

CITYSOURCE

Your source for city news and information

A Healthy Dose of the Arts...

Artist Hugh Merrill of Kansas City was recently selected by the city's Standing Committee on Public Art and Commission on Cultural Affairs to create site-specific public art for the new City-County Health Department. The project will be the fifth undertaken in four years as part of the Percent for Art Program, an effort to include public art in city buildings. Merrill plans to take a community-oriented and collaborative approach and will work with the project architect to be sure that his art is integrated into the overall project. A grant from the Missouri Arts Council's Arts Education Program will pair Merrill with area students and groups in early spring as he gets to know Columbia and begins his design process. For more information about the Health Department art project or Percent for Art, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA), 874-6386, (TTY 874-7488), or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com (OCA's page).

Work completed on Third Avenue

Street construction has been completed on Third Avenue, a public improvement project made possible in large part by Community Development Block Grant funds. Specific items include widening the roadway, placing and improving sidewalks on both sides of the street, and storm water and other utility improvements. Work on Fourth Avenue was completed a little over a year ago, and a significant improvement project for North Sixth Street is planned in the coming year.

For more information on the City of Columbia's Community Development Block Grant program, please contact Tom Lata, Community Development Coordinator, at 874-7239.

City Debuts New Web Site Design

The City of Columbia unveiled its new web site design in November, which features a fresh, contemporary look with upgraded navigation and search technology to enhance the experiences of visitors to the site.

The Council appointed Internet Citizens Advisory Group and a staff committee both recommended a new design that would incorporate a modern look, user friendly navigation and consistent look. The site was designed by Beyond Horizons, Olathe, KS. Work on the new design started in April.

Some new features include:

- All-new, fresh, contemporary look
- Dynamic navigation menu
- Improved search function
- Directory of interactive and printable forms
- "What's Happening in Columbia" section
- Information & printable forms for building permits
- Answers to Frequently asked questions
- City staff and Council contact information
- Information for new and potential residents
- Improved directory of resources for businesses
- . . . And much, much more

The City encourages residents and other visitors to check out its web site. It's just a click away at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Snow shoveling assistance

The Boone County Council on Aging is coordinating this year's snow-shoveling campaign for senior citizens. Call 443-1111 to sign up. Priority is given to low-income seniors age 55 and older who do not have financial resources to pay for snow removal and who do not have family or friends to assist.



On Time Payments with Online Services

Do you use an online bill paying service? To avoid your City of Columbia utility bill payment being late, check with your online service to see the number of days it takes to process a payment.

Sometimes, weekends, holidays or third party businesses can delay payments several days. Your bill is not considered paid until the money is transferred to your city account.

The City of Columbia offers an automatic bill payment service. The money is directly transferred from your bank account approximately 20 days after you receive your monthly statement. To sign up for this service, call the Utility Customer Service office at 874-7380 or e-mail them at UCS@GoColumbiaMo.com

Artists' Registry

Individuals, groups and organizations working in dance, literary arts, music, theater and visual art are eligible for the city's online Artists' Registry. Check it out at www.OCAregistry.com, or on the city's web site www.GoColumbiaMo.com (Office of Cultural Affairs page). If you, your group or organization want to be included, call, 874-6386, (TTY 874-7488), or e-mail from the site.

Top 5 Reasons to Quit Smoking!

It's hard not to get the urge to make a New Year's resolution at this time of the year. There is that sense of renewal, and the awareness that you ate your own weight in food during the holidays. We all know that last year's resolutions didn't make it past January 10, but this year is going to be different, right? Below you will find the top five reasons to quit smoking, and hopefully this year your resolution will stick.

- You'll stop putting more than 400 dangerous, potentially cancer-causing chemicals into your body including carbon monoxide (found in car exhaust), nicotine (a highly addictive drug) and butane (found in lighter fluid).
- If you have children, you'll notice them coughing less, having fewer respiratory infections and better control of asthma symptoms.
- You'll notice fewer dental problems, especially gum disease. Your breath will smell better and your smile will be brighter.
- You'll save approximately \$1,460 per year if you smoke one pack per day—enough for a great vacation, a down payment for a car, over 200 visits to the movie theater or anything else you could use extra money for.
- You'll decrease your risk of heart and lung diseases. If you have any of these diseases, you will notice a reduction in your symptoms, and your quality of life will improve.

For these and many other reasons, now is the best time to become smoke-free! For more information on smoking cessation go to the National Cancer institute's website at http://cis.nci.nih.gov/fact/8_13.htm . For local resources call the Columbia/Boone County Health Department at 874-6345.

Council Action

The Council on Oct. 7:

- Renewed an agreement with the Central Missouri Humane Society for animal control services. Under terms of the agreement, the Humane Society provides office space, parking, day-time reception and dispatching, kennel facilities and veterinary service at a cost of \$75,565 per year.

The Council on Oct. 21:

- Accepted an \$82,473 grant awarded under the Office of Justice Programs for the purchase of law enforcement equipment for the Police Department. Through an agreement, \$25,000 of the grant money will be transferred to Boone County.
- Authorized an agreement with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for immunization services. This contract pays agencies for each child served by providers in the county who receive full immunization status before age 2. This contract will not exceed \$36,250. The program goal is to increase the percentage of children in the age group who have received an appropriate fourth diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis immunization.

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 Internet at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page.

Holiday Schedule

City offices will be closed on the following holidays:

- Jan. 1 for New Year's Day
 - Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be collected on these holidays and will be delayed one day for the remainder of each 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.

It's Time for Water and Light Calendars

Each year, Columbia's junior high art departments work with Columbia Water and Light to produce a conservation calendar. It provides an opportunity to encourage saving our resources and electrical safety. It is also a great platform to display the talented artwork of Columbia's fine young artists.

As your locally owned utility, Columbia Water and Light enjoys being involved in the community and appreciates its partnership with our participating schools: Jefferson, Oakland, West Junior High school and Christian Chapel Academy. Thanks to all the students and teachers that helped us create a colorful calendar that brings important messages to the community.

If you do not receive a Water and Light calendar before January 1, please call 874-7325 to have one mailed to you.



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MayorDarwin Hindman

City Council Members

First WardAlmeta Crayton

Second WardChris Janku

Third WardBob Hutton

Fourth WardJim Loveless

Fifth WardJohn John

Sixth Ward.....John Coffman

City ManagerRaymond A. Beck

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Meter Reader to the Rescue

It was a lovely November day when something scary happened...a 10-year-old girl with special needs wandered off from Blue Ridge Elementary School and could not be found. Luckily, this frightening situation was turned around within a few hours thanks to the Operation Lookout program and Columbia Water and Light meter reader Chad Shettlesworth.

When the young girl was reported missing, the Columbia Police Department and Joint Communications released details about the girl to the media and local government employees who were working in the community. The idea behind the Operation Lookout program is to get as many eyes as possible looking for the missing child so he or she is found quickly.

Columbia Water and Light employees heard about the missing girl and decided to put their knowledge of the area to good use and help look for the child. As Shettlesworth was driving by the school he thought of a patch of woods off Brown Station Road. "I know how kids are, they seem to be drawn to woods," said Shettlesworth. So he went to the area and spotted the girl who seemed to be trapped in a patch of cedar trees and thorn bushes. According to Shettlesworth, she was getting cold so he gave her his jacket and they went to a nearby church to use the phone. "I was excited to see that she was safe and that she could be with her family again."



Columbia Values Diversity Celebration

An Annual Celebration of the Life and Teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Register now for the 10th Annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration scheduled for January 16 from 7 - 8:45 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. The Celebration includes breakfast followed by a special program honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the presentation of the annual "Columbia Values Diversity Awards."

This year's celebration will be especially memorable as we will be honored with the words and inspiration of Rev. Bernice A. King, daughter of the late Dr. King, whose life and teachings we commemorate with the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration.

Early pre-registration is required and strongly encouraged. The cost is \$15/adult, \$12/child. A limited number of scholarships are available upon request.

Registration forms are available by calling 874-7488 (v/tty) or on the web at: www.GoColumbiaMo.com. Call 874-7488 (v/tty) for more information or accommodations related to disability.

Reserve Police Officers Honored

In September, Reserve Columbia Police Officers Rick Horrell and Geoffrey Preckshot were on routine patrol in Cosmo Park when they encountered a partially clothed woman who appeared to have been physically assaulted. While one officer stayed with the victim, the other began looking for the suspect who was stopped and arrested a short while later only a few miles away.

Because of the volunteer efforts of Reserve Officers Horrell and Preckshot, the assault was ended and the victim escaped without serious injury. The suspect was arrested before committing other crimes.

Horrell and Preckshot were honored with a certificate of commendation and ribbon of meritorious service. This was the first time that reserve officers have received this recognition.

Since 2001, 18 Police Reserve Officers have volunteered over 2,600 hours. If you are interested in becoming a Reserve Officer, contact Captain Sam Hargadine at 874-7424.

Columbia Parks and Recreation
CALENDAR

Visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com and click on Parks and Recreation or call 874-7460.

JANUARY

Youth Baseball and Softball registration open until Feb 15 deadline

- 2 Private tournament reservation at either golf course begins
- 2 Douglass Gym open, Sun - Thurs, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., Sun, 1 - 5 p.m.
- 6-10 Winter Volleyball Advanced Registration for returning teams
- 13 Swim Lessons begin, Winter Session I (register by 1/9) Hickman
- 13-17 Winter Volleyball Open Registration begins
- 14 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, TBA, 7pm
- 17 Couples Game Night, 6-9:30 p.m., ARC, preregister
- 17 50 + Free Dance, 7 p.m., Parkade Center
- 17-18 Hunter Education Certification, 6-10 pm Friday and 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday
- 18 Swim Lessons begin, Winter Session I (register by 1/16) ARC
- 20 "Schools Out" Day Camp, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., ARC
- 31 50 + Free Dance, 7pm, Parkade Center



Airport receives award. Columbia Regional Airport Manager Bill Boston (left) accepts the Frank G. Brewer Award from Joe Casler, Commander, Missouri Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

Columbia Regional Airport
Positive things are happening!

- In October, City Council approved amending Ozark Management, Inc.'s (OMI) lease allowing them to operate as a fixed base operator. OMI joins Central Missouri Aviation, Inc., as two of more than a dozen airport-based businesses/agencies employing nearly 500 area residents at the airport.
- In November, the airport was honored by the Missouri Wing, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) with its Frank G. Brewer Award for Organizational Excellence. The award, presented to Airport Manager Bill Boston at the CAP's Awards Banquet, cited the airport for many years of support such as meeting facilities for the local unit since the Flood of 1993 forced their relocation from another airport. The award citation reads, in part: "Since 1986, the Airport has hosted several search and rescue (SAR) exercises and other training activities. As a community partner and supporter of aviation, the airport hosts the annual Salute to Veterans Airshow every year over the Memorial Day weekend. Advertised as the largest free airshow of its kind in the country, the airport opens its grounds to thousands each year to encourage aviation enthusiasts and create new aviation interest. Airport Manager William Boston and his staff have gone out of their way many times to assist Civil Air Patrol, the Missouri Pilots Association and other aviation oriented organizations." Boston noted that youth aviation programs are a community priority of the airport and its tenants. Central Missouri Aviation, Columbia Avionics, and the FAA Automated Flight Service Station actively support the CAP and are organizing an aviation Explorer Scouting post that will meet in airport facilities. Area residents interested in either youth program are encouraged to call airport administration at 442-9770.
- Also in November, the Transportation Security Administration assigned security screeners at passenger checkpoints. This follows completion of projects to modify the passenger and baggage processing facilities. Federal screeners take over functions previously performed by local airline employees, freeing up those employees to concentrate on passenger service. This milestone puts Columbia Regional ahead of Congressionally mandated deadlines to Federalize airline security processing by November 19 and to screen all passenger checked baggage by December 31.
- The airport and its contractors, Emery Sapp and Sons, Inc. (general contractor), and Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. (project engineers), received the "Excellence In Paving" award from the Missouri/Kansas Chapter of the American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) for the rehabilitation of the airport's main runway which was 90% Federally funded. The demolition and restoration of a large section of pavement began at 11 p.m. on a Friday night and was completed by 5 p.m. the next day. Full flight operations began on the following Monday morning. The project was selected by the ACPA as their National Finalist project of the year. This project was a key part of the City's pavement maintenance program which helps make Columbia Regional the finest commercial airport facility in central Missouri.



Come see what's happening for yourself, call your travel agent, or call Columbia Regional Airport.

New Activity & Recreation Center Open
December 15

The new Activity & Recreation Center (ARC), 1701 W. Ash, has been an eagerly anticipated project. The City and the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department invite you to stop by and take a look at this state-of-the-art facility.*

You will see the exciting aquatic area with a triple loop slide and water play structure for the kids, a beach-style entry, a lazy river with a current that is great for water walking, a vortex pool, 3 lap lanes, a class area and a hydro-therapy pool. Wet multi-purpose rooms will be used for birthday parties. The pool will be open special hours on days when school is out. Water fitness classes will be offered for all ages.

A group exercise room, cardio theater area, strength area and state-of-the-art track (6.4 laps per mile) are on the building's second level. On the main level is a gymnasium that hosts two full courts. Volleyball and other games will also be played in this space.

For youth, after-school programs will be offered at a special rate. A game room is open for use with no entry fee. Volunteers from the University YMCA will offer free tutoring for youth in grades 6 - 9 in the

technology center. A youth fitness room is available for specialized training ranging from the unfit to the fit youth. Dance classes, acting, Spanish, along with spring break and "schools out" programs will be offered.

Individuals with physical challenges can enter the pool via the beach-style entry, stairs with railings or a chair which lowers into the water. The hydro-therapy pool is also easily accessible. An elevator provides access to the second floor. Other features throughout the ARC, including strength/cardio equipment, provide access for everyone.

Admission fees can be paid daily or a 20-punch pass can be purchased. Annual memberships can be purchased and can be paid on an annual or monthly basis. Call 874-7460 or 874-7700, visit the ARC or go to www.GoColumbiaMo.com for more information.

**If you receive this newsletter before December 15th, please attend the Grand Opening on December 15th from 2 to 6 p.m. A dedication ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. with tours of the facility following the dedication.*



Taylor gives race directions to triathletes

January Volunteer of the Month
by volunteer Megan Clark

Through his work with the Parks & Recreation Department's Kid's Triathlon, Steve Taylor encourages children to be physically active. As race director, Taylor coordinates volunteer efforts, set up, course planning and event promotion.

"Steve sets a good example by being physically active himself and helping people set and obtain fitness goals," supervisor Dayton Grover said. "Since Steve has directed the last two Kids' Triathlon events, participation numbers have increased. He has a genuine interest in kids to be fit and physically active."

Taylor is a role model for participating children. He is the 2002 National Collegiate Ironman Triathlon Champion and qualified for the 2003 Hawaii Ironman Triathlon World Championship.

"I myself have gotten tremendous rewards and satisfaction from doing the triathlon," he said. "The biggest reward is just to share that with other people. Anything that makes people more fit and healthy benefits everyone."

For volunteer opportunities contact us at volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com or visit our web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Activity & Recreation Center Scholarships

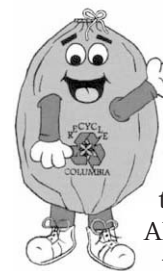


Columbia is abuzz with the opening of the Activity & Recreation Center or ARC. The City of Columbia wants to ensure that children from low income families will have access to this new facility.

Thanks to the generosity of Columbia utility customers through the Share the Light program, nearly \$3,000 has been raised for youth recreation scholarships. There will be a continued need for scholarships and your gift can help. To find out more about making a gift for this or other city programs, contact the Columbia Trust at 874-7504.

Audit Your Home for Savings

Interested in saving money? Who isn't? Especially when it comes to saving on your utility costs. That's why Columbia Water and Light, has many money-saving conservation programs. One of them is our free energy audit with the 'energy guy'. Maybe you've seen him on TV? He's the guy with lots of great do-it yourself tips on the Columbia Channel. So why not have him come and evaluate your home? It's free and in the future you will save money too! Call 874-7325 or sign up on the web at www.GoColumbiaMo.com(search for 'audit').

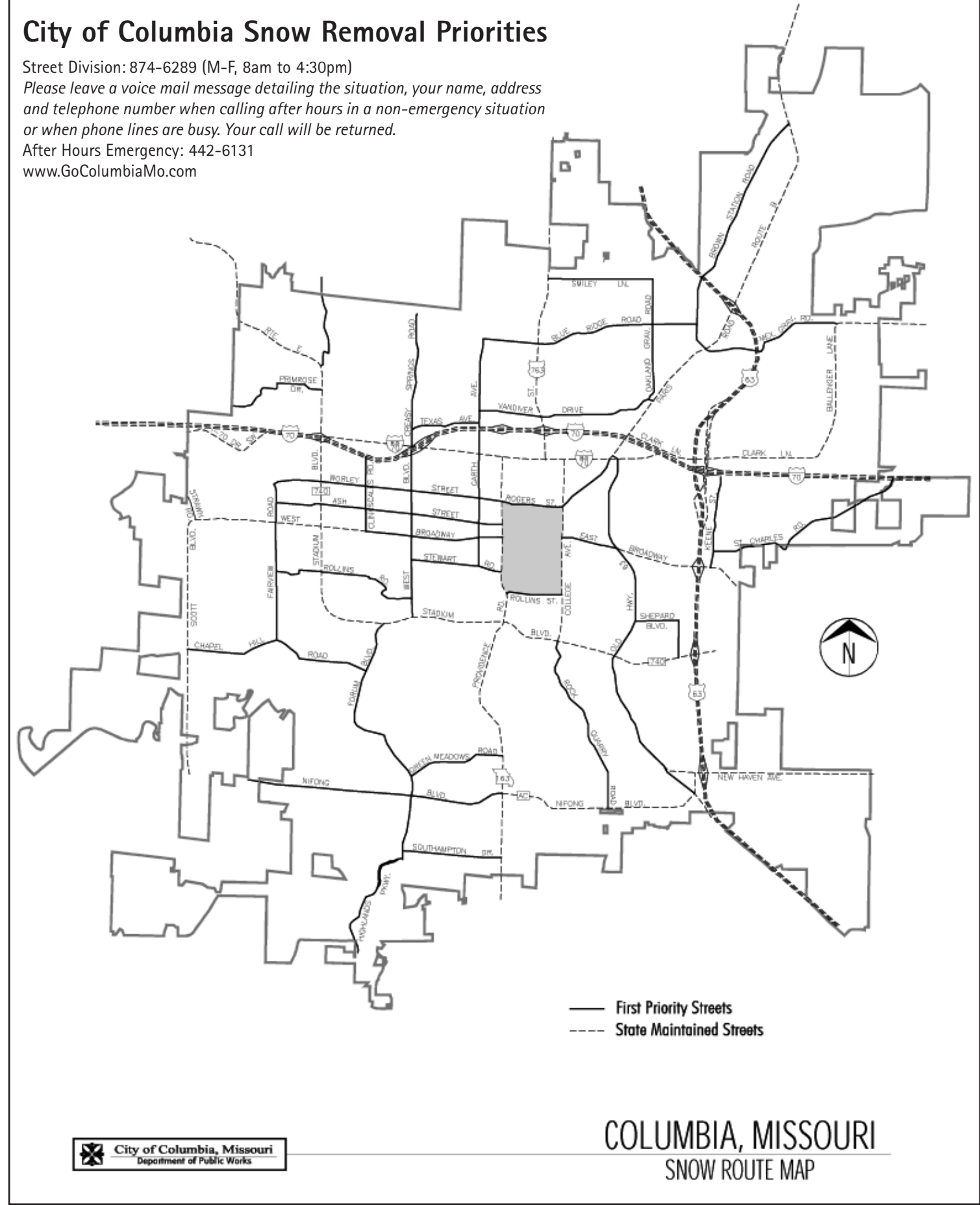


Message from Mr. Bag-It

Empty motor oil containers should be placed in the black trash bag, not the blue recycling bag. Although the motor oil containers may be marked #1 or #2 plastic, the oil in these containers leaves a residue and contaminates recyclable materials. Containers with used motor oil can be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility for disposal. Thank you for recycling!

City of Columbia Snow Removal Priorities

Street Division: 874-6289 (M-F, 8am to 4:30pm)
Please leave a voice mail message detailing the situation, your name, address and telephone number when calling after hours in a non-emergency situation or when phone lines are busy. Your call will be returned.
After Hours Emergency: 442-6131
www.GoColumbiaMo.com



COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
SNOW ROUTE MAP

