

Parks and Recreation presents
Family Fun Fests

Beginning in May, Columbia Parks and Recreation will offer a new family event at Flat Branch Park. Family Fun Fests will be held from 6-8 p.m. the third Wednesday each month through October.

The free Fun Fests will feature a new theme each month. Entertainment will include music, special performances, art activities, bounce-houses, hands-on activities, balloon-animals, face painting and guaranteed fun for all ages. Bike valet will be available courtesy of the PedNet Coalition. Concessions will be available.

The Family Fun Fests are sponsored by the Convention & Visitors Bureau, KPLA 101.5 Radio, KOMU 8 and Columbia Home & Lifestyle Magazine.

May 20: Fitness is Fun — Dancing, bicycling, martial arts and more fun ways to stay fit. Enjoy performances by the Academy of Fine Arts competitive baton twirling team, Flipz USA and CAT TaeKwan-Do. Join us for fun demonstrations and hands-on activities. Sponsored by the ARC.

June 17: Stream Extravaganza — An evening of fun, frogs, fishing poles, nature tattoos and learning for the whole family. Over 20 fun activities for all ages. Come see how this former EPA cleanup site was transformed to a beautiful park complete with a meandering stream. A collaboration with Columbia Public Works.

Don't Miss!
July 15: Around the World
August 19: It's a Circus!
September 16: Creative Kids
Oct. 21: Percussion Phun

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

- Library Board
- Railroad Advisory Board
- Water & Light Advisory Board
- Cultural Affairs Standing Committee

Application deadline is noon, June 5. 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.

Be a natural resource!
Save energy with Columbia Water & Light

The Super Saver Loan program is an easy way to finance larger energy efficiency projects.

- Upgrade to a more energy-efficient cooling and heating system.
- Replace a window air conditioner with a central unit.
- Install a heat pump.
- Add insulation.
- Install a solar water heater.

Water & Light offers fixed, low-interest rates with no prepayment penalties.

Save Energy • Save Money • Save the Environment
874-7325
GoColumbiaMo.com (search for "loans")

PARKS & RECREATION
CALENDAR

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

June 6-7
Art in the Park, Stephens Lake Park, free

June 6
National Trails Day celebration, 5K/10K at Stadium access of MKT, Nature Expo at Forum Nature Area, 9 a.m., free

June 6
"Reel" Time with Kids Fishing Clinic, Bass Pro Shop's Sportsman's Center, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free

June 6
Little Mates Cove at Pirates' Landing, Douglass Family Aquatic Center and Lake of the Woods Pool open

June 12
US Cellular Movies in the Park: Madagascar Escape 2 Africa, Flat Branch Park, 9 p.m., \$1 per person, 12 and under are free

June 13-14
Juneteenth Celebration, Douglass Park, 3-8 p.m., free

June 13-14
Francis Hagan Match Play Golf Championship, Lake of the Woods

June 17
Family Fun Fests: Stream Extravaganza, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., free

June 19
Whiff and Giggie Couples Golf, Lake of the Woods, 5 p.m. shotgun start, \$40 per couple

June 19
OAK/50+ Summer Dance, Stephens Lake Activity Center, 7-10 p.m., \$3

June 20
Go Skateboarding Day, Columbia Skate Park at Cosmo Park, 2-5 p.m., free

June 20
Father Daughter Dance, ARC, 6-8 p.m., \$15 per couple, \$3 addl. daughter

June 20-21
Francis Hagan Match Play Championship, Lake of the Woods Golf Course

cut along line

May 2009 Volunteers of the Month



Public Works volunteer Dalton Calcote, contributes his time to help make our world a better place

May volunteer of the month Dalton Calcote, now a high school junior, has spent the last three years helping Columbians learn how to properly dispose of hazardous waste materials with the Public Works Volunteer Program. Dalton volunteers with Household Hazardous Waste collection, which provides a place to recycle batteries, paint and other materials that is unsafe for landfills.

Andrea Shelton, Dalton's supervisor at Household Hazardous Waste, says that he has been very dedicated to the work schedule – rarely missing a day in his years of volunteering – and has become a mentor during that time.

"Dalton is very friendly, very outgoing and very helpful . . . he's taken ownership of his duties and has taken on a leadership role with the new volunteers," Shelton said. She added that Dalton spreads the word about the Household Hazardous Waste program.

Dalton says, "I volunteer because I know that every small contribution helps to make our world a better place."

In addition to working at Household Hazardous Waste, Dalton volunteers with the Central Missouri Humane Society and has a part-time job.

For more information about Household Hazardous Waste, contact 874-6291. To learn about City volunteer programs, contact the Office of Volunteer Services at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Moving? Don't forget to close your utility account!

Contact the Utility Customer Service office at least one day in advance of needing utilities transferred. For customers leaving the city, deposits will be applied to the final bill. Any amount left over will be sent to the customer.

Disconnect your electric, water, sewer and trash service
Utility Customer Service
www.GoColumbiaMo.com • 874-7380

Vacation Crime Prevention Tips

Many families vacation during the summer. Reduce the possibility that your house will be burglarized or vandalized while you are gone. A vacant house, or one that appears unoccupied, is an appealing target for burglars.

- Inform your neighbors when you leave and when you plan to return, so they can be on alert for suspicious persons. Leave a key with a trusted neighbor, so your house may be periodically inspected. Ask them to vary the position of your shades and blinds. If possible, arrange for a friend or relative to house-sit.
- Have a neighbor pick up your mail daily. Do not discontinue newspaper deliveries. Have a neighbor collect them, as well as any advertising circulars.
- Ask a neighbor to park in your driveway, occasionally place garbage in your garbage can and dispose of any debris that accumulates on your property. If possible, have a neighbor mow your lawn or shovel your sidewalk when needed.
- Set the bell on your telephone to low so that it can't be heard from the street. If you have call-forwarding, forward your phone to a residence of a friend or family member (with their permission, of course!).
- Use automatic timers to turn lights on at dusk and off at your bedtime. Vary the lights and have a radio or TV on a timer. NEVER leave lights or the radio on constantly. Tune your radio to a talk show so that human voices are heard.
- DON'T publicize your vacation plans.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked so no one can see if your car is gone.
- If you have a phone answering machine, do not leave specific information about your absence.

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(573) 874-7111 • www.GoColumbiaMo.com

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CITYSOURCE

Your source for City news and information

Summer Fun

Pools open for the summer

Don't miss the fun at Columbia's pools this summer! Douglass Family Aquatic Center will again feature a \$1 admission price for those patrons 2 and older. Other recreation swim prices at outdoor aquatic facilities are free for age 1 and under, \$2.25 for 2-15 year-olds, and \$3.50 for patrons 16 and older. Admission after 5 p.m. is \$1.75.

Coupon books for 20 visits are available for \$35 for children (2-15) and \$54 for those 16 and older. Season passes are available for \$220 for a family of up to 5, \$115 for an adult and \$70 for a youth.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.

Douglass Family Aquatic Center May — Closed	Lake of the Woods Pool May — Closed
June/July — Opening Day: June 6 Open: Mon-Sat 1-7 pm • Open: Sun 1-6 pm	June/July — Opening Day: June 6 Open daily: 12-5:30 pm
August — Open: Mon-Sat 1-7 pm Open: Sun 1-6 pm • Last Day — August 16	August — Open daily: 12-5:30 pm Last Day: August 9
September — Closed for the Season	September — Closed for the Season

Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center May — Opening Day: May 23 12-6 pm May 24 & 25 12-6 pm • Closed: May 26-29 Open: May 30-31, 12-6pm	Little Mates Cove at Pirates' Landing May — Closed
June/July — Closed: June 1-4 Open for Season June 5 M-F, 12-7 pm Sat-Sun, 12-6 pm	June/July — Opening Day: June 6 M, W, F 10 am-7 pm • T, Th 10 am-6 pm • Sat 10 am-6 pm Sun 12-6 pm
August — Hours through Aug 23: M-F, 12-7 pm • Sat-Sun, 12-6 pm Open: Aug 29-30 12 - 6 pm	August — Hours through Aug 9 M, W, F 10 am-7 pm • T, Th 10 am-6 pm • Sat 10 am-6 pm • Sun 12-6 pm • Last Day: Aug 16
September — Open: Sept 5-7 12-6 pm Closed for season: Sept 8	September — Closed for the Season

Did You Know?

Stay updated on events and activities offered by Parks and Recreation by subscribing to the department's new electronic newsletter! Log onto www.GoColumbiaMo.com/ParksandRec and type your e-mail in the brown box on the right. You'll receive a monthly newsletter full of information to plan your family's fun this summer!

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.



Shopping locally - spend time outdoors and in town

Spending locally is a great way to both positively impact the community and brighten your spring and summer. When you spend money in Columbia, more of it stays in Columbia to help local businesses grow. It's a great time to get outside, and you can use your love of the outdoors to keep your money local.

Visit the Columbia Farmer's Market and Boone County Farmer's Market. These vendors, all from the Mid-Missouri area, sell the freshest of the fresh. Shoppers can find enough fruits, vegetables, fresh pasta, breads, honey and flowers to create the perfect gourmet meal.

If dining out is more your taste, Columbia's outdoor dining scene is ideal for the season. Settle in on a patio and enjoy a delicious meal in the great outdoors. The best part? Some of those locally grown ingredients will probably make it into your meal.

Get outside to the annual Art in the Park Festival June 6-7 at Stephens Lake Park. The festival features more than 100 visual artists spread throughout the beautiful park scenery. Chances are you'll leave your outdoor experience with something for inside your home.

Xeriscaping: water efficient landscaping

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

- Select plants according to 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 home work 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 the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. for a list of shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennial flowers to use in your yard.



Learn to make compost at a free workshop

When: Sat., May 23, 10 a.m.
Sat., June 13, 10 a.m.

Where: Capen Park off Rock Quarry Road, south of Stadium at the City's compost demonstration site

Free or reduced priced compost bins are offered to participants, while supplies last.

Pre-registration is required by calling 874-6271 or e-mailing PW-volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Don't have time to make your own compost? Stop by the City's compost facility at 5700 Peabody Road on Wednesday's between 1-5 p.m. to purchase compost and give your landscaping a boost. For rates and quantities call 474-9145 or check out the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com (search: GoComposting).

Sponsored by the City of Columbia's Solid Waste Division, 874-6291



US Cellular Movies in the Park



Columbia Parks and Recreation, along with U.S. Cellular and KPLA 101.5, will roll out another series of movies in the park this summer as the US Cellular Movies in the Park series returns! All movies will be shown at Flat Branch Park on a giant inflatable screen and resemble a drive-in without cars. Bring your blanket or low lawn chair and head out for a night of entertainment under the stars!

Scheduled movies are:

Friday, May 8, 8:45 p.m. - Wall-E (G): In a distant, but not so unrealistic future, where mankind has abandoned earth because it has become covered with trash, WALL-E, a garbage collecting robot has been left to clean up the mess.

Friday, June 12, 9 p.m. - Madagascar Escape 2 Africa (PG): The sequel to 2005's "Madagascar," in which New York Zoo animals, Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe and Gloria the Hippo, still stranded on Madagascar, start to leave the island. All of a sudden, they land in the wilderness of Africa!

Friday, July 10, 9 p.m. - The Tale of Desperaux (G): The tale of three unlikely heroes - a misfit mouse who prefers reading books to eating them, an unhappy rat who schemes to leave the darkness of the dungeon, and a servant girl with cauliflower ears - whose fates are intertwined with that of the castle's princess.

Friday, Aug. 14, 8:45 p.m. - Coraline (PG): A young girl walks through a secret door in her new home and discovers an alternate version of her life.

There are no rain dates for the movies. The cost is \$1 per person; children 12 and under are free. Pre-show entertainment will be held before each movie at 8 p.m. For more information, call the movie hotline at 819-0260.



Columbia earns electric reliability honor



(From left to right:) Maude Grantham-Richards, chair of the APPA Board of Directors, Mike Schmitz, Columbia Water & Light Chief Engineer and Paul Allen, chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel.

Columbia Water and Light was recognized by the American Public Power Association (APPA) with the Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) designation for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service.

The RP3 recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, training and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

"You have joined the ranks of a select group of outstanding utilities. Through this program we continue to highlight your commitment to providing reliable public power," stated Michael Hyland, APPA vice president of engineering services.

APPA is the national organization representing more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community and state-owned electric utilities. Columbia Water & Light was last named as and RP3 utility in 2007. Utilities are eligible to receive this honor every two years.

Environmental Health busy at work this spring

The arrival of spring brings increased activity for the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services Environmental Health Division. When people get outside and become more active, they also become more observant. As residents venture outside after being cooped up all winter, they are often reminded of issues they may have overlooked during winter months: the accumulation of debris in a neighbor's yard, an overflowing sewer or standing water that could breed mosquitoes.

These nuisances should be reported to Environmental Health, which works with the property owner to resolve the issue. If you wish to report a potential problem and/or nuisance, call the Environmental Health hotline at 874-7339 or e-mail grw@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Pool inspections also begin this time of year. Environmental Health inspects approximately 105 swimming pools and/or spas for structural integrity, disinfectant levels, pH level, warning signs and presence of safety equipment. The facilities are also checked for cleanliness and maintenance of the grounds, locker rooms and fencing. The passage of the Graeme Baker Act will require changes in the way some pool drains are plumbed. These changes will help ensure the safety of pool patrons. For questions about pool inspections, please call 874-7346.

Additional information can be found on the health department's page of the City's Web site at <http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Health/index.php>.



Welcome Kenneth Burton

City Clerk Sheela Amin administers the oath of office to new Columbia Police Department Police Chief Kenneth Burton at a ceremony March 30 in the Council Chambers.

Burton takes over for Tom Dresner, who had served as interim police chief since the retirement of Chief Randy Boehm in July.

photo courtesy of Bharat Choudhary, Columbia Missourian

Online Utility Services
no waiting

GoColumbiaMo.com is the fastest, most convenient way to start new service, terminate your service or transfer your service to a new location. Already a customer? You can check your account, pay your bill or even e-mail a question. No access to a computer, no problem. You can still access your account, check your balance and due date and even pay your bill.

Just call 874-7694. First-time users will need to have their social security number on file at Utility Customer Service, know their account number and set up a pin. Questions? Call customer service at 874-7380.

Adopt-A-Spots bring beauty to Columbia

If you ride around Columbia, it doesn't take long to spot a green "Adopt A Spot" sign in one of the City's 84 beautification beds cared for by volunteers. As adopters, volunteers are asked to maintain a bed for four years, including weeding, mulching, watering, planting annual flowers and bulbs and sometimes installing new plant material.

Adopters have one of the toughest volunteer jobs as they must work in the weather. Hundreds of people enjoy the results of their efforts.

Most new Adopt-A-Spots come as a result of street construction projects. With improvements to 763, Buttonwood Drive and the Vandiver Extension, the City will have several new Adopt-A-Spots in the coming year.

The Office of Volunteer Services maintains a Web page about the program at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. It includes a list of existing spots, beds available for adoption and a form where the public can share compliments about the beds with volunteers. Thanks to Adopt-A-Spot volunteers for their hard work!

