

Winter weather advisories from Columbia Transit

During extreme weather conditions (heavy ice or snow), Columbia Transit buses will operate on an emergency weather schedule. Passengers are advised to listen to local radio stations KBIA, KCLR, KFRU and KPLA or watch television stations KOMU, KMIZ and KRCG for emergency information. Passengers should allow more travel time for their trip to be completed. Columbia Transit does not cancel service unless major City streets are completely impassable and/or deemed unsafe due to very heavy snow or ice.

For more information regarding the emergency weather schedule, call Columbia Transit at (573) 874-7282 or check online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com (search GoBus).

Emergency services will tag vehicles stranded during winter

While driving on a snowy day, motorists often call 9-1-1 to report vehicles off the road or in a ditch. They usually do not check if there are people needing assistance because they must keep moving to avoid becoming stuck or cannot stop safely in traffic.

Unfortunately, this often results in numerous phone calls concerning the same vehicle over a 24-48 hour period. Emergency services are already taxed with an increased call volume during winter weather. To prevent responding to a vehicle that has already been checked, all Columbia/Boone County emergency services have agreed to mark or tag vehicles in a common fashion.

If you see a piece of yellow emergency scene tape tied to the antenna or highest point on a vehicle, it has already been checked by an emergency service provider and no further response is needed. Local emergency service providers urge motorists to look for the yellow tag on vehicles before reporting them. Motorists are also urged to provide detailed information about a vehicle they are reporting so the appropriate response may be sent.

Columbia/Boone County emergency services urge motorists to exercise caution when driving during winter weather events. Leave earlier than normal, drive slower and allow for extra space between you and other motorists.



Christmas tree recycling

Whole Christmas trees free of tinsel, plastic, ornaments and tree stands will be collected curbside December 26 through January 31 on regular refuse days. After January 31, trees will have to be cut in 4-ft. lengths. Christmas trees can also be dropped off at Capen Park mulch site (off Rock Quarry Road) or Parkside Drive mulch site (off Creasy Springs Road). Trees will be used as cover for wildlife/fisheries habitats and soil conservation.

Thank you for "tree-cycling!" For more information contact Columbia Public Works at 874-6291 or online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Boone County awarded 'Storm Ready' distinction

The National Weather Service in St. Louis has awarded Boone County and Columbia with the distinction of being "Storm Ready" for 2007-2010. This distinction honors the proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations and public awareness in order to save lives and property, before and during a weather event.

The requirements for achieving this distinction are:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather forecasts/warnings
- Have more than one way to alert and warn the public
- Create a system that monitors local weather conditions
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises

Boone County is one of 16 "Storm Ready" communities in Missouri, and one of 658 counties in the United States with this distinction.

COLUMBIA REGIONAL Airport

573.874.7508
www.GoColumbiaMo.com
(Search: GoAirport)

- Daily round-trip flights to Kansas City
- US Airways & Midwest Airlines codeshares
- Free parking
- Shorter check-in lines


NEW Skyline Cafe' Restaurant
now open for breakfast & lunch in the main terminal

Did you know?

Working on your new year's resolutions? Maybe volunteering made the list! If so, the Office of Volunteer Services page at www.GoColumbiaMo.com can be a great resource. Apply online and view a list of current volunteer opportunities. Current volunteers will find information about programs in which they already help.

January holiday schedule

City offices will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day and Monday, Jan. 21, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made these days 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.

 City of Columbia 701 E. Broadway Columbia, MO 65201 (573) 874-7111 www.GoColumbiaMo.com ♻️Printed on recycled paper	Mayor Darwin Hindman
	City Council Members: First Ward 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

❖ Your source for City news and information ❖

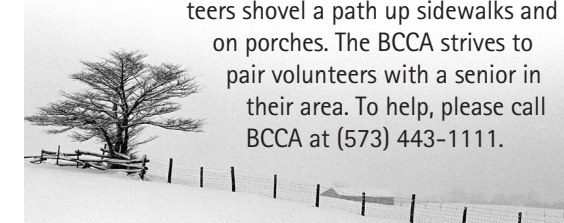
www.GoColumbiaMo.com
vol. 13 no. 1 January 2008

Volunteers needed to shovel snow for seniors

Winter is here and that means seniors in our community need help with snow shoveling. For years, the Boone County Council on Aging (BCCA) has paired volunteers with local seniors to provide service that helps them remain independent.

Prompt snow removal for some seniors ensures meals can be delivered and in-home services can be provided. The removal of snow also allows seniors to safely travel to medical appointments.

This year, BCCA needs more volunteers to assist seniors with snow shoveling. When it snows, volunteers shovel a path up sidewalks and on porches. The BCCA strives to pair volunteers with a senior in their area. To help, please call BCCA at (573) 443-1111.



Bundle up for winter activities

It is recommended that children and teenagers get at least 60 minutes and adults get at least 30 minutes of physical activity daily. Exercising during warmer months may seem easier, so it's important to remember that as the seasons change, so will your activities.

The following are activities to get you moving:



- ❖ Dog walking
- ❖ Skiing, skating, sledding
- ❖ Family snowball fight
- ❖ Basketball, football or soccer
- ❖ Biking
- ❖ Shoveling snow
- ❖ Aerobic or yoga class
- ❖ Dancing to your favorite tunes
- ❖ Jumping rope
- ❖ Power-walking while shopping
- ❖ Taking the stairs
- ❖ Swimming indoors
- ❖ Cleaning the house

As long as you increase your heart rate and build a sweat, you are making the first steps to a healthier lifestyle. Exercising routinely can help you relieve stress and prevent diseases including: cardiovascular disease, diabetes and osteoporosis.




Cold weather tips for furry friends

At the Health Department, we are not only concerned about the health of our citizens, but our beloved furry friends as well. The following tips will help ensure your companion stays healthy during the winter months.



1. Regularly check your pet's water to make sure it's not frozen.
2. Provide a dry space for your pet. A doghouse will work perfectly. Put straw or blankets inside so your pet can snuggle.
3. Cats like to get in the engine of a vehicle where it is warm. Bang loudly on the hood before you start the engine to give them a chance to escape.
4. Finally, always make sure your pet is wearing ID tags and/or is microchipped.


For more hints, visit the Health Department's page on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. If you think someone isn't providing adequate care for a pet, please contact Animal Control at 449-1888.


FREE Shuttle Service for First Night Columbia on New Year's Eve

December 31, 2007

- 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
- Downtown Venues
- Stephens College Venues

Save your feet for dancing!
(573) 874-7282 www.GoColumbiaMo.com



City Of Columbia
701 E Broadway
Columbia, Missouri 65205
www.GoColumbiaMo.com

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

City Hall Lobby	874-7111
Community Line <i>Pre-Recorded Information 24 Hours A Day</i>	874-7650
TTY Users	874-7697
Bus System and Information	874-7282
Energy Conservation	874-7325
Fire, Rescue, or Medical Emergency	911
Non-emergency 8a.m. to 5 p.m. M-F	874-7391
Non-emergency 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. & weekends	874-7450 or 442-6131
Health Department	874-7355
Parks and Recreation	874-7460
Recreation Hotline/Cancellations – 24 Hours	874-7663
Police Emergency	911
Access to Officer Voice Mail & General Information	874-7652
Non-Emergency	442-6131 or 442-6132
Columbia Police Programs/Crime Prevention	874-7405
East District Commander	874-7525
West District Commander	874-7523
Prosecutor – City	874-7229
Recycling Information	874-6291
Roll-Off Service	874-6291
Solid Waste Collection	874-6291
Snow Removal	874-6289
Street Maintenance	874-6289
Street Sign Maintenance	874-6292
Traffic & Parking Violations	874-7230
Utilities	
Account Information	874-7380
Water & Light Turn On & Off	874-7380
Sanitary Sewer – Emergencies – 24 Hours	445-9426
Storm Sewer Maintenance	874-6289
Power – Emergencies – 24 Hours	875-2555
Water – Emergencies – 24 Hours	875-2555
Volunteer Services	874-7499
Weeds & Health Complaints Hotline	874-7339

Boards and commissions openings

The City is accepting applications for the Health Insurance Appeals Board. The deadline is noon, Jan. 4. Applications and vacancies are on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com on the City Council page. Call 874-7208 for information.

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.

YOU can help the environment!



If every person in Columbia saved a little energy this winter, together we would make a big difference. Try these simple efficiency tips and you will help the environment *and* save money!

- Set the thermostat at 68 degrees and lower the setting a few degrees at night or when the home is unoccupied. Consider installing a programmable thermostat.
- Wear layers of clothing and use extra blankets.
- Open window shades that receive direct sunlight during the day and close shades at night.
- Keep fireplace chimney dampers closed when not using the fireplace.
- Don't block radiators and vents with furniture, drapes or rugs.

Interested in more tips? Sign up for a **FREE** energy audit. GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7325



A powerful community resource.

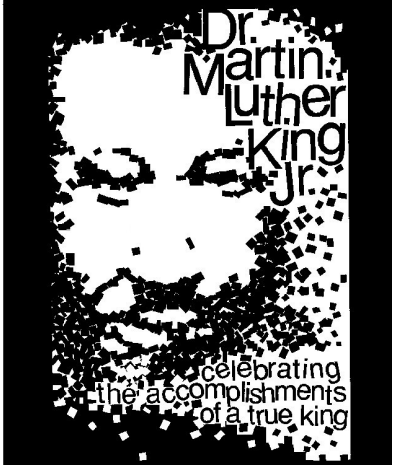
Columbia values diversity celebration

Register now for the annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 17, from 7 – 8:45 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. Preregistration is required, and the deadline is 5 p.m., Jan. 11.

The cost is \$13 per person and \$11 for children under 12. Scholarships are available upon request. Please call the Office of Community Services at 874-7488 (V) or 874-7356 (TTY) for registration information. A registration form is also available on the City's Web site at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

The theme of this year's celebration is, "The Garden of Humanity: Cultivating a Community of Diversity." A breakfast and live music will be followed by the presentation of the Columbia Values Diversity Awards. The highlight of the event will be an original artistic program honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The celebration is designed to be accessible to all. Please call 874-7488 (V) or 874-7356 (TTY) for more information or accommodations related to disability.



Related events:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Candlelight March and Celebration
A candlelight march will be held the evening of Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. Please check www.GoColumbiaMo.com for more details or contact Bill Thompson at 874-6379.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Service
The NAACP Annual Memorial Service will be held Jan. 21 at 11 a.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial at Battle Garden. Contact Mary Ratliff at 445-3231 for more information.

Black History Month at Stephens College
Stephens College will celebrate Black History Month and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. throughout February. Planned events include speakers, informational forums, films and entertainment. Events will be held at Stephens College. They are free and open to the public. Please contact Stephens College at 876-7109 for more information.

Police Partners in Education

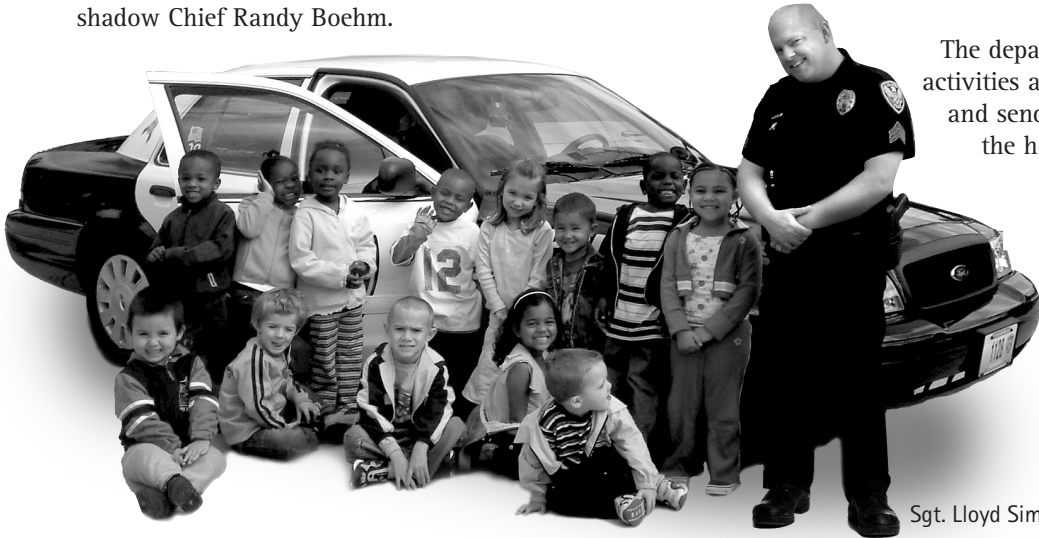
The Columbia Police Department was recognized by the Board of Education Sept. 10 with a certificate of appreciation for exceptional support of Columbia Public Schools as a Partner In Education.

West Boulevard Elementary and the Columbia Police Department have been partners since 1991. The partnership is focused on working collaboratively with parents and the community while improving students' overall citizenship and increasing achievement through a variety of activities, including support for back-to-school nights, the fall festival, field trips, writing celebrations and career fairs.

The department has been intricately involved in supporting student achievement through mentoring and the adopt-a-class program, which pairs officers with a classroom. The officers visit throughout the year to provide support and individual student attention when needed.

The department also takes an active role in student recognitions, participating in Pride Assemblies to recognize students' success and attending lunches for students with perfect attendance.

A favorite activity among West students is the "Chief for a Day" essay contest. Students from each grade level write essays on a selected topic. Winners are presented with a special "Chief for a Day" T-shirt. Those students are also given the opportunity to job shadow Chief Randy Boehm.



The department also participates in annual holiday activities at the school by adopting families in need, and sending officers to sing carols to students during the holiday assembly.

The Columbia Police Department looks forward to a long relationship with West Boulevard Elementary, developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

Sgt. Lloyd Simons pictured with West Boulevard Elementary students.

Volunteers of the month

Written by Lauren Kilberg, *volunteer*



The City of Columbia recognizes Jack and Dulane Wohlman as volunteers of the month for their services to the Public Works Volunteer Program, the Adopt-a-Spot Beautification Program and the Columbia Police Volunteer program.

The Wohlmans stay extremely active after having recently retired. When not volunteering they are busy keeping in contact with their eight granddaughters and with their son who is currently serving in Iraq.

"We feel we have been blessed over the years, and now that we are retired we felt we would like to contribute more back into the system," says Jack Wohlman. "Anytime we can give our time or effort for the benefit of others we find gratifying."

The Wohlmans are able to do just that through the Public Works Program where they promote waste reduction and environmental cleanup. They are also actively involved with the Office of Volunteer Services Adopt A Spot Beautification program, maintaining their Grant Lande landscape beds on behalf of the Katy Lake Home Owners Association. They have logged over 377 hours of cleaning, gardening, and watering since beginning with the program in 2000. Jack also volunteers for the Columbia Police Department. He helps out at community events and parades and is involved in Citizens on Patrol activities. "Jack is a hard-working and thoughtful volunteer," says Officer Jessie Haden Pitman.

Through their hard work and dedication, the Wohlmans have improved Columbia's appearance and through their example have encouraged others to do the same.

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

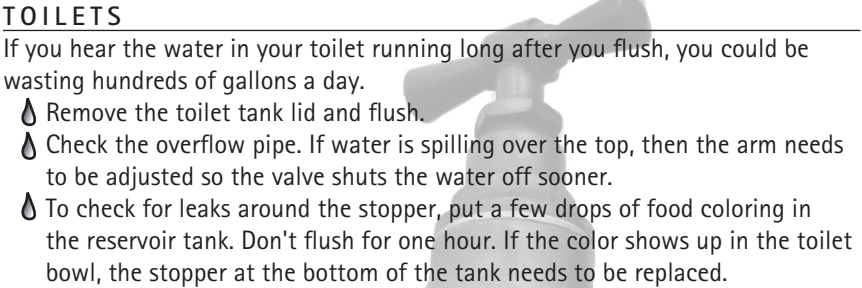
Check for water leaks!

How much water do you use? Check your utility bill each month to make sure you don't have water leaks. Water use is recorded in hundred cubic feet (CCF). There are 748 gallons in a CCF. Most adults use around 3 CCF each month. By keeping an eye on how much water you use, you can identify when you have leaks.

TOILETS

If you hear the water in your toilet running long after you flush, you could be wasting hundreds of gallons a day.

- 💧 Remove the toilet tank lid and flush.
- 💧 Check the overflow pipe. If water is spilling over the top, then the arm needs to be adjusted so the valve shuts the water off sooner.
- 💧 To check for leaks around the stopper, put a few drops of food coloring in the reservoir tank. Don't flush for one hour. If the color shows up in the toilet bowl, the stopper at the bottom of the tank needs to be replaced.



LEAKING FAUCETS

A slow leak in a faucet can waste 15 to 20 gallons of water a day.

- 💧 The majority of leaks are due to worn-out washers. Turn off the water supply and replace the washer.
- 💧 If the faucet is still leaking, consult a do-it-yourself manual available at most hardware stores or the library.

OTHER AREAS
Water leaks can also occur around water heaters, softeners, pipes, other appliances or in the water line that serves your home. If you notice water pooling on your property or at your water meter, contact the Water Division at 874-6229 to report the water leak or fill out a form online at GoColumbiaMo.com.

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

Columbia Parks & Recreation
CALENDAR
January

- 7–11 Advanced registration for adult winter volleyball, Free
- 14–18 Open registration for adult winter volleyball, Free
- 18 Visit with Santa, Paquin Tower, call to arrange your group visit at 874-7473
- 7 OAK/50+ Snowflake Dance, Parkade Center (east side), 601 Bus Loop 70W, 7-10 p.m., \$3
- 8 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Celebration, location to be determined, 7 p.m.

How is power restored after an outage?

Columbia Water and Light's mission is to provide reliable electric service. There are times when high winds, ice, squirrels, birds, etc., can cause interruptions with our electric system. When problems occur, Columbia Water and Light makes every effort to restore your power as soon as possible.

Usually in cases where Mother Nature causes problems with the electric system, there can be multiple outages across town. When this happens, Columbia Water and Light will repair main distribution lines before feeder lines to individual customers. By prioritizing restoration efforts, the utility can restore power to a greater number of people first. Some customers, like hospitals, are also at the top of the restoration priority list due to the critical nature of their business.

Another factor in restoring power is the extent of the damage. Sometimes repairs are as easy as replacing a fuse; other times a whole line needs to be replaced. Since no two outages are the same, it is often hard to estimate how long an outage will last.

Columbia Water and Light encourages you to call 874-2555 during an outage so we can quickly locate the problem and send crews right away. Any detailed information you can supply to the utility about the outage is very beneficial in the troubleshooting process.