

# CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Challenge

## Bike Walk Wheel Week

May 11-18, 2014

For updates and to register for great prizes, visit Parks and Recreation at [GoColumbiaMo.com/Park-sandRec](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Park-sandRec).

Call 874-7460 or email [jlgodon@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:jlgodon@GoColumbiaMo.com) for more information.

### Sunday, May 11

Como Cyclofemme Trail Ride

2 p.m.-3:30 p.m. MKT Trail at Forum trailhead

Celebration of women cyclists! Plan to ride 12 miles; helmets required.

### Monday, May 12

Bike is Your Ticket on Transit All Week

Bicyclists ride free on Columbia buses all week.

### Public Art Tour Walk

6 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Flat Branch Park

JJ Musgrove from the Office of Cultural Affairs will lead the tour of public art.

### Tuesday, May 13

MKT Trail Secret Access Ride

6 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Flat Branch Park playground

12-mile, round-trip bicycle ride; helmets required.

### Wednesday, May 14

Bike Maintenance Workshop

6:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m., Walt's Bicycle Fitness & Wilderness Co., 1217 Rogers Street



### Thursday, May 15

Try Transit Day

Everyone rides free all day long!

3M Flat Branch-Hinkson Creek Wetlands Dedication  
3:30-5 p.m., 3M Flat Branch Hinkson Creek Wetlands, MKT Trail

Walk or bike from the MKT Forum trailhead or the new Forum Katy Parkway Connector, both short distances.

### Friday, May 16

Breakfast Station Day ~ National Bike to Work Day  
7-9 a.m., Stop by and enjoy a free breakfast.

### LOCATIONS AND HOSTS:

1. Flat Branch-Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health and Walt's
2. Forum Trailhead-Tryathletics and Clovers Natural Market
3. Garth Nature Area-Columbia Kiwanis Club
4. Intersection of Williams and Walnut-WELLAWARE
5. ARC-ARC and HyVee
6. Wabash Station-PedNet and COMET

### Saturday, May 17

Oh, the Places You'll Go in CoMo!

2-4 p.m., Stephens Lake Park Old 63 entrance

Explore some new places and complete a passport book for the chance for great prizes.

### Sunday, May 18

Bicycle History Tour of Columbia

2-4 p.m., Flat Branch Park playground

Join Trevor Harris, amateur historian, on a leisurely 12.5-mile tour highlighting some of Columbia's landmarks.

### Ongoing throughout May

Story Book Trail

Dawn to Dusk, Children's Grove at Stephens Lake Park



## New bus system approved to start in August

On Feb. 17, City Council approved the Columbia Transit overhaul project known as CoMO Connect. The decision comes after Transit staff spent months meeting with numerous community groups and commissions to receive feedback on the proposed design. More than 550 surveys of current and potential riders were administered throughout the process, resulting in a nearly 95 percent approval of the plan designed to improve public transportation overall and meet the needs of our growing community.

The new and improved bus system will be carefully rolled out this summer while the current system is still in place, so customers have plenty of time to adjust to the new routes. On Aug. 4, the City bus line will completely switch over to the new bus routes, and the current hub-and-spoke system centered around the downtown Wabash Station will be a distant memory.

Columbia Transit will host many opportunities this summer for customers to learn about the new system, including classes, traveling information buses and marketing campaigns. Maps and information on the new system are available at **CoMO-Connect.org**.

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## City Arts Funding

Each year the City supports local arts programming. In fiscal year 2014, funding from the Office of Cultural Affairs is being provided to local arts agencies in support of visual and performing arts projects and related educational offerings. As a result, citizens and visitors have access to numerous exhibitions, concerts, classes, workshops and special events.

To qualify to receive City arts funding, arts organizations must have 501(c)(3) status. The application deadline for fiscal year 2015 is May 1, 2014. To learn more, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs, 874-6386, [oca@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:oca@GoColumbiaMo.com) or access guidelines at **GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts**.

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## Small dogs rule at the new Paws Pond

A dog park created just for smaller dogs was recently completed at Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 2500 Chapel Hill Road. The new dog park, Paws Pond, was created in response to park-user requests for a safe area that would separate smaller dogs from their larger companions.

The newly renovated dog park now includes three separate fenced areas for dogs: an area for all dog sizes where they can play in and around a 16-acre lake; an area that encircles a small pond for dogs that are 18 inches and shorter at the shoulder; and an off-season area for all dogs to safeguard them from falling through the lake ice during winter.

Other improvements to the dog park include the addition of a dog washing station, improved double entry gates and ADA access into the areas. The renovation of the dog park was one of many new improvements made at Twin Lakes Recreation Area and was funded by the park sales tax.

## Street Talk



As winter wanes, attention turns from snow and ice management on Columbia roads to dealing with the result of freezing/thawing moisture and the blading of snow—the dreaded pothole. Like dandelions in

spring, potholes are popping up on many Columbia roads. Columbia Public Works crews have been applying temporary patches to potholes throughout the winter. As the weather continues to warm and the threat of snow and ice diminishes, the focus will shift to more permanent repairs.

Although crews are working to repair potholes as they find them, customers are the best “eyes.” Public Works relies on your reports to help crews locate and repair road surfaces. You can report potholes or other road maintenance issues electronically via the City’s website at **GoColumbiaMo.com** and click the “*Report Problems*” tab on the left of the screen or by calling 874-6289.



## Movies in the Park



Columbia Parks and Recreation is bringing back the popular Movies in the Park series at Flat Branch Park this summer. Movies are shown on a giant, inflatable screen. Movie-goers should bring a blanket or low lawn chair. There are no rain dates. Concessions are available. Movie admission is \$2 per person; children 8 and under are free.

### *The lineup for 2014:*

- **May 9, 8:30 p.m., "Monsters University"**
- **June 13, 9 p.m., "Frankenweenie"**
- **July 11, 9 p.m., "Elf"**
- **Aug. 8, 8:30 p.m., "Despicable Me 2"**

The Movies in the Park series is co-sponsored by KPLA 101.5 and Boone Electric Community Trust.

## Leaving for the summer?

*Don't forget to disconnect your utilities.*

Utility Customer Service (UCS) knows that if you're moving, you have a long "to-do" list. If you are a student leaving for the summer, remember to terminate your services. You can do this online by going to **<http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Utilities/>** and choosing "Transfer or Disconnect an Account."

If you're required to keep the utilities in your name until your lease expires, provide UCS with a summer mailing address so your bills will get to you in a timely manner. You can do this online - select the link for "Update Your Contact Information," or simply register for online access so you can check your account at your convenience.

The City refers delinquent accounts to a collection agency, so be proactive. Protect your credit score by keeping your utility account current. If you have questions as your move approaches, contact UCS at 874-7380.

## Save in the shade with Tree Power

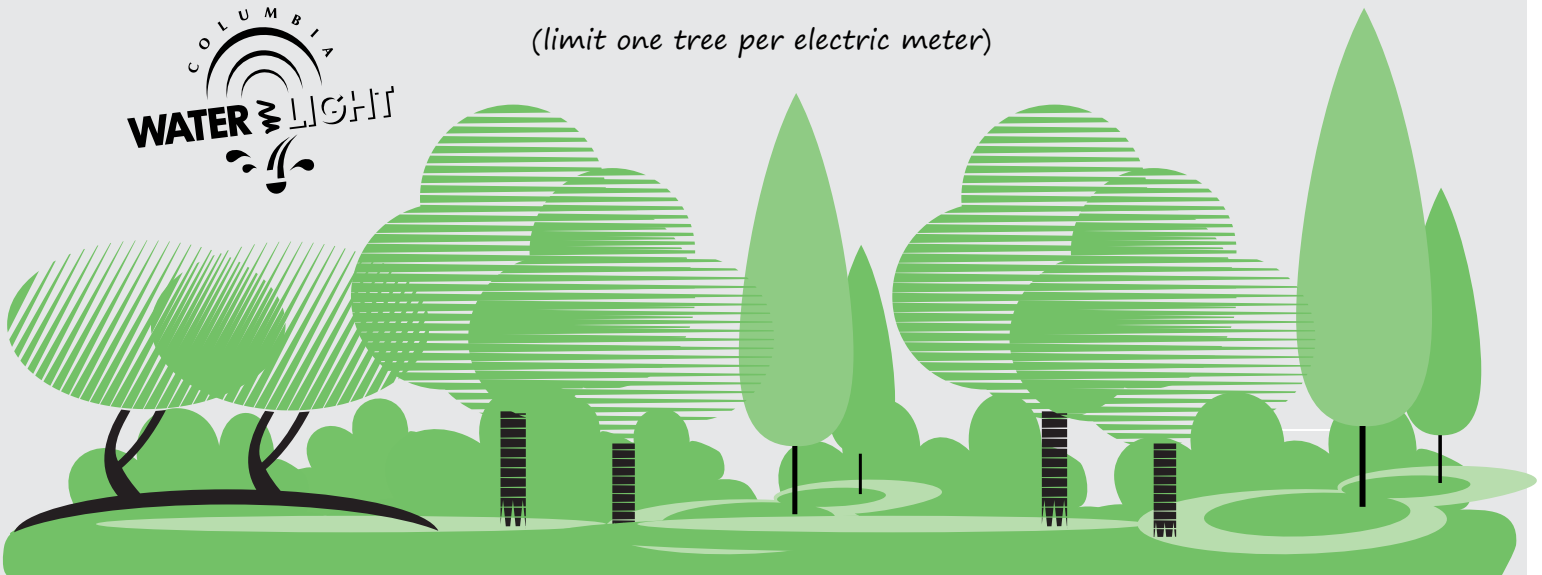
Trees planted in the right place on your property can reduce your cooling costs by up to 30 percent in the summer. That's why Columbia Water & Light is offering a free 6- to 10-foot tall shade tree for electric customers.

Sign up and a representative will come to your house to show you the best place for your shade tree. You will then receive a coupon for a free tree. *(Limit one tree per electric meter)*

**573-874-7325**

*ColumbiaPowerPartners.com*

*(limit one tree per electric meter)*



## Summer Youth Volunteering



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

Columbia youth ages 12-15 years can make good use of their extra time this summer by participating 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 this spring and will continue through September.

Another 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 Volunteer Programs website at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com).

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## National Public Health Week

Each year, during the first week in April, the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services celebrates National Public Health Week. Residents are encouraged to take action every day to build a healthier community.

It's easy to begin a path toward a healthier lifestyle:

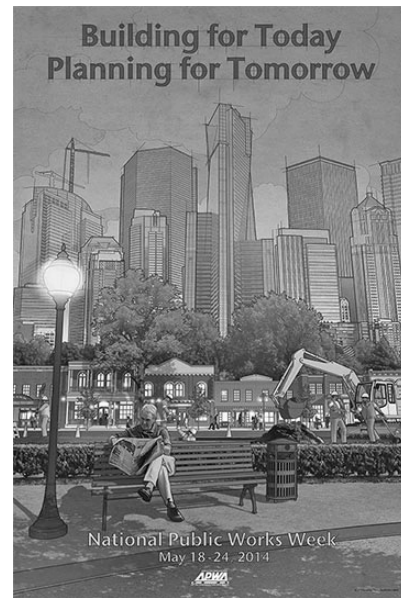
- Eat healthier meals.
- Exercise more often.
- Stop smoking/tobacco consumption.
- Get routine health screenings and immunizations.
- Practice good hygiene to limit the spread of germs.

Begin your journey toward health today. Visit the National Public Health Week website at [www.nphw.org](http://www.nphw.org) for more information.

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## City offices closed for Memorial Day

City offices will be closed Monday, May 26, 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 May 26.



## National Public Works Week

Columbia Public Works, an accredited Public Works Department since 2001, invites its customers to recognize National Public Works Week and the theme "Building for Today - Planning for Tomorrow" May 18-24. Columbia Public Works is responsible for many infrastructure services provided by the City of Columbia, including streets, sewer, stormwater, solid waste collection, public transportation and the airport. During this week, Public Works hopes customers take a moment to learn about the vital role the department plays in the community.

## Columbia Fire Department Explorer Program

The Columbia Fire Department Explorers are made up of 15 young men and women ages 14-21. This elite group participates in fire-related trainings, performs station duties and rides along with the Columbia Fire Department to emergency incidents where they assist fire personnel with select functions.

The Explorer program provides these young men and women with life skills that include basic social skills, respect for themselves, as well as trust and respect for others, accountability for their actions and time management. These skills are accompanied with trade-related skills such as: ropes and knot tying; safe and appropriate ground ladder usage; general hand tool knowledge; safety and prevention of water emergencies (ice rescue and warm water emergencies); CPR; and fire prevention knowledge. For more information about the program, call 874-7391.

## Use less water on your landscaping

Are you ready for spring planting season? A considerable amount of water can be saved through well-planned and well-managed landscapes. Try xeriscaping or water efficient landscaping and spend less time watering and more time enjoying your beautiful landscape.

**Plant Selection:** Select plants according to the site conditions and stresses. Native Missouri plants are good choices since they tolerate temperature and moisture fluctuations.

**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 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 that you have selected for your yard.

See GoColumbiaMo for a list of shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennial flowers to use in your yard: search for "water efficient landscaping."

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## CDBG and HOME: Your input is needed

Each year the City of Columbia receives federal funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) due to its population, demographics and available funding. The City estimates it will receive approximately \$800,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$400,000 in HOME funds each of the next five years. These funds primarily benefit low- to moderate-income households and can be used for these five program areas: economic development, fair housing, community facilities, neighborhood needs and affordable housing. Public input is vital in prioritizing the community development needs these funds are intended to finance. Please take a moment to complete the following surveys:

**Community Development General Needs Survey:** This survey is designed to collect public opinion regarding how the City should use funding among the five different program areas.

**Affordable Housing Needs Assessment Survey:** This survey is designed to collect public opinion regarding how the City should use funding in the program area of affordable housing.

Please go to <http://tinyurl.com/YourCDBGandHOME> to complete these surveys and for more information on the consolidated plan process.

## PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

### May

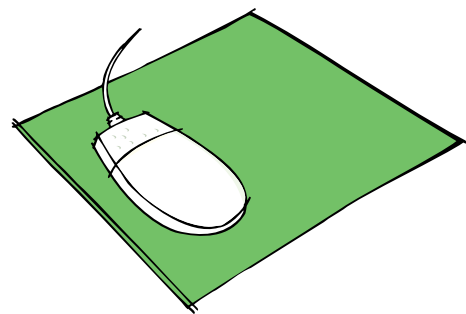
<b>1</b>	Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series, Swampweed Cajun Band, 7 p.m., FREE
<b>3</b>	MLB Pitch, Hit and Run, Albert-Oakland Park, 9:30 a.m. check-in, FREE
<b>3</b>	Children's Grove Dedication Celebration, Stephens Lake Park, 1-3 p.m., FREE
<b>9</b>	Movies in the Park: Monsters University, Flat Branch Park, 8:30 p.m., \$2 per person, 8 and under FREE
<b>11-18</b>	Mayor's Challenge: Bike Walk and Wheel Week
<b>17-18</b>	Heritage Weekend, Douglass Park, 3-8 p.m., FREE
<b>21</b>	Family Fun Fest: Fitness is Fun, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., FREE
<b>24</b>	Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center, Lake of the Woods, Little Mates Cove at Twin Lakes, Douglass Family Aquatic Center open
<b>31</b>	4th Annual Fishing Derby, register 9 a.m., derby 9:30-10:30 a.m., Philips Park, FREE

## Web Did You Know?

You can apply for new utility service, transfer your existing service from one address to another or submit a request to terminate your service online.

Follow this link: [GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Utilities/](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Utilities/) and choose what you need under Account Signups or Changes.

Applications are processed in a timely manner, and a customer service representative will contact you if there are any problems or questions.





*Top picture:* Minority Men's Network President Steve Calloway, Ron Kelley & Gene Robertson

*Bottom picture:* Sehon Williams, Douglas Simmons, Robert Ross

## Volunteers of the Month— Minority Men's Network

Rain or shine, members of Minority Men's Network have regularly participated in Cleanup Columbia. Cleaning trash along Columbia's central city streets is just one way they demonstrate their commitment to improving their community through volunteer work.

"We appreciate their constant dedication and enthusiasm for this event," said Leigh Britt, City of Columbia Neighborhood Services manager. "It is special to have volunteer groups come back year after year."

The over 120 members of Minority Men's Network volunteer for a variety of projects:

the Reading Program with the Nora Stewart Early Learning Center, the Youth Empowerment Zone, Columbia Cradle-to-Educational Initiative and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Their mission is "to utilize the power of committed men to improve the lives of ethnic minorities through leadership and service."

Steve Calloway, Minority Men's Network president, says that "volunteer work is about service, being role models and giving voice to the minority perspective in whatever venue we find ourselves."

The Minority Men's Network members are involved in a variety of City affairs and serve on City boards and commissions. They value education and encourage youth to be successful in school and college.

"Just as important," Calloway says, "is letting our youth and the larger community see successful and respected black men out in front and visible in all aspects of our community."

## Development Codes Update Project

The Community Development Department continues to work with consultants Clarion Associates and Ferrell Madden LLC to prepare a comprehensive update of the City's land development codes, including but not limited to the zoning ordinance (Chapter 29) and subdivision regulations (Chapter 25). The initial public meeting was held Jan. 28, and the consultant team has nearly completed **Task 1: Initial Scoping, Analysis and Direction** to review the City's current ordinances and recently adopted plans and prepare a detailed outline of the revised development code structure, including initial recommendations for changes.

In April, the consultants plan to begin **Task 2: Draft of Revised Zoning Ordinance**, which will outline three modules for the zoning code:

1. Proposed districts and permitted uses;
2. Form and development controls; and
3. Approval procedures.

To learn more and stay involved in the development codes update project, visit the project website at [development-codes-update-project@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:development-codes-update-project@GoColumbiaMo.com) or search "development codes update" on the City's website.

## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

*Application deadline: May 9 at 5 p.m.*

- Board of Plumbing Examiners
- Columbia Housing Authority Board
- Environment & Energy Commission
- Parks & Recreation Commission

*Application deadline: June 6 at 5 p.m.*

- Board of Mechanical Examiners
- Columbia Library District Board
- Commission on Cultural Affairs
- Standing Committee on Public Art
- Disabilities Commission
- Railroad Advisory Board
- Water & Light Advisory Board

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

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**MAYOR**  
**Bob McDavid**

## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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<i>Second Ward</i>	<b>Michael Trapp</b>
<i>Third Ward</i>	<b>Karl Skala</b>
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	<b>Ian Thomas</b>
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	<b>Laura Nauser</b>
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	<b>Barbara Hoppe</b>
<i>City Manager</i>	<b>Mike Matthes</b>



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