

CITY SOURCE

www.GoColumbiaMo.com

vol. 16 • No. 4 • March 2012



Your source for City news and information



Cleanup Columbia will be April 14

The 16th annual Cleanup Columbia, a citywide trash pickup event, will be held Saturday, April 14. During Cleanup Columbia, volunteers work throughout the city picking up litter along city streets, in parks, on trails and in streams.

The City of Columbia will provide bags and gloves, have filled bags picked up and will also assist you in finding a cleanup location.

To register for Cleanup Columbia, visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call the City of Columbia Volunteer Programs at 874-7499.



Cleanup Columbia is a wonderful activity for volunteers of all ages, as well as groups of all sizes!



Household Hazardous Waste Facility opens in April

The City's Household Hazardous Waste Facility opens for the season April 7 to collect oil, paint, cleaning products, antifreeze and other unwanted chemicals. This facility is for residential use only; commercial waste cannot be accepted. Located at 1313 Lakeview, the facility is open the first and third Saturdays, April through November, 8 a.m. to noon. Remember that hazardous waste products cannot be picked up curbside; and **never** put them in storm drains.

Earth Hour

Join your fellow Columbians in turning off lights and non-essential electricity in homes and buildings from 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31, as part of Earth Hour — a symbolic “wave of darkness” encircling the globe. During Earth Hour 2011, Water & Light estimated Columbia reduced its electric load by 2.5 megawatts — the equivalent of 98 homes going without electricity for a day.

Mayor McDavid has signed a proclamation endorsing Columbia's support of Earth Hour and encourages all Columbians to turn off artificial lighting during that period, reducing the need for electric power generation and its associated greenhouse gas emissions.

To kickoff Earth Hour 2012, please come to City Hall on Thursday, March 22, at noon. The mayor's proclamation will be read by Councilperson Barbara Hoppe. This will be followed by announcements of planned Earth Hour events that your family can participate in — including free documentary showings around town and a quick tour of the green features in City Hall's LEED Gold building.

For more information on Earth Hour, Earth Hour events and reducing your energy consumption, visit the City of Columbia's website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com and search “Earth Hour.”

Renewable energy is the focus of Columbia conference

The seventh annual Advancing Renewables in the Midwest conference is being held at the University of Missouri on March 26. The event is a way for attendees to learn about the development of renewable energy and the potential of energy efficiency in our area. The keynote speaker of the event is Mark Jacobson, from Stanford University, who will speak about the economics of sustainability.

Other discussions will include large-scale solar installations in Missouri, growing jobs through energy efficiency and bio-based electric production. The conference is hosted by Columbia Water & Light, the University of Missouri Atmospheric Sciences Department and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. For more information about the conference, visit AdvancingRenewables.org.

Columbia ahead of renewable energy goals

Columbia has a renewable energy standard that requires increasing amounts of renewable energy. The ordinance states that by 2013 Columbia Water & Light must supply 5 percent of the electric supply with renewable resources. Columbia will continue to surpass the mandate and had 5.4 percent of the portfolio coming from wind, landfill gas, waste wood and solar. The requirement increases gradually to 15 percent in 2023.

The cost of the renewable energy mandated in the ordinance must not increase electric rates more than 3 percent higher than the electric rates that would be attributable to the cost of electricity generated from 100 percent non-renewable sources. For 2011, the additional cost of renewable energy was \$710,541.57 and the limit was \$3,274,668. The extra money spent on renewable energy was 21.7 percent of what was allowed according to the ordinance so the cost impact on the electric supply was minimal.

In February, the draft of the 2012 Renewable Energy Report was made publicly available on the city's website. It will be reviewed by City boards and commissions, then sent to the City Council for approval.

Community Development Permit Center

The entire Community Development Department is now located in the Daniel Boone Building side of City Hall. The service center, located on the 3rd floor, is a one-stop shop for a variety of inquiries and applications. The service center will provide citizens a common location for rental licenses, code enforcement inquiries, building and site development, zoning and subdivisions. The department thanks you for your patience and understanding during the transition and looks forward to meeting your future needs.

Office of Neighborhood Services offers programs for neighborhoods

The Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS), part of the City's Department of Community Development, has several programs available to neighborhoods, including:

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP PROGRAM —

ONS will cover the costs of placing a dumpster for a neighborhood's use during a community cleanup event.

NEIGHBORHOOD MINI GRANT PROGRAM —

Awards of up to \$250 are available to neighborhood associations on an annual basis to be used for various projects and activities.

TOOL LIBRARY — Gardening tools such as rakes, shovels, etc. can be checked out for neighborhood projects.

BOOK LIBRARY — Several books on neighborhood best practices, organizing, etc. are available.

For more information on these and other ONS programs and services, contact Bill Cantin at 874-7248 or bpccantin@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 6 AT NOON:

- Airport Advisory Board
- Board of Adjustment
- Downtown Columbia Leadership Council
- Planning and Zoning Commission

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 4 AT NOON:

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

Applications and current vacancies for City boards and commissions are available online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

Parks and Recreation plans Easter events



FLASHLIGHT EASTER EGG HUNT: Kids are invited to bring flashlights and baskets to this fourth annual event. It will be held April 5 at the Riechmann Pavilion, Stephens Lake Park. Price is \$7 per child; pre-registration is required. Hunts will be organized by age: 7:30 p.m. for ages 3-5; 7:45 p.m. for ages 6-7; and 8 p.m. for ages 8-10. Call 874-7460 to register or for more information.

EASTER “EGG”STRAVAGANZA: Bring your children (ages 12 and under) for a fun, candy-filled Easter egg hunt! Parks and Recreation is sponsoring this free event April 7 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. at Douglass Park. There will be three separate hunts designated by age. Kids will enjoy other activities such as coloring, face painting and several games. The hunt will begin at 12:45 p.m.

Tons of Trucks

Kids will see trucks of all types at Parks and Recreation’s annual Tons of Trucks event April 4 from 4-7 p.m. at Rainbow Softball Center, Cosmo Park. There is no admission charge; it is open to the public and is held rain or shine. For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.

Columbia to host Special Olympics Missouri Summer Games

Join us as thousands of Special Olympics Missouri athletes from across the state embark on the University of Missouri campus, Town & Country Lanes and Columbia College, May 29 through June 1. The state competition will include basketball, track, aquatics, powerlifting, volleyball and bowling. More than 1,500 volunteer jobs are available and **you** are needed to help make this event a fun, safe and memorable one.

Help make Columbia an outstanding experience for the 3,500 athletes and their families as they visit our city. Find out more and sign up to volunteer at www.somo.org/summergames. The City of Columbia is a sponsor of the 2012 Special Olympics Missouri Summer Games.

PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

APRIL

4	Tons of Trucks, Rainbow Softball Center at Cosmo Park, 4-7 p.m., free
5	Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt, Riechmann Pavilion, times vary by age, \$7, must pre-register
7	Egg Hunt EGGstravaganza, Douglass Park, 12-1:30 p.m., free
14	Kite Flying Day, Douglass Park Ballfield, 12-2 p.m., free
18	Family Fun Fest: Teen Fest, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., free
22	Earth Day, Peace Park, 12-7 p.m., free

Neighborhood Response Team—gearing up for more inspections

The Neighborhood Response Team (NRT) will begin assessments of residential properties in Columbia’s central city neighborhoods in April. Only those violations that can be seen from the public right-of-way will be noted, such as peeling paint, broken windows, trash in the yard, etc.

Properties with significant violations will be asked by the City’s Office of Neighborhood Services to be brought into compliance or face possible prosecution. The City of Columbia has several assistance programs available for lower-income homeowners to bring their properties into compliance. For more information, contact Bill Cantin with the Office of Neighborhood Services, 874-7248 or bpcantin@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Renters: We need your feedback!

The City of Columbia is working with a group of students from the University of Missouri Truman School of Public Affairs on the issue of energy efficiency in rental housing. Part of this project is a survey of those who rent their homes. Throughout March, renters can complete a survey found online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Volunteer of the Month



Muslim Student Union
(MSU)
at Rock Bridge High
School

Finding a volunteer opportunity on your own can be intimidating. Thankfully, volunteering for the City of Columbia shouldn't be. There are many opportunities for groups and organizations. March Volunteers of the Month, the Muslim Student Union (MSU) at Rock Bridge High School, found an opportunity to make a difference by getting all members involved.

Members of the MSU dedicate their time to Columbia, taking advantage of several volunteer opportunities. Mike Heimos, Public Works Environmental Services and Stormwater Management Division, identified the MSU members as outstanding volunteers who really made a difference with their service.

"The Muslim Student Union sets a great example for citizens, other students in particular, for doing good works in the community. They make a visible impact with their work removing trash from area streams, and their additional service helps citizens in need," Heimos said.

Adam Mefrakis, president of the MSU, said volunteering has a positive impact on their members as well, "This was a great learning experience that we would like to repeat in other parts of Columbia and Boone County. We learned a lot, we got wet, cleaned and most of all had fun at the same time."

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com

~ Written by volunteer Brittany Perrin

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Columbia/Boone County's Public Safety Joint Communications (PSJC) will recognize the outstanding service of its emergency telecommunicators April 8-14 during the annual observance of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Emergency telecommunicators are the first voice residents hear and their vital link to needed emergency services when they call 9-1-1 for assistance.

PSJC currently staffs 29 emergency telecommunicators and supervisors in the operations center, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 2011, the 9-1-1 operations center received nearly 74,000 emergency calls and handled nearly 325,000 total phone interactions. Joint Communications currently dispatches for 11 user agencies in Columbia and Boone County.

Residents are reminded to use 9-1-1 only in life-threatening situations. For non-emergencies, call 442-6131.



The Plan for How We Live & Grow

Columbia Imagined Phase 3 "What Are We Concerned About?" findings are available on the website at www.ColumbiaImagined.com.

Columbia Imagined Phase 4 "Where Are We Heading?" kicks off April 4, City Hall Conference Room 1A/B at 6 p.m. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Get ready for summer with Tree Power

Trees planted in the right place on your property can reduce your cooling costs up to 30 percent in the summer. That's why Columbia Water & Light is offering a free tree to electric customers.

Sign up and a representative will come to your house to show you the best place for your shade tree. You will then receive a coupon for a free tree.

SIGN UP ON THE WEB!

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com

874-7325

Limit one tree per
electric meter.



Web Did you Know?

Need to know if you're in Animal Control's Urban Service Area? Check out the map at <http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Maps/GISApps/acresp.html>.

CITY SOURCE is published by the City of Columbia as a public service to the residents of Columbia, Missouri.

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MAYOR
Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	Fred Schmidt
<i>Second Ward</i>	Jason Thornhill
<i>Third Ward</i>	Gary Kespohl
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	Daryl Dudley
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	Helen Anthony
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	Barbara Hoppe
<i>City Manager</i>	Mike Matthes



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