

CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



Results from Cleanup Columbia 2013

Many thanks to the 1,250 residents who participated in Cleanup Columbia, an annual citywide trash pick-up event held April 13. Volunteers picked up 1,600 bags of trash along streets and in streams, parks and trails. They shared more than 2,300 hours of service through the event, valued at more than \$51,000.

Cleanup Columbia is organized by the City's Volunteer Programs and made possible through the generous donations of sponsors: APAC Missouri Inc., CenturyLink, the Sierra Club, KOMU TV-8, Mid-Missouri's CW, the Columbia Daily Tribune, KFRU AM 1400 and 102.3 BXR. Columbia Public Works, Columbia Parks & Recreation and the Golden K Kiwanis Club provided special assistance.

Cleanup Columbia will be held again next year, tentatively set for April 12, 2014. Details about the event can be found on the City's website.



Thanks to volunteer Willie Jones for these photos of volunteers in action during Cleanup Columbia.

City of Columbia's 4th of July Fire in the Sky

PRESENTED BY COLUMBIA INSURANCE GROUP AND KOMU 8

Sponsored by KBXR 102.3, KFRU 1400, Convention & Visitors Bureau and Cosmo Club—Coordinated by Columbia Parks & Recreation

The City's 61st annual 4th of July Fire in the Sky event will be held July 4 in the downtown area again this year! Activities and entertainment will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The event is free. Children's activities and entertainment will be held at Flat Branch Park, 4th and Cherry Street, and the entertainment main stage is planned for MU's Peace Park on Elm between 6th and 8th streets. Fireworks will begin at about 9:15 p.m. and will be launched from the top of the parking garage at 6th and Cherry. They will be choreographed to music simulcast on KBXR.

Celebrate Independence Day in The District! For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460 or visit GoColumbiaMo.com.



Did You Know?

The Office of Cultural Affairs page of the City's website has a complete listing of galleries and museums in Columbia and surrounding areas. Use the Gallery + Museum Guide while you explore downtown Columbia, stroll through campus or take a day trip to a neighboring community. Also, check out the interactive Google map. Visit GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts to view the online Gallery + Museum Guide.

New online billing system implemented

In the next few months the City will implement a new online utility billing system. The mobile-friendly system will make it easier for customers to make payments and manage their accounts in real time. Customers may make payments on the Web or by phone without creating a profile or may create a profile to view account balances and consumption history. This summer, a new easy-to-use paperless billing feature will be added and in the fall customers will be able to schedule and store payment preferences.

Various payment options will be available. There will be NO fee for customers who choose to pay with cash/check by mail, in person or by automatic bank draft. However, customers who choose to pay by credit card or e-check via the Internet or telephone will be assessed a \$4.60 convenience fee for each payment up to \$1,000. For example: A bill of \$230 would be assessed a \$4.60 convenience fee. A bill of \$2,500 would be assessed \$4.60 for the first \$1,000, \$4.60 for the second \$1,000 and \$4.60 for the remaining \$500 — a total convenience fee of \$13.80.

Customers using the current utility system will need to register to use the new services. Registration is fast and easy and can be completed online at GoColumbiaMo.com or by phone at 874-7694. Registration is not required to submit one-time payments.

For more information, visit the City's website at GoColumbiaMo.com or call 874-7380.

Efficiency Score

When buying a household appliance, you can easily view how much it will cost to operate by referring to the bright yellow EnergyGuide label. Columbia Water & Light is using this same approach for homes. The Efficiency Score is an official certification program that will show you and potential buyers of your home the value of your energy efficiency upgrades.

The Efficiency Score is a FREE service for participants of the Home Performance with Energy Star program. Your certified contractor will do a complete energy assessment of your home and provide suggested improvements along with an estimated efficiency score. The contractor will take into account several factors including, but not limited to, levels of insulation, number of air changes per hour, equipment efficiency, size of home and number of rooms. After you make the upgrades, the certificate shows your home's energy efficiency rating with 100 percent being the most efficient and your home's annual energy costs.

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com
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874-7325



The plan for how we live and grow moves forward

Interested in Columbia's future? Want to know how to contribute? Find out more about the City's new comprehensive plan Columbia Imagined - The Plan for How We Live and Grow.

The plan provides guidelines, goals, objectives and policies to assist citizens and decision makers in determining the City's future growth. You can view the current plan draft and take a survey at Columbiainmaged.com. Adoption of the plan is tentatively scheduled to occur at a public hearing before City Council in July. The public is encouraged to attend the public hearing and share their thoughts. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity to help shape the future of the City of Columbia.

For more information on Columbia Imagined, call 874-7239 or email planning@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Parks and Recreation presents Family Fun Fests

Columbia Parks and Recreation is holding a themed Family Fun Fest event at Flat Branch Park 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, hands-on activities, 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.

July 17: Summer Fun

Splash into summer with a variety of warm weather-inspired entertainment and hands-on activities for all ages.

Coming Up:

- Aug. 21: *Around the World*
- Sept. 18: *Creative Kids*

Keep kids safe and healthy this summer

Summer is a great time to relax and have fun. It's also a time to be extra vigilant to keep kids safe and healthy. Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services offers this advice:

Swim Safely - Swimming offers numerous health benefits, but pools and other recreational water venues are also places where germs can be spread. Protect yourself and others by practicing good hygiene, not swimming if you have diarrhea and not swallowing pool water.

In the U.S., three children die every day as a result of drowning. Help prevent drownings by never allowing unsupervised swimming, teaching kids to swim, learning CPR and, if you have a home pool, installing a four-sided fence around it.

Keep Cool in the Heat - Even young and healthy people can get sick from the heat if they participate in strenuous physical activities during hot weather. Never leave infants, children or pets in a parked car, even if the windows are cracked. Dress in loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.

Protect Kids from the Sun - Just a few serious sunburns can increase your child's risk of skin cancer later in life. Kids don't have to be at the pool, beach or on vacation to get too much sun. Their skin needs protection from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays whenever they're outdoors.

Have a Safe and Healthy Home - Think about safety in terms of fire prevention, microwave use and living with pets. At a very young age, children develop the habits and behaviors that will influence their lifelong health.

Prevent Cyberbullying - Kids can use electronic media to embarrass, harass or threaten their peers. Increasing numbers of teens and pre-teens are becoming victims of this new form of violence--electronic aggression. Keep close tabs on your child's electronic activities.

Movies in the Park

Columbia Parks and Recreation continues the Movies in the Park series in July and August! Movie-goers should bring a blanket or low lawn chair. Movie admission is \$2 per person; children 8 and under are free. Concessions are available. There are no rain dates.

Upcoming movies:

- July 12, 9 p.m., "Rise of the Guardians"
- Aug. 9, 8:30 p.m., "Escape from Planet Earth"

The Movies in the Park series is sponsored by Parks and Recreation, KPLA 101.5 and the Boone Electric Community Trust.

PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

JULY

4	Fire in the Sky, Flat Branch Park/The District, entertainment at 6:30 p.m., fireworks after 9 p.m., FREE
4	Special swim hours at Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center, Douglass Family Aquatic Center and Little Mates Cove, 12-5 p.m.
11	Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series: Community Band, 7-9 p.m., FREE
12	Movies in the Park, Rise of the Guardians, Flat Branch Park, 9 p.m., \$2 per person, 8 and under free
17	Family Fun Fest: Summer Fun, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., FREE
19- 21	Show Me State Games
26	Whiff and Giggle Couples Golf, Lake of the Woods, 5 p.m. shotgun start, \$40 per couple
26- 28	Show Me State Games

City offices closed for July 4 holiday

City offices will be closed Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made July 4 and will be delayed one day the remainder of the week. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Also, Columbia Transit buses will not operate, the landfill will be closed and parking meters will not be enforced July 4.





Mary Plakorus

June Volunteer of the Month

Mary Plakorus has blended two of her loves while serving as a Park Patrol volunteer since 2004 -- being outdoors and helping others. Plakorus answers questions, reports suspicious activity, monitors parks and trails and serves as an ambassador for other park users. If you attend City-sponsored activities in the parks, such as Polar

Bear Plunge, soccer at Cosmo Park, Family Fun Fests or Art in the Park, you may see her wearing a bright yellow vest that says "Park Patrol" while directing traffic and answering questions.

"As a Park Patrol volunteer, Mary keeps an extra set of eyes on our parks and trails to keep them safe and in good repair," said Leigh Britt, Neighborhood Services manager.

Plakorus' favorite parks are Stephens and the MKT. "I love being outdoors and being with others," she said. "Being a volunteer is a giant adventure. There is a surprise around every corner. If you are having a bad day, go volunteer. You'll meet a lot of happy people and a few who are having a worse day than yourself. There is a satisfaction that comes from helping others."

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

Written by volunteer Theresa Nelson

Fireworks illegal in city limits

Before the July 4 holiday, the Columbia Police Department would like to remind residents that it is illegal to possess or shoot fireworks inside the Columbia city limits. Violation of the ordinance can result in the confiscation of your fireworks and a summons to appear in municipal court.

If you plan to shoot fireworks outside the city limits, keep the following safety tips in mind:

- Shoot fireworks at a safe distance from structures and other people.
- Never relight a "dud" firework.
- Always keep a hose or bucket of water handy.
- Children under age 12 should not handle fireworks and should not shoot fireworks without the supervision of an adult.
- Pets are often frightened by fireworks so keep them away from this activity.
- Never consume alcohol while handling fireworks.

If you are looking for a safe alternative to shooting fireworks, attend Fire in the Sky in The District July 4. See cover article for more information.

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline: July 5 at 5 p.m.

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Commission
- Board of Electrical Examiners
- Building Construction Codes Commission
- Railroad Advisory Board

Application deadline: Aug. 2 at 5 p.m.

- Board of Health
- Historic Preservation Commission

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

\$50 to \$1,600 Rebate

HIGH EFFICIENCY AIR CONDITIONER/HEAT PUMP REBATE

For Columbia Water & Light electric customers purchasing a qualified unit.

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MAYOR
Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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<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
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