

It's spring lawn clean-up time!

Lawn care tips:

- Keep yard waste out of gutters and streets, to keep it from affecting the efficiency of the City's street sweepers.
- Grass clippings and yard waste are collected weekly when placed with your regular refuse pickup. Use the clear yard waste bags.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn. They distribute nutrients back to the soil, reducing the need for fertilizer.
- When blowing grass clippings off sidewalks and driveways, always blow them back into the yard, never into the street. Clippings may clog storm drains and affect water quality.

Need to soil test your lawn?

- Test your soil to determine lawn fertilizer needs.
- Know the square footage of your lawn and calculate the amount of fertilizer needed. Use only that amount.
- Keep fertilizer off paved surfaces. Rain can wash the fertilizer into our streams.
- Apply fertilizer when the soil is moist and then water lightly. This will help the fertilizer move into the root zone where it is available to the plants.
- Choose fertilizer with low phosphorus values since many Boone County soils are naturally high in phosphorus.
- Use the minimal amount of fertilizer necessary and apply it in small, frequent applications. An application of two pounds of fertilizer five times a year is better than five pounds of fertilizer twice a year.
- Calibrate your fertilizer spreader so you know exactly how much is being discharged.
- Visit <http://soilplantlab.missouri.edu/soil/> for more information on soil testing.
- Take soil test samples to the MU Extension Office, 1012 N. Route UU, or to Munford Hall on the MU campus. A soil test will help you understand what your plants and lawn require.

For more information, contact the City's Public Works Department at 874-7250.

National Volunteer Week is April 19-25

National Volunteer Week, held April 19-25, is a great time to recognize the contributions of the many volunteers who serve the City of Columbia. The City thanks these residents who shared their time to help with an event, make our community safer, pick up litter, beautify our city or plant a tree — making Columbia a better place to live!

The City has dozens of ways for you to volunteer. Volunteers often learn new skills, make new friends, connect to their community, have fun and experience a sense of fulfillment. To learn more, visit GoColumbiaMo.com.

“In the City's last fiscal year, more than 6,000 volunteers shared 43,323 hours of service valued at more than \$845,000! ”



PARKS & RECREATION
CALENDAR

- Register online!
www.GoColumbiaMo.com
- Call 874-7460 for more information.

May 2
MLB Pitch Hit and Run,
Albert-Oakland Park Ballfield,
9 a.m. warm-up, free

May 2-9
Mayor's Challenge: Bike,
Walk and Wheel Week

May 8
ARC open space, 8:45 p.m.,
\$1 per person, 12 and
under are free

May 15
OAK/50+ Monthly Dance,
Stephens Lake Activity Center,
7-10 p.m., \$3

May 16
Kids Bicycle Safety Challenge,
Shelter Insurance parking lot,
10 a.m.-noon, free

May 20
Family Fun Fest: Fitness is Fun,
Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., free

May 23
Albert-Oakland Family
Aquatic Center opens

May 29
Whiff and Giddle Couples Golf,
L.A. Nickell, 5 p.m. shotgun
start, \$40 per couple

May 29
OAK/50+ Fifth Friday Free
Dance, Stephens Lake Activity
Center, 7-10 p.m., free



April 2009 Volunteers of the Month



(L-r): Phoenix, Gabriella and Ambrosia McCord

grateful Columbia has such great volunteer services; it helps keep people connected and involved and aware of city happenings," she said.

Gabriella also volunteers with Trinity Lutheran Church and the Unity Center of Columbia, where she organizes various community drives. Her children donate time to KOPN radio.

To learn about City volunteer programs, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

~Article by volunteer Sarah Madden

Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness
and Health presents the 2009 Spring
Fitness Expo and Awards

The Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health's (MCPFH) Spring Fitness Expo and Awards will be held Tuesday, May 5, at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) from 5:30-8 p.m. The fitness expo is free for all and is part of Bike, Walk and Wheel Week activities. There will be free promotional items, information and services/screenings provided by more than 20 vendors with something on physical fitness and health for everyone. For more information, visit GoColumbiaMo.com and search gofitness, or contact Bryce Allen at Blatfc@mizzou.edu.

Why drive when it's so easy to fly?



Check out our Web site at
FlyMidMo.com

Cleanup Columbia, a city-wide trash pickup effort, is an event the McCord family looks forward to each spring. Gabriella McCord and her two children, Phoenix and Ambrosia, have volunteered the past five years.

Gabriella was motivated to participate because she wanted to help Columbia become a little cleaner, but also to expose her kids to "how people take care of each other and the environment." Phoenix, 12, and Ambrosia, 11, "are more excited each year, and have a better appreciation for the impact of what they're doing ... and it makes them more appreciative of what they have."

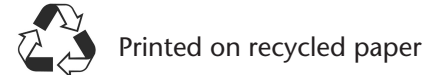
The event lasts only one day, but Gabriella says it has a lasting benefit, as Columbians' eyes are more opened to the garbage around them, they likewise become more sensitive to their environmental responsibilities. "I'm

City offices closed for Memorial Day
City offices will be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be collected this day and will be delayed one day the remainder of 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 on these holidays.

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Third Ward Karl Skala
Fourth Ward Jerry Wade
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Sixth Ward Barbara Hoppe
City Manager Bill Watkins



www.GoColumbiaMo.com

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CITYSOURCE

Your source for City news and information

BIKE, WALK, WHEEL WEEK!
The eighth annual Bike, Walk, Wheel Week is scheduled for May 2-9

This is your opportunity to leave the car at home and bike, walk or wheel yourself to work, school or to run an errand. You don't need to abandon your automobile completely, just leave it at home on occasion.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Kickoff Celebration at Flat Branch Park, 1-4 p.m.
Activities include Commuting Bicycle Expo; bicycle tire and tube recycling; bike polo exhibition game and a variety of kids' activities.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Cycle-Recycle at 101 N. 7th St. (new location), 1-3 p.m.
Free refurbished bike giveaway — first come, first served

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health Spring Fitness Expo & Awards — Activity & Recreation Center, Expo 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Awards 7:30-8 p.m. Join a variety of health-related organizations and businesses as they share information and activities.

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Breakfast Station Day throughout Columbia, 7-9 a.m.
Everyone who participates will receive a free T-shirt, while supplies last. For more information, call 442-7189, ext. 29, or check out getaboutcolumbia.com. Please plan to support this event and bike, walk or wheel — see how good it makes you feel!



Young cyclists proudly show off their free T-shirts



The Kickoff Celebration at Flat Branch Park

DID YOU KNOW?



You can access information regarding disaster planning, natural disasters, Homeland Security bulletins and the local emergency operations plan from www.GoColumbiaMo.com/EM, provided by the Columbia/Boone County Office of Emergency Management. (Tenemos información en español.)



Passengers get to their destination for less

Thurs., May 7
Try Transit Thurs.!

Haven't tried Columbia Transit before? Here's your opportunity to try it for FREE. On Thursday, May 7, Columbia Transit will offer free transportation to everyone... anywhere Columbia Transit goes. It's a great opportunity for a field trip! It's one day only, so don't miss it!

Youth baseball fields coming soon at Atkins Park!

Columbia Parks and Recreation is nearing completion of two baseball fields at Thomas E. "Country" Atkins Jr. Memorial Park. These fields are the first phase of a five-field complex on the south side of the 80-acre property adjacent to the Boone County Fairgrounds. The baseball field complex is designed to be a tournament quality facility, with lighted ball fields, scoreboards, warning tracks, covered dugouts and warm up areas. It will be utilized for both recreational league play as well as tournament play.



The park is co-owned by the City of Columbia and Boone County, with a cooperative agreement in place designating the City's Parks and Recreation Department to be responsible for the operation and management of the park.

In November 2005, voters approved the extension of the 1/8-cent park sales tax, which included funding to build youth athletic fields. The cost of the project was \$1.4 million, and included funding from the park sales tax, a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, Boone County and Recreation Services user fees.

Phase II of the project, which is unfunded at this time, would add three fields to complete the complex and the supporting amenities, such as the concessions, restrooms and increased parking. When completed, the facility will be able to attract and host events such as the Show Me State Games, as well as regional, state and national tournaments.

The two new ball fields are scheduled to be opened for play for the 2009 baseball season. The Parks and Recreation Department will announce a dedication ceremony for the opening event held at the new ball fields.

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 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.

Boards and Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following boards and commissions:

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

Application deadline is noon, May 8. Applications and current vacancies are available online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information and requirements.

Summer Youth Volunteering

Looking for a way to solve summer boredom for teens? Volunteering provides a perfect opportunity to make good use of time, have fun and make a difference for Columbia.

Columbia youth 12-15 years old can put their extra time to good use this summer by participating in Youth In Action. Sponsored by the City's Office of Volunteer Services, Youth In Action allows kids to participate in a wide variety of supervised, structured projects at events and with agencies throughout the community. Youth In Action projects begin when school is out.

Another resource is the Directory of Summer Youth Opportunities, a listing of opportunities with City departments and community agencies for young people.

To apply for Youth In Action or access the directory, call 874-7499 or visit the Office of Volunteer Services' page on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.



Saturday Science

Saturday Science was started by the Columbia Public Schools and the University of Missouri along with local businesses to encourage students' interest in science. Columbia junior high students spend Saturday mornings learning the science behind renewable energy projects with Columbia Water & Light staff.

Demonstrations on how wind, solar and biogas energy is created help students apply science principles to topics they hear about in daily life.

(At right): Students from Oakland Junior High School participate in a variety of science demonstrations.



Police volunteers learn about their new assignment

Columbia Police Volunteers

The Columbia Police Department would like to thank its volunteers for their service to the community. Last year, volunteers donated hundreds of hours to the Columbia Police Department and our city. The Columbia Police volunteers, reserve officers, Neighborhood Watch and cadets are to be commended for their hard work. Volunteers help make Columbia a safer place to live.

Cut cooling bills by 5 percent

Signing up for Load Management is the simple way to save money this summer. When you sign up, a radio-controlled switch is put on your outside air-conditioning unit.

The switch allows Columbia Water & Light to control the amount of electricity demanded during hot afternoons by rotating the number of air conditioners running at one time.

This helps the utility control peak electric costs so the savings is passed along to you. As a customer, you shouldn't notice any difference in how cool your house is, just a 5 percent savings on your summer bill.

Sign up today!

• 874-7325

• GoColumbiaMo.com

• Save energy, save money and save the environment!

Parks and Recreation Summer Registration

The summer Leisure Times activity guide will be available Wednesday, April 1, in the Columbia Daily Tribune; at the Parks and Recreation office, at the ARC, at Daniel Boone Regional Library and online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

The guide will feature pool information, special summer events, Camp Adventure information and much more!.

Online registration is available for Parks and Recreation life enrichment and fitness classes! Go to GoColumbiaMo.com, click on Parks and Recreation, then click on online registration.

Fire Station No. 7 holds grand opening



Over 400 citizens, neighbors and local officials attended the grand opening of Fire Station No. 7 Feb. 8 at Green Meadows and Green Meadows Way.

The original Fire Station No. 7 opened in 1983 on the outer road of South Providence just north of Nifong Boulevard. Over the years, the apparatus bay began to separate from the living quarters and engineers estimated it could cost as much as

\$500,000 to repair the station.

After careful review of the structural condition of the building, and the fact it was struggling to meet current needs, City officials asked voters to approve the relocation of Fire Station No. 7 to property located at 400 Green Meadows Way. Voters overwhelmingly approved the measure and today, a new modern, functional fire station is staffed and operational.

The building qualified for the Percent for Art program. A mid-Missouri artist was chosen for the project and an outdoor piece should be installed in late spring. The building is also qualified as a LEED project with numerous energy efficient amenities and storm water quality control measures.

'Keys to the City' set for May 6

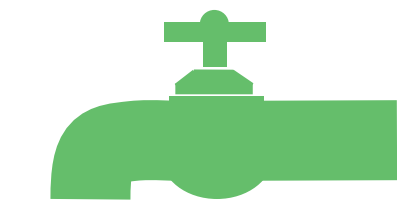
Featuring Neighborhood Congress and Budget Input to Council

You're invited to the spring edition of "Keys to the City," scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, at the ARC, 1701 West Ash. The purpose is to provide additional information about municipal government to Columbia citizens.

This "Keys to the City" event will have three components:

- An information fair including several City departments with a focus on issues addressing neighborhood concerns. The fair will be held from 5-7 p.m.
- Roundtable discussions with Council members, also from 5-7 p.m. This is an opportunity to share input and ask questions as the Council prepares the FY10 City budget.
- A Neighborhood Congress starting at 7 p.m. led by the Planning Department to discuss neighborhood participation in City planning.

To find out more about "Keys to the City" visit the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7504.



Coming soon...a water bond project near you

Columbia Water & Light has started water bond issue projects approved overwhelmingly by voters in November 2008. There are many water distribution projects on the list, and the first priority is to replace the water mains serving the older schools in Columbia.

This will increase the amount of water available for fire fighting purposes and help with reliability. Crews will dig up the right-of-way areas where the pipes are located to replace the water mains.

Columbia Water & Light will contact customers when construction work is planned near their property and will individually notify them of planned outages.

Thank you for your support and patience while these important upgrades to Columbia's water distribution system are being completed.

Weatherize now to keep cool this summer

Did you put off making your home more energy efficient over the winter? No problem. A nice spring day is a wonderful time to tackle some of these projects. Remember, energy efficiency is just as important in the summer as it is in the winter.

Caulk to stop leaks

around window and door frames in foundation cracks where siding meets the foundation, roof and chimney outside where wires or plumbing lines meet your structure

Weatherstrip

along the bottom of exterior doors or doors that lead to unheated areas on the inside of door jams

We offer free energy audits if you need some tips!

GoColumbiaMo.com

874-7325



USS Columbia and Columbia, Mo., celebrate 15th anniversary

Did you know that Columbia, Mo., has been a submarine's namesake city for 15 years? Since the USS Columbia's launch in September 1994, Columbia, Ill., Columbia, S.C., and Columbia, Mo., have shared the namesake honor.

Thanks to the support of local organizations and citizens on the Columbia Submarine Committee, our community sponsors one of the Navy's longest, continuously active namesake city programs. Three crew members will carry on the tradition by participating in this year's Memorial Day parade, wreath-laying ceremony and other activities.

Based at Pearl Harbor, USS Columbia crew members have participated in Memorial Day activities all but one year since 1994. A public reception is tentatively scheduled for May 22, 5 p.m. at Boone Tavern. The final date and time is dependent upon the crew's travel arrangements. Details will be announced on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7316.

Get ready for spring!

City of Columbia Solid Waste Division • 874-6291 • GoColumbiaMo.com

Household Hazardous Waste Facility is open!

A safe way to dispose of oil, paint, cleaning products, antifreeze and other unwanted chemicals

1313 Lakeview, open the first & third Saturdays April through November, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Compost for Sale

Every Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to noon, at the City compost facility, 5700 Peabody Road • 474-9145.

Learn to Make Your Own Compost

Free workshop on April 21 at 6:30 p.m. and May 23 at 10 a.m. at the compost demonstration site at Capen Park, off Rock Quarry Road • 874-6271.

Free Mulch Giveaway

April 25 and May 30 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., while supplies last, on-site loader provided, Capen Park mulch site only

Get involved with Neighborhood Watch

Spring is a good time to think about Neighborhood Watch. Whether starting a new group or reestablishing ties, get together and keep an eye on your neighborhood! Neighborhood Watch provides information and assistance which encourages neighborhood involvement with the goal of reducing crime.

Neighborhood Watch:

- is a local volunteer organization affiliated with the largest organized crime prevention project in the nation;
- involves citizens being trained to recognize and report suspicious activities in their neighborhoods;
- is here because there can't be a police officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime;
- is advised by, but is NOT financially supported by, the Columbia Police Department; and
- is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, supported by voluntary, tax-deductible contributions from private citizens and organizations.

If you would like more information about Neighborhood Watch, please visit the Police Department's page of the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. Contact Community Services Officer Mike Hays at 874-7658 to help form a Neighborhood Watch or get information on existing groups in your area.

