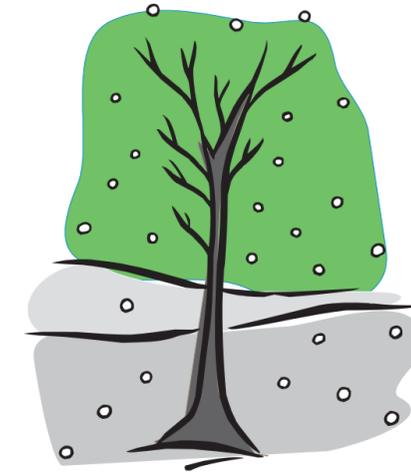


CITY SOURCE



Your source for City news and information



Snow Removal in Columbia

The snow removal process is dependent on the type of precipitation, depth, temperature of air and pavement and timing of winter weather events. There are approximately 500 miles of streets covered by City crews; some streets in the City limits are maintained by Boone County or the Missouri Department of Transportation.

FOR SNOW EVENTS WITH LESS THAN 4 INCHES:

City crews will clear first, second and critical streets to a safe and passable pavement, utilizing overtime if necessary. Crews will treat residential streets during regular working hours only.

FOR SNOW EVENTS WITH MORE THAN 4 INCHES:

City crews will clear first, second and critical streets to a safe and passable pavement, utilizing overtime if necessary. Crews will treat residential streets utilizing overtime until streets are safe and passable.

DEFINITIONS OF PRIORITY STREETS:

— **Critical streets** have terrain that requires urgent attention during a winter weather event. This includes streets that have major hills, dangerous intersections and blind curve areas. (ex: Lynnwood Drive).

— **First priority streets** are arterial and major city streets. (ex: Green Meadows Road, Vandiver)

— **Second priority streets** are other major, heavily traveled city collector streets, school and city bus routes, as well as streets abutting schools, hospitals and other critical areas. (ex: Derby Ridge Drive)

The complete Snow Removal Priority Map can be viewed on the City's website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Public-Works/Streets.

Follow Columbia Transit on Twitter for up-to-date weather emergencies

During extreme weather conditions of heavy ice or snow this winter, Columbia Transit buses will operate on an emergency weather schedule. Routes will remain the same, but the times will change to allow for safer travel. Twitter is a great way to get up-to-date weather advisories. You can get short, timely messages right to your mobile device or via e-mail by following [Twitter.com/Columbia_MO_Bus](https://twitter.com/Columbia_MO_Bus).

Passengers can also listen to local radio stations KBIA, KCLR, KFRU and KPLA, or television stations KOMU, KMIZ and KCRG for emergency information. 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, please call Columbia Transit at 874-7282 or visit online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com (search GoBus).



Volunteer of the Month— Farah Nieuwenhuizen



Farah Nieuwenhuizen

The City of Columbia is lucky to have many dedicated staff members, but the abundance of volunteers helps make so many things possible here in Columbia. The December volunteer of the month, Farah Nieuwenhuizen, is a perfect example of a community volunteer who is making a difference.

Nieuwenhuizen has been volunteering for the City six years and has spent countless hours working to improve the safety and image of the Rothwell Heights neighborhood. As president of the neighborhood association for many years, Nieuwenhuizen has recruited Rothwell Heights residents and led efforts to clean up litter around the 24

block area once a week. She also organizes volunteers to care for the BAHA'I Faith Adopt-A-Spot beautification bed located on Broadfield near HyVee.

Whether serving her neighborhood or planting flowers at the Adopt-A-Spot, Nieuwenhuizen enjoys volunteering for the City because she can see the results immediately and it brings people together for a cause. "I love to see that the streets are cleaned and that people are happy with our neighborhood. When we get together to volunteer, it unifies the neighborhood," she said. To learn about City volunteering, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

—Submitted by volunteer Brittany Perrin

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the Health Insurance Appeals Board. The application deadline is noon, Jan. 7. Applications and current vacancies for City boards and commissions are available online at www.GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

Kick off the new year at Happy New U

The Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health is hosting Columbia's third annual Happy New U fitness event on New Year's Day. The event will be held Friday, Jan. 1, at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) from 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. Columbia's fitness experts will conduct mini-workouts and demonstrations to show exercise options available in Columbia. All activities are free!

Classes or demonstrations offered for adults will include tai chi, Pilates, yoga, Jazzercise, Zumba, body combat, fencing, soccer, spinning and belly dancing. Children may participate in many of the activities. Participants can register at the ARC beginning at 9:45 a.m. on Jan. 1.

The highlight of the Happy New U event will be one for the record books! Those attending will participate in Columbia's largest group workout at 11 a.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring cans of food to use as weights. Canned food items will be donated to the Central Missouri Food Bank.

The mission of the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health is to improve the physical fitness and health and enhance the quality of life of all citizens of Columbia and Boone County. For more information, visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com and search: GoFitness.

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MAYOR
Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

First Ward	Paul Sturtz
Second Ward	Jason Thornhill
Third Ward	Gary Kespohl
Fourth Ward	Daryl Dudley
Fifth Ward	Laura Nauser
Sixth Ward	Barbara Hoppe

City Manager Bill Watkins



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Low Cost Energy Efficiency Tips



You don't have to spend a lot of money to be energy efficient! Many of the items on the list below are free. Other efficiency measures listed require a very small investment and are easy do-it-yourself projects.

HEATING

- **FREE:** Set your thermostat at 68 degrees or as low as possible while you're home.
- **FREE:** Set thermostats to 60 degrees when you're away from home, or install a programmable thermostat to do it automatically.
- **FREE:** If you have a heat pump, do not make a lot of changes in the thermostat temperature during heating season unless you are going to be away for several days. Otherwise the auxiliary heat will come on which makes the system more costly. If you are going to be gone for several days, set the thermostat so the house gradually warms up before you return home.
- **FREE:** For windows that receive direct sunlight, keep shades open during the day and close them at night.
- **FREE:** Wear layers of clothing and use extra blankets.
- Replace the system's filter every three months or when dirty.

WINDOWS/DOORS

- Replace missing window putty or glazing as needed.
- Caulk window and door frames on the exterior.
- Replace weather stripping on exterior doors as needed.
- Check door bottoms and thresholds to make sure air is not escaping. Replace when necessary.

AIR SEALING

TIP: Dirt and spider webs can help you find where there are openings or air loss.

- **FREE:** Close fireplace damper when not in use.
- Install foam gaskets behind light switches or outlets located on exterior walls.
- Magnetic kitchen exhaust fan covers can keep air from leaking when the fan is not running.
- Seal holes in the exterior walls, crawl space or basement where air conditioning and plumbing pipes penetrate.
- Close off openings between a masonry chimney and surrounding wood framing in the attic with sheet metal.
- Install weather stripping around the perimeter of attic access hatches and pull-down stairs.

DUCTWORK AND AIR DISTRIBUTION

- **FREE:** Don't block vents and radiators with furniture, curtains or rugs.
- Seal leaky duct connections with duct sealing mastic. Do not use duct tape, as it will dry out and become loose.

Looking for some help or want to make some larger energy efficiency improvements?

Contact Columbia Water & Light

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com • info@ColumbiaPowerPartners.com • 874-7325



Again from the Top!

First Night® Columbia in The District

Dec. 31, 2010

Entertainment from 7 p.m. to midnight

Ring in the New Year at mid-Missouri's premier celebration! Revelers can travel from one location to the next enjoying performances at 12 venues in downtown Columbia.

Young visitors can visit the "Create and Celebrate" area and participate in their own procession at 9:15 p.m. that will end with a fireworks display. At 11:30 p.m., the People's Procession will lead revelers to the finale at Courthouse Square with a countdown and fireworks at midnight.

Admission buttons purchased prior to the event are \$8 for those 8 years and older and will be \$10 at the door. For more information on buttons, visit the website: <http://www.firstnightcolumbia.org>.

First Night Columbia is sponsored by the City of Columbia, Columbia Convention and Visitors Tourism Development Program, KPLA 101.5 & KFRU 1400 Radio, KOMU-TV8, Columbia Daily Tribune, Missouri Arts Council (a state agency) and Parks and Recreation.

'Use Less Stuff' Holiday Campaign

Nov. 15 to Jan. 1

The City of Columbia offers the following tips to avoid holiday waste during the annual "Use Less Stuff" campaign:

- Let the kids design their own gift wrap by using the Sunday comics, old maps, newspapers or a paper grocery bag decorated with their artwork.
- Take your own reusable bags when you go shopping.
- Consolidate your purchases into one bag rather than getting a new bag at each store.
- When shipping packages, reuse foam peanuts or other packaging materials.



For additional tips on avoiding waste this holiday season, check out the City's website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com (search UseLessStuff) or call the Solid Waste Division at 874-6271.

Catch a Columbia Transit shuttle for First Night 2011

Columbia Transit will provide free shuttle service for New Year's Eve First Night venues on Friday, Dec. 31. Shuttles will run in the downtown area from 6:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. Save your feet for dancing and ride the shuttle! Call 874-7282 for more information, or go online to view the map at www.first-nightcolumbia.org.

From 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., city buses will run a shuttle route that winds through the First Night footprint. Buses will make stops designated on the map, but will also make other stops as requested. Buses should be by every 10-15 minutes.

A Paratransit van will also run, but must be arranged in advance. The number to call to schedule Paratransit service is 874-7290. No requests for First Night rides will be accepted after 5 p.m. on Dec. 30. Please specify this is a First Night ride.

January holiday schedule

NEW YEAR'S DAY

City offices will be closed Friday, Dec. 31, in observance of New Year's Day. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will be made on Dec. 31 and the landfill will be open. Columbia Transit will operate on its normal schedule on Friday, Dec. 31. Parking will not be enforced on Dec. 31. The landfill will be closed Jan. 1.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

City offices will also be closed Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The regular City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 18. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made Jan. 17 and will be delayed one day the remainder of the week. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. City buses will not operate and parking meters will not be enforced Jan. 17.

Take the Winter Tri-Challenge at the ARC

The Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) is offering a great way to keep your New Year's resolutions! The Winter Tri-Challenge kicks off Jan. 3 and runs through March 31.

The Tri-Challenge is made up of a series of three races on the Star Trac stepper, the Espresso bike and treadmill. Each race simulates a real-life place, such as the steps of the Empire State Building or Eiffel Tower. Participants can choose one of three levels, ranging from novice to expert.

Participants will take the challenge on their own schedule by appointment. Times are verified by an ARC staff member. Challenge finishers will receive a certificate and T-shirt.

The Tri-Challenge is for anyone ages 13 and over. Cost is \$15; ARC members receive a \$3 discount. For more information, call the ARC at 874-7700.

Holiday Food Safety

In the United States, about 76 million people become sick with a foodborne illness each year. Considering that number, wouldn't safe food be a nice gift this holiday season? The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services reminds citizens of the following basic food safety rules for the kitchen:

Clean: Wash hands and food-contact surfaces often. Bacteria can spread throughout the kitchen and get onto cutting boards, knives, sponges and countertops.

Separate: Don't cross-contaminate. Keep raw meats, poultry and seafood away from foods that are ready-to-eat.

Cook: Cook to proper temperatures. If you're in charge of the turkey or ham this year, remember that a whole turkey must reach 165° F, fresh (raw) ham must reach 160° F and precooked ham must be reheated to 140° F.

Chill: Cool leftovers quickly. Foods should not sit at room temperature for more than two hours. Cold temperatures keep most harmful bacteria from growing and multiplying.

Those most vulnerable to foodborne illnesses are children, seniors and those who have an illness that affects their immune system. No one wants to spend the holidays suffering from a foodborne illness, so follow these basic food safety rules for a healthy and fun holiday season. For more information, please visit www.foodsafety.gov.

2011 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration

Register now for the 18th annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration, scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 13, from 7-8:45 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select Expo Center. Pre-registration is required; the deadline is 5 p.m., Jan. 7. The theme of this year's celebration is "Unity in Diversity!" A breakfast and live music will be followed by the presentation of the 14th annual 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 cost is \$14 per person. Scholarships are available upon request. Please call the Division of Human Services at 874-7488 (voice) or 874-7356 (TTY) for registration information or for information or accommodations related to disability. A registration form is available on the City's website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com. The celebration is designed to be accessible to all.

Hinkson Clean Sweep

Thanks so much to the volunteers who made the Hinkson Clean Sweep 2010 a success! With your help, we removed 5,106 pounds of trash from the local streams and creeks in October. Your efforts and commitment are what makes this community a better place for us all!

Thank you to the site captains for leading each group and for helping everyone stay organized. A special thank you to Firestone Tire for taking the tires that were pulled from the streams and providing lunch to the volunteers, and to Phil and his crew at Shotgun Pete's BBQ Shack for cooking.



Sponsored by City of Columbia Public Works, Boone County Public Works, Missouri Stream Teams, D.N.R. and the Sierra Club Osage Group

Holiday Burglary Prevention

The holiday hustle and bustle makes it easy to forget that this is a favorite time of year for burglars. Every year police take reports of stolen presents from families who come home to find their worst fears realized. By taking the following precautions you can help prevent burglars from stealing your family's holiday!

- Leave lights on inside and outside when gone, or use a timer.
- Let trusted neighbors and police know if you are leaving town over the holidays.
- Don't put gifts where they can be seen through windows.
- Promptly report any suspicious activity in your neighborhood to police.
- Don't put packaging from expensive items uncovered on the curb for trash pickup.
- Make sure all doors and windows are secure and use your home security system.
- Have your mail and newspapers held if leaving for more than a couple days.

For more information, visit the Police Department's page of the City's website at <http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Police/>.



Web "Did You Know?"

You can request a "watch in passing" by police on your home or business while you're away? Go to <https://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Police/Forms/wip.php> and fill in the information or call 874-7652.

Columbia's Proposed Electric Transmission Project

There has been discussion on adding electric transmission lines in the southern section of Columbia in the next 5 years.

- **What are transmission lines?** Large amounts of power are transferred from where it is generated to where it is needed with electric transmission lines. Transmission lines are fed into substations where the power is stepped down to lower voltages. Distribution lines move lower voltages of power from the substation to electric customers.
- **Why do we need new transmission lines in Columbia?** There is a growing need for more electricity on the southern side of Columbia. Substations in the area are approaching their maximum capacity both electrically and physically. This makes them vulnerable to being overloaded which could cause power outages and damage to other equipment in the system. A new substation and transmission lines will reduce the loading on the existing substations, ensure greater electric reliability and will improve regional stability for the power grid.
- **What are the preliminary routes being discussed?** Please see the maps posted at GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7325 to request a map be mailed to you.
- **What is the process of selecting the new transmission line routes?** The City hired a consultant to evaluate different transmission line routes so feedback from the public could be collected. After the comments from a meeting in late October are reviewed, there will be more meetings scheduled with the public, the Water & Light Advisory Board and the City Council over the next several years to determine the final routes.
- **Can transmission lines be buried?** It is possible to bury transmission lines but it costs approximately five times more than placing them overhead. Placing lines underground also involves more disruption and repair to the right-of-way, which is generally near private property.
- **Where do I go for updated information?**
 - GoColumbiaMo.com (you can sign up for project updates via e-mail)
 - wmail@GoColumbiaMo.com • 874-7325

PARKS & RECREATION

CALENDAR

Register online!

www.GoColumbiaMo.com

Call 874-7460 for more information.

JANUARY 2011

3	Registration starts for adult winter volleyball
11	CARE summer program applications available
17	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Candle Light Walk and Celebration, Walk at Douglass H.S. at 6:30 p.m., proceed to St. Paul AMC
18	Swimming lessons start at Hickman Pool
29	Swimming lessons start at the ARC