

# CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



**BIKE  
WALK &  
WHEEL  
WEEK  
2012**

*Follow Columbia  
Parks and Rec or  
Columbia/Boone  
County Public  
Health and  
Human Services  
on Facebook or  
Twitter for timely  
updates.*

**May 12<sup>th</sup> — 19<sup>th</sup>**  
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## National Tourism Week celebration

The Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau and its hospitality partners will celebrate the 29<sup>th</sup> annual National Travel and Tourism Week May 5-13. Dozens of cities across the country participate in National Travel and Tourism Week to recognize the importance of travel as a vital part of our culture and economy.

Travel and tourism generated \$1.8 trillion in economic output for the U.S. economy in 2010. The industry also represents one of America's largest employers, supporting 14.1 million jobs. In Boone County, nearly 10,000 people were employed in tourism related fields in fiscal year 2011. Additionally, tourism related expenditures reached over \$320 million, according to the Missouri Division of Tourism's annual report.

Destinations all over the United States use National Travel and Tourism Week to recognize the importance of the travel industry and to thank local hospitality employees for all they do to welcome visitors to the community. Here's how to learn more about how Columbia will celebrate the week:

**Follow on Twitter:** @ColumbiaMOCVB  
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**VISIT ONLINE:**  
[www.VisitColumbiaMO.com](http://www.VisitColumbiaMO.com)  
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## Parks and Recreation presents Family Fun Fests

Family Fun Fests are returning to Flat Branch Park in 2012. Columbia Parks and Recreation will present a themed Family Fun Fest event on the third Wednesday of each month through September.

Fun Fests are held from 6-8 p.m. and are free. Entertainment for the entire family features music, special performances, art activities, bounce houses, hands-on activities, balloon animals, face painting and guaranteed fun for all ages.

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

### MAY 16: FITNESS IS FUN

Celebrate Bike, Walk and Wheel Week and learn about ways to get fit. Fun demonstrations and hands-on activities highlight the event. Learn many ways to enjoy exercise and fitness from a variety of organizations and departments.

*Sponsored by the ARC (Activity and Recreation Center)*

### COMING UP:

**June 20: Explore Outdoors**

**July 18: Around the World**

**Aug 15: It's a Circus**

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## DID YOU KNOW?



The Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program is available to help income-qualifying applicants make needed repairs to their homes. Find out more at: [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Planning/Housing\\_Programs/rehab.php](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Planning/Housing_Programs/rehab.php).

## Outdoor Movies in the Park



Columbia Parks and Recreation is planning another summer of the Outdoor Movies in the Park series. Movies are held 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 4, 8:30 p.m. – Puss in Boots (PG)

Friday, June 8, 9 p.m. – The Muppets (PG)

Friday, July 13, 9 p.m. – The Smurfs (PG)

There are no rain dates for the movies. Concessions are available. Movie admission is \$2 per person; children 8 and under are free. The Outdoor Movies in the Park series is sponsored by Columbia Parks and Recreation and KPLA 101.5 Radio.

## City offices closed for Memorial Day

City offices will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made this day 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 the holiday.

## Pick up the phone before you grab the shovel

### 1-800-DIG-RITE

If you are digging in your yard this spring, remember to call for utility locates to avoid disruptions to your utility service.

# Columbia Imagined

The Plan for How We Live & Grow

## Phase Four— 'Where Are We Heading?'

Phase three of the City's comprehensive plan process, "What Do We Care About?" concluded with a summary meeting in late March. Phase three generated more than 200 surveys, where residents indicated that their favorite aspects of Columbia include parks, trails, The District, and cultural and sporting events. The data collected from the surveys will be used in phase four, "Where Are We Headed?" The task force will work in this phase to identify goals and objectives, analyze gathered data and develop city growth scenarios. Phase four will feature citywide meetings starting in mid-April and running into September.

Dates for the public meetings will be posted at [ColumbiaImagined.com](http://ColumbiaImagined.com). Follow Columbia Imagined on Facebook ([ColumbiaImagined](https://www.facebook.com/ColumbiaImagined)) and Twitter ([@COMOImagined](https://twitter.com/COMOImagined)).

## Office of Cultural Affairs moves to Walton Building

The City's Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA), previously located in the Gentry Building at 1 S. Seventh St., has relocated to the Walton Building, 300 S. Providence. All phone and email contact information for the OCA remains the same.

## Xeriscaping: water efficient landscaping

Up to 60 percent of household water used during the 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!

**PLANT SELECTION:** The key is to select plants according to the site conditions and stresses. Native Missouri plants are good choices since they tolerate wet spring soils and late summer drought.

**SOIL:** 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.

**WATER ZONES:** 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 the bottom of hills.

**MULCH:** 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.

**IRRIGATION:** Pay close attention to moisture in the soil to determine when to water. It also pays to do your homework on the water needs of the plants you have selected.

See the City's website for a list of shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennial flowers to use in your yard: [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com), search for "water efficient landscaping."

### FREE Mulch

Need mulch for your landscaping and gardening? Free mulch is available to residents at the Capen Park mulch site located off Rock Quarry Road or at Parkside Drive located off Creasy Springs Road. Mulch is available for personal use and may be self-loaded when the sites are open between dawn and dusk.

Residents may also drop off residential leaves, grass clippings, brush and limbs up to 10 feet in length and 2 feet in diameter, at either of these locations. No commercial material is permitted. Please remove bags, containers and ties and dispose of them properly.

For more details, contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 or go online to view the City calendar at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com).

## Stay safe and healthy in the garden

Gardening can be a great way to get physical activity, beautify the community and go green. Whether you're a beginner or an expert, health and safety are important as you head outside this spring. The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services reminds gardeners to use common sense and take precautions while in the sun and around insects, chemicals and lawn and garden equipment.

**DRESS TO PROTECT:** Prevent exposure to harmful chemicals, insects and the sun by wearing the proper clothing; use an insect repellent and sunscreen with sun protective factor (SPF) 15 or higher (both UVA and UVB protection); check your clothes and body for ticks; wear a hat with a wide brim to shade the face, head, ears and neck.

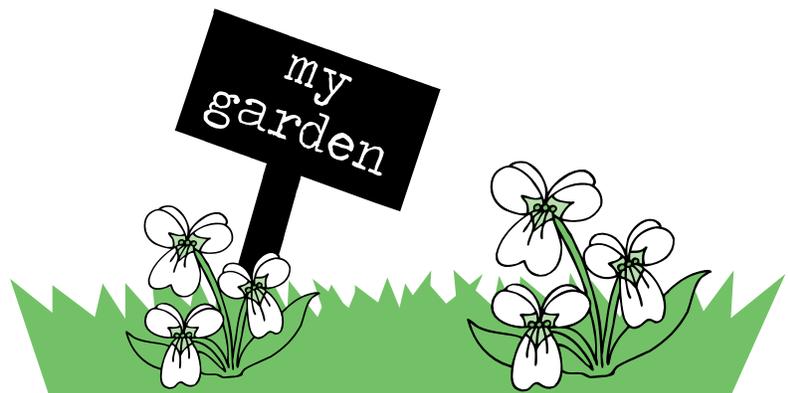
**STAY HYDRATED:** Drink plenty of water; avoid beverages with alcohol and drinks high in sugar, and stay away from caffeinated and carbonated beverages.

**PUT SAFETY FIRST:** Read all instructions and labels before using chemicals and operating equipment; check equipment before each use.

**ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:** Active people are less likely than inactive people to be obese or have high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, heart disease, stroke, depression, colon cancer and premature death.

**GO GREEN:** Conserve water, reuse containers, recycle and share your bounty.

**KEEP YOUR YARD CLEAR:** Remove items that may collect standing water, such as buckets, old tires and toys. Mosquitoes can breed in them within days; clearing trees and brush in your yard can reduce the likelihood that deer, rodents and ticks will live there.



## Compost for Sale



Gearing up for spring gardening? Compost is available for purchase at the City's compost site at the landfill, 5700 Peabody Rd. The facility sells compost for \$12 plus tax per cubic yard Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. and some Saturdays. Saturday sale days for 2012 include April 14, May 12, June 9, Sept. 22 and Oct. 20, 8 a.m. to noon. You bring a pickup truck or trailer; the City supplies the loader.

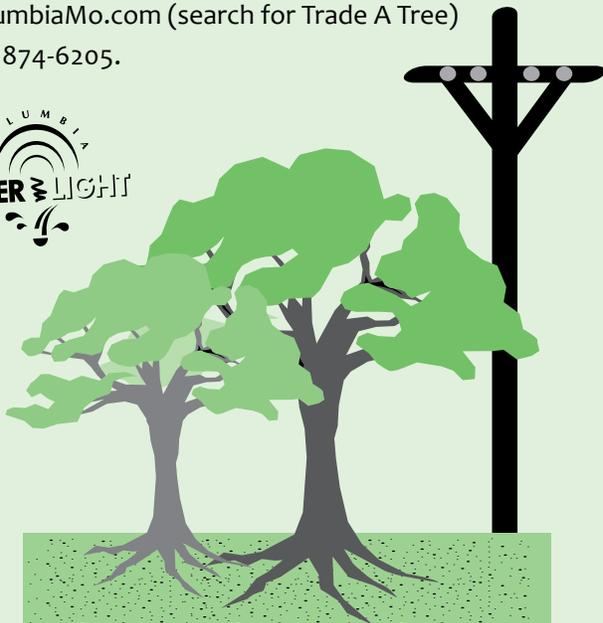
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## Trade A Tree— Avoid electrical problems due to trees

If your property has trees growing into power lines, it's likely you will experience "blinks" in your service or even a possible power failure during a storm. Why not trade the problematic tree for a free, small-growing ornamental tree?

Sign up for the Trade A Tree program and Water & Light will inspect your trees growing near the City's main electric distribution lines. If the tree on your property qualifies for the program, Water & Light will remove the problematic tree. You can then select a small-growing tree or bush to be planted in your yard.

**SIGNING UP:** Please fill out the online form at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com) (search for Trade A Tree) or call 874-6205.



## Help shape City priorities: take our online survey

City administrators are undertaking a strategic planning process that will help the City Council and every department in municipal government align resources with clearly defined priorities. As a customer of City services, your feedback is critical.

Would you be willing to share your thoughts? A link to a short online survey has been posted in the "Announcements" section of the City's homepage at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com). Printed versions are available in the first floor lobby, City Hall, 701 E. Broadway, the ARC at 1701 W. Ash or the Department of Public Health and Human Services at 1005 W. Worley. The strategic planning process will help the City achieve excellence by:

- Creating a united sense of mission throughout City government;
- Identifying goals, objective and strategies to best meet the needs of the community;
- Aligning budget and resources with key priorities;
- Setting specific performance measurements;
- Increasing accountability.

Your feedback will help shape the development of the City's strategic plan. Thank you for taking a few minutes to provide your input. Information and updates will be posted throughout the strategic planning process at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com). If you have questions, please call the City Manager's Office at 874-7214.



Visit the City's website at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) to take the survey today!

## City property receives stormwater makeover

The City of Columbia Public Works Department received an Environmental Protection Agency grant, through the Department of Natural Resources, to demonstrate the installation of stormwater retrofits on an industrial site.

Public Works Operations (Grissum) and Water & Light power plant properties (between Business Loop and I-70) will be retrofit with stormwater controls to improve water quality in Bear Creek. Stormwater runoff carries pollutants (oil, grease, excess nutrients, sediment and metals) to creeks and streams where it impacts water quality. Pollutants in creeks and streams affect all animal life. These pollutants then travel to rivers where they can affect drinking water and the water used for recreation. By treating the water closer to its source, waterways are kept cleaner.

Stormwater retrofits, such as raingardens, bioretention cells, pervious pavement and detention remove pollutants from the “first flush” rainfall and encourage stormwater to infiltrate into the ground instead of running off. New landscaping areas around the Grissum and power plant properties are specially designed stormwater controls that remove pollutants from stormwater runoff. County and City staff will monitor runoff and pollution reduction from the retrofits to provide information to the engineering and development community for implementation in other locations.

Throughout the three-year grant, City forces will construct various stormwater controls on the City property, improving the water quality of runoff from the site. Grant monies will be used to purchase materials and supplies while City forces and equipment will provide the required match through construction activity. City departments contributing to this effort include Public Works, Water & Light, Parks and Recreation and the City Channel. At the project’s end, some of the City property will meet the requirements of the Stormwater Management and Water Quality Manual.

*US Environmental Protection Agency Region 7, through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, has provided partial funding for this project under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.*



**A Public Works Stormwater Operations crew spreads rock in a new bioswale on Ashley Street.**

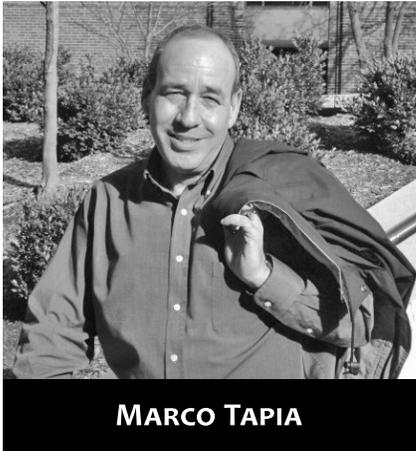
## PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

### MAY

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>3</b>     | Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series, 7-9 p.m., free                                     |
| <b>4</b>     | Movies in the Park: “Puss in Boots”— Flat Branch Park, 8:30 p.m., \$2 per person, 8 and under free |
| <b>5</b>     | Hershey Track and Field Meet, Hickman High School Track, Check in at 9 a.m., free                  |
| <b>12</b>    | MLB Pitch, Hit and Run, Albert-Oakland Park, check in at 9:30 a.m., free                           |
| <b>12</b>    | Kids Bicycle Safety Challenge, Shelter Insurance parking lot, 10 a.m.– noon, free                  |
| <b>12-19</b> | Mayor’s Challenge: Bike, Walk and Wheel Week   |
| <b>16</b>    | Family Fun Fest: Fitness is Fun, Flat Branch Park, 6–8 p.m., free                                  |
| <b>19</b>    | National Trails Day 5K and 10K, MKT Trail at Stadium access, 9 a.m., free                          |
| <b>22</b>    | Senior two-person scramble, Lake of the Woods Golf Course  |
| <b>26-28</b> | Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center open  |

## Volunteer of the Month— Marco Tapia



Looking at the big picture can often help you see the world in a different light and rearrange your priorities. For April Volunteer of the Month, Marco Tapia, serving as host of the CAT-TV program “Making A Difference” has blessed him with the ability to see the big picture and recognize what matters most to him.

“It really brings me back to what is more important than anything else, at least in my world, which is giving back to others. I have been so blessed to be able

to interact with people who are dedicated to giving back, and they do it for nothing. It is just phenomenal,” Tapia says.

“Making A Difference” is a show dedicated to highlighting volunteers and volunteer opportunities. City of Columbia volunteer coordinators boast about Tapia’s ability to make the guests feel at home.

Tapia has served as the host for the local cable access TV show for almost two years. Add that to the multiple volunteer positions he has held over the last 31 years, and it is clear that he values giving back to Columbia. Tapia proclaims very passionately, “Serving others is what life is all about; it doesn’t get any better than that.”

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or [volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com).

*Written by volunteer Brittany Perrin*

## Summer Youth Volunteering

Looking to solve summer boredom for teens? Volunteering is a perfect opportunity to make good use of time, have fun and make a difference for Columbia.

Columbia youth ages 12-15 years are invited to participate in Youth In Action. Sponsored by the City’s Volunteer Programs, Youth In Action allows kids to participate in a wide variety of supervised, structured projects at events and with agencies throughout the community. Youth In Action projects begin when school is out.

Another great resource is the Directory of Summer Youth Opportunities, a listing of opportunities with City departments and community agencies for young people.

To apply for Youth In Action or access the directory, call 874-7499 or visit the City’s website at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) (search for Youth in Action).



## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

### Application deadline: May 4 at noon

- Columbia Housing Authority Board
- Disabilities Commission
- Environment and Energy Commission
- Board of Mechanical Examiners
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Board of Plumbing Examiners

### Application deadline: June 8 at noon

- Columbia Library District Board
- Commission on Cultural Affairs Standing Committee on Public Art
- Railroad Advisory Board
- Storm Water Advisory Commission
- Water & Light Advisory Board

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.

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**MAYOR**  
**Bob McDavid**

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	Fred Schmidt
<i>Second Ward</i>	Jason Thornhill
<i>Third Ward</i>	Gary Kespohl
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	Daryl Dudley
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	Helen Anthony
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	Barbara Hoppe
<i>City Manager</i>	Mike Matthes



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