

CITY SOURCE



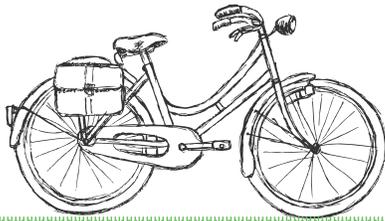
Your source for City news and information



14th Annual Mayor's Challenge

BIKE, WALK, & WHEEL WEEK

May 3 - 9, 2015 • All Aboard!



Visit Parks and Recreation at www.GoColumbiaMo.com/parksandrec for updates and to register for prizes. Call 874-7460 or email jlgodon@GoColumbiaMo.com for more information.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Jay Dix Station Dedication

2-4 p.m., 3725 S. Scott Blvd.
Dedication ceremony starts at 2:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 4

Bike is Your Ticket on CoMo Connect All Week

Bicyclists ride free on Columbia buses all week.

CoMo Connect Lunch and Learn Workshop:

How to Ride the Bus

12-1 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 1A

TUESDAY, MAY 5

Open House: Mizzou International and Off-Campus Students

10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Kuhlmann Court, north of MU Student Center

Bear Creek Trail Ride

6 p.m., Meet at Albert-Oakland Park Shelter #2

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Bicycle Licensing Drive

Drop by Parks and Recreation office at #1 South 7th from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MKT Trail Secret Access Ride

6 p.m., Meet at Flat Branch Park Playground

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Try CoMo Connect Day

Everyone rides free all day long!

Bike Maintenance Workshop

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

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Breakfast Station Day

7-9 a.m. at various locations around Columbia
Stop by and enjoy a free breakfast. Check locations online.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Loop the City Bike Ride

10 a.m., Meet at Bonnie View Shelter

Garage Games: Longboard Skateboarding

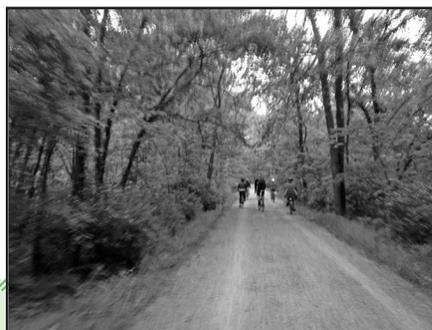
2 p.m., 5th and Walnut Parking Garage
Call Parkside Skate Shop for information, 447-5283.

ONGOING THROUGHOUT MAY

Story Book Trail

Dawn to Dusk, Hindman Discovery Garden at Stephens Lake Park

All Aboard!

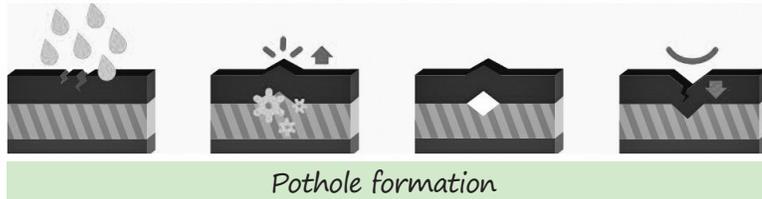


Street Talk



It's pothole season! Help Public Works hunt them down.

Potholes form when water seeps into cracks in the pavement surface. The water, with pressure from vehicles, begins to erode the roadbed underneath the driving surface. In winter months, water freezes and expands, further eroding the roadbed and damaging the driving surface. Eventually, a pothole may form.



Each summer, Columbia Public Works seals a number of roadways with a "chip seal" method, where a layer of liquid asphalt is covered by "chip" (small rock) or mills (removes at least part) the old driving surface and replaces it with new asphalt. Both operations are intended to extend the life of the roadway and reduce the chances of potholes forming.

Public Works crews treat potholes by filling them with a "cold pack" asphalt mix until weather conditions allow for more permanent fixes. You can help by letting the department know where you encounter potholes. Call 874-6291 or report them online at GoColumbiaMo.com, click on the "**Report problem**" link on the left side of the page.

Bicycle Safety

The Columbia Police Department reminds bicyclists that they have the same rights and responsibilities of other motorists. Bicyclists are encouraged to consider safety first, riding as close as practicable to the right side of the roadway. City Ordinance 14-507 states bicyclists are **not** allowed to ride upon a sidewalk within a business district; this includes the Downtown District. This violation is a punishable infraction, including a fine, if convicted.

Tips for cyclists include: be predictable; use eye contact when possible; scan for other motorists without swerving; and obey all traffic laws. Bicyclists are encouraged to refrain from riding after dark. If you must ride after dark, your bicycle should have a headlight and taillight or reflector. Finally, wear a helmet while riding—your brain is worth protecting!



City Arts Funding

Each year, the City supports local arts programming. In fiscal year 2015, 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) nonprofit status. The application deadline for fiscal year 2016 is May 1, 2015. To learn more, contact the Office of Cultural Affairs, 874-6386, OCA@GoColumbiaMo.com or access guidelines at www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts.

Summer work site partners needed

Do you want to make a difference while getting free labor? The City of Columbia's Career Awareness Related Experience (C.A.R.E.) program is seeking more summer work site partners. The program runs June 8 through Aug. 5.

C.A.R.E. depends on partnerships with local businesses and agencies to provide work sites for real-world, hands-on work experience for its 14-20 year-old trainees; however, 100 percent of the trainees' wages are paid by the City of Columbia through the Parks and Recreation Department. There is zero financial cost to the work site partners.

If your business or agency would like to become a work site partner this summer, contact Ron Schmidt at rschmidt@GoColumbiaMo.com or 874-6377.

CPD's DWI Unit ranks second in the state for DWI arrests

About every 90 seconds, someone in the United States is injured from a drunk-driving incident. In 2014, Missouri had 139 alcohol and drug-related traffic crashes, which resulted in 153 fatalities. In Columbia, the Columbia Police Department (CPD) responded to seven fatal crashes. Four were determined to be alcohol-related, resulting in six deaths.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average annual cost in the United States of alcohol-related crashes totals more than \$59 billion. In October 2009, the Columbia Police Department became one of 10 police departments in Missouri to receive funding by the state for a DWI Unit. The unit, comprised of two Traffic Unit officers, specifically focuses on conducting traffic stops/crashes related to impaired drivers and conducting multiple sobriety checkpoints in the city throughout the year. The grant fiscal year runs from Oct. 1-Sept. 30, and CPD applies for the grant annually.

Currently, officers Nate Turner and Scott Lenger dedicate many hours in the unit organizing and enforcing impaired driver laws. In 2014, the CPD DWI Unit had the second highest DWI arrest rates in the state with 238, only 136 arrests behind the Joplin Police Department.

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REDI provides support for entrepreneurs

Have an idea and want to learn how to turn it into a business? Regional Economic Development Inc. (REDI) can help. REDI is a partnership funded by the City, County, University and private businesses to help attract, support and grow businesses in Columbia and Boone County. REDI offers business counseling, mentoring, the downtown incubator and entrepreneurial events to get your business idea off the ground. Join REDI every Wednesday at 9 a.m. for 1 Million Cups, a weekly educational event for entrepreneurs, at the REDI downtown incubator, 500 E. Walnut St. It is free and open to the public.

Utility Customer Service Reminders

As spring approaches, so does the busiest time of year for Utility Customer Service (UCS). Customers may experience longer hold times when attempting to contact the UCS office by phone and should consider registering at *GoColumbiaMo.com* for online access to account information. From the website, customers may view bills, make payments, request new residential service, terminate existing service or transfer service from one address to another. There is no waiting, and it is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Effective Jan. 1, 2015, new residential service is no longer set up over the phone. Customers may visit the website or come to 701 East Broadway with a lease or ownership documents and two forms of ID to set up service in person. This policy change was initiated to protect the integrity of customer accounts. This will also lessen the wait time for customer service via the phone, as new account setups are often the most time-consuming calls.

Customers are reminded to keep account information up to date; make sure UCS has a valid phone number on file and provide a forwarding address for final bills when terminating service. UCS will also accept alternate mailing addresses for customers who are temporarily out of town.

Utility Customer Service survey extended

UCS is extending its customer service survey to the end of April. Complete the survey online at <http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Utilities/survey.php>.

Paper copies are also available at City Hall, 701 East Broadway. Call 874-7380 to request a copy by mail.

Trash Talk - A Community Conversation

The Solid Waste Utility provides citizens a number of services, most notably weekly curbside trash and recycling collection. Solid Waste also operates a landfill, a materials recovery facility (where recyclable materials are sorted), drop-off recycling points, a household hazardous waste collection site, commercial trash collection and commercial recycling.

Solid Waste currently faces the following problems:

- The current system takes a physical toll on employees, resulting in injuries and workers' compensation claims that have averaged more than \$300,000 annually the past five years.
- Residential collection employees are hard to retain. Over two-thirds of these employees leave every year. The utility currently has four openings it has been unable to fill.
- The diversion rate (recycling rate + other materials diverted from going into the landfill) is low — half of the national average.

Learn more about the issues facing the Solid Waste Utility, read community discussion points and let your voice be heard at CoMoTrash.com.

Earth Day

Earth Day is celebrated in April, and the City of Columbia is proud to be active in a number of sustainable, environmentally-responsible initiatives. Many City departments participate at the Columbia Earth Day Festival – planned for April 19 (rain date April 26) this year. The following are initiatives currently underway:

- ✓ The CoMo Energy Challenge, based out of the Office of Sustainability, is a 2-year competition to save energy. The City is competing nationally with 49 other communities to win the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize. Want to help? Start with a home energy assessment through Columbia Water & Light.
- ✓ Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement Awards: Stay tuned! Winners are local companies and organizations that walk the talk for sustainability. They will be announced mid-April.
- ✓ Learn to compost! Upcoming free classes, offered by Public Works, will be held April 23 and May 30. Composting can reduce food waste and the amount of waste you throw in the landfill. Search "Learn to Compost" on the City's website to register.
- ✓ Download the new app, CoMo Trails. With it, you'll be able to see how close you currently are to a trail, and once you're on the trail, you can easily find restrooms, water fountains and bike repair stations.

Solar Energy Opportunities

Power from the sun is more affordable than ever. Plus, Columbia Water & Light has solar energy rebates and low-interest loans to help with financing. You can earn \$500 for each kilowatt of photovoltaic you install. If your system produces more electricity than you use, the utility offers a net metering arrangement. Your account will be credited for the energy you deliver to the Columbia system at your electric rate.

Need more information?

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com

Celebrate Arbor Day with a free tree

Celebrate the power of trees by signing up for Columbia Water & Light's Tree Power program. You will learn where to plant shade trees on your property and receive a coupon for a free 6-foot to 10-foot-tall shade tree. Trees planted in the right place on your property can reduce your cooling costs by up to 30 percent in the summer. Enrolling in Tree Power is a great way to celebrate the Arbor Day holiday April 24 and save money on your summer energy bills.

874-7325

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com

(limit one tree per electric meter)



New Location for Family Fun Fests

Columbia Parks and Recreation will host Family Fun Fests this summer at a new location! Each event will be held the third Wednesday of the month at Cosmo Park in the area around Burford and Lamb shelters. Fun Fests are held from 6-8 p.m. and are free. Entertainment for the entire family includes music, live performances, art activities, hands-on learning, face painting and balloon art. Family Fun Fests are sponsored by the Convention & Visitors Bureau, KPLA 101.5 Radio, KOMU 8 and Rockin' Rents.

May 20: Kindness is Contagious - Music, fun, crafts and activities promoting kindness and mental health.

Sponsored by Putting Kids First and Children's Grove

Save water this summer

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

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 for more information.

Checkup

Energy Loss in an Uninsulated Home



Check the R-value of your insulation. You can do so by using the guide at energystar.gov/ruleyourattic. The greater the R-value, the more the heat flow from inside to outside of your home is reduced. In Columbia, a minimum of R-49 attic insulation is recommended.

comoenergychallenge.com

Brought to you by the CoMo Energy Challenge. Competing for \$5 million and change.

PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

May

3-9	Mayor's Challenge: Bike Walk and Wheel Week
7	Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series, Teen Talent Night, 6:30 p.m., FREE
8	Movies in the Park: "Lilo and Stitch," Flat Branch Park, 8:30 p.m., \$2 per person, 8 and under FREE
16-17	Heritage Weekend, Douglass Park, 3-8 p.m., FREE
20	Family Fun Fest: Kindness is Contagious, Cosmo Park, 6-8 p.m., FREE
23	Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center, Lake of the Woods, Little Mates Cove at Twin Lakes, Douglass Family Aquatic Center open for weekend
30	5th Annual Fishing Derby, register 9 a.m., derby 9:30-10:30 a.m., Philips Park, FREE

Code Corner - Cars Parked on the Grass

Cars parked on the grass are a violation of the City's zoning code.

Both the vehicle owner and the property owner can be held responsible when a violation occurs.

If there is an issue in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services at 817-5050 or neighborhood@GoColumbiaMo.com.



Did you know?

The ColumbiaPowerPartners.com website was recently updated so it is easier to find information about energy efficiency rebates, loans and tips. Whether you own your home, rent or operate a business, there are plenty of ways Columbia Water & Light can help you save on your electric bill.



Volunteer of the Month — Candace Kassel

Candace Kassel started volunteering with Cleanup Columbia, a citywide trash pickup event held every April, to have fun and be social with a group of friends. Her group, the Litterbuggers, has been actively participating in Cleanup Columbia for over seven years, turning a social event into a way to give back to her community.

"Seeing so many people in a large town get together to clean up is great," Kassel said. "I like how clean everything is on Cleanup Columbia weekend."

Kassel and her group of five to eight Litterbuggers have been participating in Cleanup Columbia since 2008, cleaning up streets, streams, trails and parks throughout the city.

For more information about volunteering, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

Written by volunteer Abby Holman

City offices closed for Memorial Day

City offices will be closed Monday, May 25, 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 Public Works Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Parking meters will not be enforced, the landfill will be closed and COMO Connect, Columbia's public transit system, will not run May 25.

Master Composter training program seeks volunteers

Are you concerned about the environmental impacts of the city's waste stream? Are you familiar with the benefits of composting? Are you interested in sharing those benefits with other members of your community? If so, consider participating in the Master Composter training program.

Master Composter volunteers offer their time and knowledge to members of the community who wish to learn how to build and maintain their own backyard compost bins. These citizens will reap the benefits of recycling organic waste into a soil amendment. As more residents learn how to compost organic waste, the community's waste stream will decrease and the threat to landfill space will be lessened.

By sharing their knowledge, volunteers help extend waste reduction issues throughout Columbia. Please consider sharing your time and enthusiasm to the compost education program to help teach others the importance of organic recycling.

The three-part series of classes will take place from 6-8 p.m. May 5, May 6 and May 7. To register, visit <https://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Volunteer/Opportunities/Solidwaste/reducerecycle.php>. For additional information, contact Andrea Shelton at 874-6271 or pw-volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.



Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline: May 8 at 5 p.m.

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

Application deadline: June 5 at 5 p.m.

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

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

The City does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, familial status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

City of Columbia
701 E. Broadway • Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 874-7111 • www.GoColumbiaMo.com

MAYOR
Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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



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