Free, Pre-register
- 11 Whiff and Giggle Golf, L.A. Nickell, 5 p.m. shotgun start
- 12 MLB Pitch, Hit and Run, Oakland Park Ballfield, 10 a.m., Free, pre-register
- 12-19 Mayor's Challenge: Bike, Walk and Wheel Week
- 18 OAK/50+ May Day Dance, Parkade Center (east side), 601 Bus Loop 70W, 7-10 p.m., \$3
- 19 Kids Bicycle Safety Challenge, State Farm (4700 S. Providence), 10 a.m.-noon, Free
- 19-20 Three-person golf scramble, L.A. Nickell and Lake of the Woods
- 26 Opening day for Oakland Family Aquatic Center