

POWERING COLUMBIA'S FUTURE

Frequently Asked Questions

The City of Columbia is researching power supply options and efficiency measures through a study called an Integrated Resource Plan.

What must be considered in making the decision on an electric supply?

When making choices about our long-term electric supply, there needs to be a balance between reliability, the cost of the energy, the cost of transmitting the energy and the impact on the environment.

What is an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)?

An IRP is a comprehensive approach which takes into consideration how the energy is created, how the energy is transported, its environmental impact and the benefits of energy efficiency. The engineering firm Burns and McDonnell has begun research for the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), and it will be completed in the first quarter of 2008. The study will give Columbia information on how to secure reliable, cost-effective and environmentally-sensitive power.

What is the Power Supply Task Force?

The Power Supply Task Force was formed by the Columbia City Council to study and make recommendations about Columbia's future power supply. The committee consists of members of the Water & Light Advisory Board plus four other community members.

What options are being considered for our future power supply?

The Power Supply Task Force is working with Burns and McDonnell on different traditional and renewable power options, as well as efficiency programs, that might be feasible for Columbia. Public input was collected and reviewed with the consultants before the options were finalized for the study.

How will renewable energy be incorporated into Columbia's future power supply?

Columbia voters approved a renewable energy standard in 2004. At a minimum, meeting the renewable energy standard will be part of the future power supply projections. In 2008, Columbia will surpass the 2 percent requirement and will have at least 5 percent of Columbia's energy generated from renewable resources. By 2023, the standard calls for 15 percent of our electric portfolio come from renewable resources. The cost of the renewable energy mandated in the ordinance must not be more than 3 percent of the cost of electricity derived from non-renewable sources.

How can Columbia reduce the growing need for power consumption?

Demand Side Management (DSM) is a term used by the utility industry to refer to curtailing electric demand and energy use. This can be done with programs that cut demand at certain times of the day when electricity is expensive or programs that reduce the overall consumption of electricCity. New efficiency programs will be evaluated in the Integrated Resource Plan.

How will the final decision be made on Columbia's future power supply?

After the draft report has been reviewed by the public and the Power Supply Task Force, a final copy will be submitted to the City. The task force will make recommendations to the City Council. The City Council will hold a public hearing on any contracts or new programs before voting on the report. The Columbia City Council makes the final decisions on matters involving Columbia Water & Light.

Why sign up for a FREE Energy Audit?

If you have asked yourself any of these questions but didn't know the answer, you need a free Energy Audit from Columbia Water & Light

- Are your windows air-tight? How do you seal them? Should you replace them?
- Do you have adequate insulation?
- Do you have hidden water leaks?
- How much does it cost to run your appliances?
- Is it cost effective to replace your heating and cooling system?
- Why does the temperature vary so much from room to room?
- Is buying a low-flow shower head going to save me that much money?
- What new technologies are available to save energy?

Sign up online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7325

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.



Boards and commissions 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. Application deadline for the following is noon, Feb. 8.

- C.A.R.E. Advisory Board
- Human Rights Commission

Why recycle?

In the USA, people throw away at least 162 tons of garbage a year. That would fill 1,000 football fields piled thirty stories high. Each American throws away 4-6 pounds of trash each day.

Recycling bags are provided free of charge, and we will even pick it up for you. It doesn't get much easier than that.

Help us save energy and conserve the environment for a better Columbia!

City of Columbia
Solid Waste
Division

573-874-6291

www.GoColumbiaMo.com



Did you know?

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

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Darwin Hindman

City Council Members:
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Almeta Crayton

Second Ward
Chris Janku

Third Ward
Karl Skala

Fourth Ward
Jerry Wade

Fifth Ward
Laura Nauser

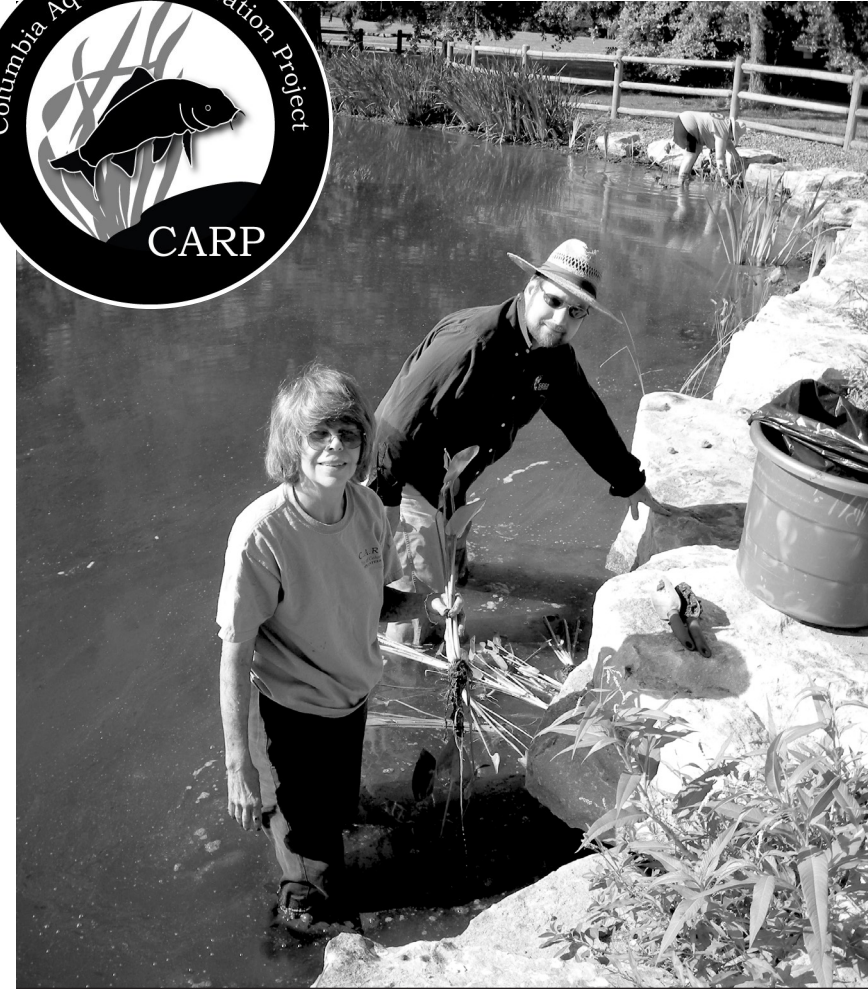
Sixth Ward
Barbara Hoppe

City Manager
Bill Watkins

CITYSOURCE

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Your source for City news and information



CARP volunteers Alice Reese and George Cummins install aquatic plants along the shoreline at Stephens Lake Park.

February is American Heart Month

In February hearts are everywhere - on cards, stuffed animals and even on candy. These reminders make February a good time to review the major risk factors associated with heart disease.

Risk factors include:

♥ Family history of heart disease
♥ High blood pressure and cholesterol

♥ Being overweight
♥ Physical inactivity

♥ Smoking
♥ Diabetes

Heart disease is one of the major leading causes of death for Americans. Women, in general, have poorer outcomes following a heart attack than men do. According to the Centers for Disease Control, 44 percent of females who have a heart attack die within a year, compared with 27 percent of males.

The Columbia/Boone County Health Department has many resources available, including educational materials and a smoking cessation program.



Citizen Lifesaving Awards

The Columbia Fire Department recognized several residents with Citizen Lifesaving Awards at the Nov. 5 City Council meeting. The award is given to citizens who have been involved in a lifesaving effort at an emergency scene before the Fire Department's arrival.

On April 20, Engine Two was dispatched to the Olive Garden for a report of a person choking. Firefighters arrived and were led to the patient, Tatiana Sosova. Sosova could not speak English; her daughter translated and described how her mother was choking on a piece of meat and the events that had unfolded. Michael Williams, Sosova's son-in-law, realized she was choking and administered the Heimlich maneuver. After several unsuccessful attempts in dislodging the object, Brian Heiberger, culinary manager of the Olive Garden, assisted by administering the Heimlich maneuver, also without success. Randy Plattner, a customer, came to the patient's aid, and after several attempts, was successful in dislodging the piece of meat. For these actions, Williams, Heiberger and Plattner received the Citizen Lifesaving Award.

On Oct. 9, Michael Linzi-Hayes, 11, was outside the duplex where he lives when he heard a smoke alarm and found smoke coming from the vents and eaves of the residence. He notified a neighbor that there was a fire and asked her to call 9-1-1. He then notified his mother, who was inside. Michael told fire investigators he knew not to enter a house that was on fire, so he shouted to warn his mother from the outside. Michael's mother escaped unharmed. Fire investigators credit Michael's quick actions with providing early notification to the Fire Department, lessening the property damage and possibly saving his mother from smoke inhalation or injury.



Pictured above (from left): Randy Plattner, Fire Chief William Markgraf, Michael Linzi-Hayes, Brian Heiberger, and Michael Williams

About GetAbout Columbia

It's a positive, simple and fun approach to living. Columbians can get about town, get about their lives and get about improving their health with GetAbout Columbia.

The Federal Highway Administration Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program has a new office and a new brand campaign. The office houses City staff, as well as the PedNet Coalition, a nonprofit organization that develops education and encouragement programs. The new space will serve as a place to plan and coordinate infrastructure improvements and additions, and as a location for classes, workshops and activities relating to the program.

To make it easy for everyone to be a part of this program, the City will not only add to and improve the current walking and biking infrastructure, but will also initiate an awareness campaign that communicates the benefits of using active, non-motorized modes of transportation.

In November the City Council approved the project's new name—



GetAbout Columbia. The brand, GetAbout Columbia: *See where it takes you*, was designed to function as an umbrella over the four major components of the project: awareness, education programs, encouragement and support programs and infrastructure. GetAbout Columbia can represent each of these components separately or together. It allows the initiative to be presented in a meaningful and cohesive way. The name is intended to help citizens identify with the project and inspire them to consider, and then experience, the benefits of using active modes of transportation.

In 2006, Columbia was one of four communities selected for the nonmotorized pilot program. With the designation as a pilot city came \$22 million in federal funds to help build infrastructure and establish national standards regarding public awareness, acceptance and willingness to use active modes of transportation. For more information about GetAbout Columbia or to tour the office, stop by 101 North Seventh St. or call (573) 442-7189.

green lawns blue waters

Have both... the smart way

Want to save time and money on yard care that's environmentally friendly? Want to have a great lawn plus get answers to your yard-care problems? Did you know homeowners use 10 times more chemicals per acre on lawns than farmers use on crops? Ninety percent of U.S. streams sampled contained pesticide residue. Did any of that come from your yard?

This 3-session workshop will include:

- *Moles, Fungus & Crabgrass: Solving Basic Problems*
- *Adding Nutrients & Minerals Without Adding Chemicals*
- *Why Consider Native Plants?*
- *Healthy Soil = Healthy Grass & Gardens*
- *How & Why to Build a Rain Garden*
- *Resisting the Urge to Spray: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly Bugs*
- *Equipment & Techniques for Your Best Lawn Yet*

This is a 3-week session: Wednesdays at the ARC Feb. 6, Feb. 13 & Feb. 20, 6:30-9 p.m. Free & open to the public, registration required.

Call with questions or to register: 874-7616 or Email: mona.menezes@GoColumbiaMo.com

Volunteers of the month

Written by Lauren Kilberg, *volunteer*



The City of Columbia recognizes M. Dianne Drainer and Jeff Williams as February's volunteers of the month for their services as co-chairs of the visioning committee.

When not volunteering, both Drainer and Williams maintain full-time jobs. Drainer is executive director of the Mizzou Flagship Council, while Williams serves as director of Access and Urban Outreach through the University of Missouri.

Since the fall of 2006, Drainer and Williams have volunteered as co-chairs for the Imagine Columbia's Future visioning project.

"Jeff and Dianne played valuable roles as leaders for this challenging project," said Paula Hertwig Hopkins, assistant city manager. "They will continue to do so as the ideas from the visioning project are put into action."

Through serving as co-chairs, "we have been able to be the neutral stewards that successfully moved the process forward in a timely fashion, working with the vision committee, the hundreds of citizen volunteers, the City administration and staff and the ACP consultants," said Drainer.

"The Imagine Columbia's Future project will have an impact on our City for many years," said Hertwig Hopkins. "Strong leaders were and will continue to be vital to the success of the visioning project. Drainer and Williams have proven to be perfect for the job."

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

Did you know?
Interested in solar energy incentives? Get your questions answered about generating electricity from the sun on Water & Light's informational Web page: www.GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight look for the 'solar systems' link

Biogas generates renewable energy

The City of Columbia is proud to announce the opening of the gas-to-energy project at the Columbia landfill. This project will use the gas created when waste decomposes to generate 2.1 megawatts of renewable energy. This will supply approximately 1.5 percent of Columbia's energy use per year and grow to as much as 2.5 percent over the next 5-10 years. This is the energy needed to power approximately 1,500 homes in Columbia.

The Columbia landfill contains over two million tons of waste, which generates sufficient quantities of methane gas to make it economically feasible to produce electricity. In 2006, the Public Works Department opened a competitive bid process to develop an economic use for Columbia' landfill gas. Columbia Water and Light was awarded the bid by the Columbia City Council to build a landfill gas-to-energy plant. The project cost of \$2.85 million was partially funded through an electric bond issue passed by voters in 2006. The plant was designed for an expansion in the future.

In 2007, the Missouri General Assembly passed Senate Bill 54, which covered renewable energy issues. The new law allows yard waste to be disposed in Columbia's landfill because it is creating renewable energy utilizing bioreactor technology.

A bioreactor uses water to rapidly break down organic waste. The liquid accelerates decomposition and increases the methane production. It is estimated that the bioreactor will increase the rate gas is produced by 36 percent over a standard landfill. This will allow for more renewable energy to be generated in the future.

