



Steve Callis

## Volunteer of the Month

For volunteer Steve Callis, being green really is easy. Not only does he teach Columbians how to compost and address yard waste in classes in the spring and fall, he integrates those methods in his workplace and home.

Callis has been volunteering with the City of Columbia Public Works Volunteer Program for four years. His classes emphasize the benefits of backyard composting and best practices for disposal of kitchen and backyard waste.

With public awareness in sustainability growing, there has been increased interest in the composting classes. Callis says, "People taking the classes range from the hard-core gardeners to those who just want to do something else with their yard waste other than sending it to a landfill."

Callis gets tremendous satisfaction passing on the specialized experience that he has: "It's great to be able to give back; I really enjoy sharing my knowledge about composting, which is a narrow field, but I feel it does some good in sharing that knowledge."

Callis' supervisor, Andrea Shelton, agrees. One of the classes' benefits, she says, is that it shows average families, with average budget concerns, that they can still impact the environment.

Callis also volunteers with MarineParents.com, Toys for Tots and the Marine Corps League.

To learn about City volunteer opportunities, contact the City of Columbia Volunteer Program at 874-7499 or visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

— Submitted by volunteer Sarah G. Madden

## Creative Columbia

In 1993, Columbia's first cultural plan was developed after extensive community consultation. Since then, periodic updates have been generated to keep the plan current and to address the community's changing needs. In 2010, one such revision is taking place. Make your opinions and suggestions known by completing a short online survey at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts). If you prefer to complete a paper copy, contact the City's Office of Cultural Affairs to have one sent to you: 573-874-6386 or [oca@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:oca@GoColumbiaMo.com).



## Arrive early to make your flight

Do you know how early to arrive for your flight out of Columbia

Regional Airport? Did you know the ticket counter closes 30 minutes prior to departure and the opportunity to obtain a boarding pass or check in luggage ceases? Although this information is on the airline and airport Web sites, travelers frequently miss their scheduled flights because of late arrival to the airport.

The airline recommends you arrive at least one hour prior to your departure so you have sufficient time to get your boarding pass and check in your luggage. You also have the option to get your boarding pass online up to 24 hours in advance of your flight and pay for your baggage fee, which can save you money and makes check-in at the airport much easier and faster. You can find out more about online check-in at [www.Delta.com](http://www.Delta.com). Please read the terms and conditions and the check-in policy when purchasing your ticket.

If you have questions about your travel experience, visit the airport Web site at [www.FlyMidMo.com](http://www.FlyMidMo.com) or call the information line at 874-7508.

## Household Hazardous Waste Facility opens April 3

As a reminder to residents, hazardous waste products cannot be picked up curbside. The City's Household Hazardous Waste Facility is a safe way to dispose of oil, paint, cleaning products, antifreeze and other unwanted chemicals. This facility is for residential use only; commercial waste is not accepted. Located at 1313 Lakeview, the facility is open the first and third Saturdays of April through November, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291.

## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

- Board of Adjustment (Regular)
- Liquor License Review Board
- Downtown Columbia Leadership Council
- Airport Advisory Board
- Planning and Zoning Commission

Application deadline is noon, April 2. Applications and current vacancies for City boards and commissions are available online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information and requirements.

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City of Columbia

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**MAYOR**  
Darwin Hindman

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

*First Ward* Paul Sturtz  
*Second Ward* Jason Thornhill  
*Third Ward* Karl Skala  
*Fourth Ward* Jerry Wade  
*Fifth Ward* Laura Nauser  
*Sixth Ward* Barbara Hoppe

*City Manager* Bill Watkins



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# CITY SOURCE

[www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)



Your source for City news and information



## United States Census 2010 Be Counted!

You'll soon receive a 2010 census form in the mail. With only 10 questions, it takes just 10 minutes to complete and could significantly influence Columbia's future.

"Without a complete count, we risk under-reporting our population and losing eligibility for many federal and state grant opportunities," said Columbia Mayor Darwin Hindman. "Businesses might think we're too small for their investments, and we could even lose a seat in Congress."

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census shows state population counts and determines the number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives for each state. All U.S. residents are counted, both citizens and non-citizens.

## Why it's important

- Census data is used for appropriating money to the state and local communities, apportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and helping guide and inform community decisions.
- Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to the states and communities based partly on census data. Funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation, child care and senior citizen centers.
- Based on a Brookings Institute study, Missouri received \$1,327 per person in federal aid which was allocated based on census counts. This would equate to a loss of \$1.3 million for each 100 persons missed in the 2010 census over the next decade. An undercount of 100,000 people would equal \$130 million.
- Missouri is on the cusp of losing a congressional seat. If Missouri does lose a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, it is forecasted to be by less than 1 percent of the total population. In 2000, Missouri's response rate was 69 percent.

The census questionnaire is completely confidential. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

For further information, visit [www.oa.mo.gov/mocensus/](http://www.oa.mo.gov/mocensus/).

## Cleanup Columbia will be held April 24



The 14th annual Cleanup Columbia, a citywide trash pickup event, will be held Saturday, April 24. During Cleanup Columbia, volunteers pick up litter along city streets, in parks, on trails and in streams.



Cleanup Columbia is a wonderful activity for volunteers of all ages — individuals and groups of all sizes. The City of Columbia will provide bags

and gloves, assist you in finding a cleanup location and have the filled bags picked up after.

To register for Cleanup Columbia, visit [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) or call the City of Columbia Volunteer Program at 874-7499.



## Tons of Trucks!

Kids will have the chance to sit in the driver's seat of a fire truck, see the inside of a police car and climb in the back of a dump truck at Tons of Trucks! Parks and Recreation is holding the free event from 4-7 p.m. on April 7 at the Rainbow Softball Center parking lot in Cosmo Park. Tons of Trucks will be held rain or shine. Call 874-7460 for more information.





Phillips Park

# Go Fish

Columbia Parks and Recreation has recently improved existing areas and developed new areas for anglers. Fishing amenities at A. Perry Philips Park will be completed this year and include a floating fishing dock, boat ramp and dock, parking lot and restrooms. Construction of a 1.4 mile gravel trail surrounding the 40-acre lake was completed last year.

At Stephens Lake, two spots were recently constructed especially for ADA shoreline fishing and are located on the northeast and southeast portion of the lake, spurring off of the lake trail on either end of the dam. Anglers can enjoy fishing in this 11-acre lake on the east side of the boardwalk.

Major improvements were made to Nifong Lake in 2009, increasing both the size and depth of the lake for improved fish and wildlife habitat. The Missouri Department of Conservation has closed the lake for fishing until spring 2012 to restock and reestablish the fish population.

The old fishing dock at Twin Lakes Recreation Area was recently replaced with a new dock and provides ADA access and shade while fishing in the 18-acre lake.

Parks and Recreation has partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation to provide fisheries management for seven park lakes, including Stephens, Philips, Nifong and Twin Lakes. MDC stocks the lakes and maintains a fish population of largemouth bass, bluegill and channel cat. For more information, consult the Parks and Recreation page of the City's Web site at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (search word: **GoFish**) or contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 874-7460.



## March is National Nutrition Month

It's never too late to develop a healthy relationship with food; the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services offers these tips:

**Be flexible:** Being overly restrictive about food can lead to an unhealthy preoccupation with food. Don't use or offer food as a reward or a punishment. Don't expect perfection, but try to make sure that the majority of choices are healthy.

**Be persistent:** If you have a child that is a picky eater, be persistent. Most kids need several exposures to a new food before becoming comfortable with a new item.

**Encourage input:** If you're cooking for your family, seek their involvement in the menu. Try bringing kids into the kitchen by allowing them to help with the menu and do age-appropriate tasks like setting the table or tearing lettuce for the salad.

**Get active:** A proper diet is just one ingredient for a healthy lifestyle. Participating in fun, physical activities as a family is a great way to encourage activity for all family members.

**Be a good role model:** You never know who is watching and learning by your example. You can be a great influence on your family members by making healthy choices and engaging in physical activity.

*Information adapted from the American Dietetic Association, [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org).*

## Try Budget Billing

Sign up for the City of Columbia's budget billing program and you can make the same payment every month! To qualify, you need to have lived at your current residence for longer than 12 months so we can calculate your monthly payment. Every March, we'll review your account to see if you have overpaid or underpaid and make adjustments accordingly.

To sign up for budget billing, use the tear-off flap of your return envelope or call 874-7380. Please note that enrollment for budget billing is only done during March each year.

## Catch the Recycling Bug



The City has launched a new marketing campaign to encourage more Columbians to recycle. The focus is to increase recycling citywide and educate people about what materials are acceptable to recycle. Along with an effort to improve curbside recycling, the City is trying to boost awareness of recycling options for apartment dwellers or residents who do not have curbside recycling.

The City accepts most paper products, CLEAN aluminum and metal food & beverage containers, #1 and #2 plastics and glass. Products the City cannot recycle include plastic bags, Styrofoam and other plastics that are not #1 or #2.

Want to learn more about recycling? Follow us online at [www.Facebook.com/columbiarecycles](http://www.Facebook.com/columbiarecycles). Recycling is so easy, anybody can do it!

## Web Page Did You Know?

Summer registration at Parks and Recreation is open! The new Leisure Times activity guide is now online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/ParksandRec](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/ParksandRec). Check it out for info. on camps, pools, and summer events!

## Easter Eggstravaganza

Bring your children (ages 12 and under) out for a fun candy-filled Easter egg hunt! Parks and Recreation is sponsoring the free event from 12 to 1:30 p.m. on April 3 at Douglass Park.

There will be three separate hunts designated by age. Kids will enjoy other activities such as coloring, face painting and several games. The hunt will begin at 12:45 p.m.

If you or your organization would like to host a game or activity, please call 874-6378.



Easter Eggstravaganza

## Rain Barrels

Good for your yard and your community

As spring returns to Columbia so too will the rain. While some rain is good, too much can lead to problems with stormwater runoff. Rain that falls on impervious surfaces (streets, driveways, roofs, etc.) typically runs into storm sewers which flow directly into our streams, not to a water treatment facility.

When a large volume of stormwater enters a stream, it can cause severe erosion and flooding. Stormwater runoff is also full of pollutants that are collected along the way: fertilizer residues, oil from vehicles and many others.

This spring, consider a simple and time-tested solution: rain barrels! When attached to your downspouts, rain barrels can capture and store the runoff from your roof. The water that is stored in the barrel can be used for just about anything other than drinking. In addition to lessening the burden on our streams, rain barrels can also help you save on your water bill!

For information on purchasing rain barrels in Columbia, contact the Missouri River Communities Network at [www.moriver.org](http://www.moriver.org) or call 573-256-2602. For information on the City's stormwater education programs, go online to [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (search: **GoStormWaterOutreach**).

## Family Fun Fests



Family Fun Fests are back! Beginning in April, Columbia Parks and Recreation will present a Family Fun Fest event at Flat Branch Park on the third Wednesday of each month through September.

The free Fun Fests will be held from 6-8 p.m. and will feature a new theme each month. Entertainment for the entire family will include music, special performances, art activities, bounce-houses, hands-on activities, balloon-animals and face painting.

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

### April 21: Teen Fest

Enjoy the bungee run, art wall, activities and more. Ages 12-19 can enter the talent contest in one of the following categories: music, dance or spoken word. Call Erin at 874-6341 or e-mail [edcarril@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:edcarril@GoColumbiaMo.com) to enter. All ages are welcome. This event is sponsored by the Youth Community Coalition in honor of child abuse prevention month and alcohol awareness month.

## PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Register online!  
[www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)

Call 874-7460 for more information.

**April 3**  
**Egg Hunt EGGstravaganza, Douglass Park, 12-1:30 p.m., free**

**April 7**  
**Tons of Trucks, Rainbow Softball Center at Cosmo Park, 4-7 p.m., free**

**April 10**  
**Kite Flying Day, Douglass Park Ballfield, 12-2 p.m., free**

**April 16**  
**OAK (Older American Klub) Spring Dance, Stephens Lake Activity Center, 7-10 p.m., \$3**

**April 21**  
**Family Fun Fest: Teen Fest, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., free**

**April 25**  
**Earth Day, Peace Park, 12-7 p.m., free**

**April 30**  
**OAK (Older American Klub) Fifth Friday Free Dance, Stephens Lake Activity Center, 7-10 p.m., free**

**April 30-May1**  
**W.O.W. outdoor courses, Twin Lakes Recreation Area**

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