

CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



Columbia Imagined

City staff, the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Comprehensive Plan Task Force continue to work on drafting chapters for Columbia Imagined, the City's new comprehensive plan. These drafts will be available for public review prior to upcoming public meetings, tentatively scheduled for late November or early December. Once the chapters are finalized, further discussion will take place at public hearings before the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council, prior to the final plan adoption in 2013.

For a brief update on the plan process, please watch the latest video airing on the City Channel (Mediacom channel 80 (digital 23s), Charter Communications channel 992 and CenturyLink 601) or on the City Channel's page of the City's website: <http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/TCC/index.php>.

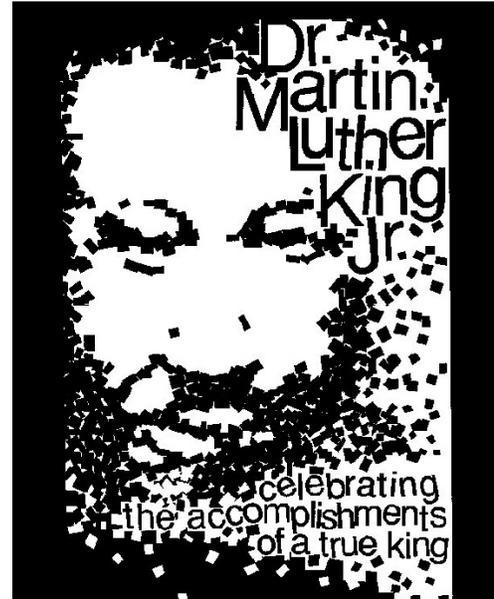


The Plan for How We Live & Grow



TIGER NIGHT OF FUN!

Join the fun at the Hearnese Center for Parks and Recreation's annual Tiger Night of Fun Halloween event! It will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 31. Tiger Night of Fun is a safe alternative to door-to-door trick or treating. Kids will enjoy a night of activities, games and lots of treats—all for FREE. For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.



16th Annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards

Please help celebrate diversity in our community by nominating an individual, family, organization or group for the 16th annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. This is a great way to show your appreciation for those who have had a significant impact in the community by promoting diversity and cultural understanding.

These awards will be presented at the 20th annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Thursday, Jan. 17, recognizing people whose work exemplifies the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by fostering individual dignity, racial equality, understanding, peacemaking and solving problems through non-violence.

Two awards will be presented—

- One individual/family award, and
- One organization/group award.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, Nov. 30. Nomination forms are available by calling the Division of Human Services at 874-7488 (v) or 874-7356 (tty) or on the Web at: www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

(Go Word: GoDiversityCelebration)



Why and when do you need a building permit?

The permit and inspection process protects the current and future property owner by ensuring that the work adheres to adopted building codes. Inspectors also verify that the materials and construction methods used meet the applicable safety standards.

A permit is required for anyone who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system. Examples include:

- moving a sink;
- constructing a deck;
- altering the footprint or roofline of your house;
- installing new electrical wiring;
- replacing your water heater, furnace or air conditioner; and
- laying a new roof.

Some examples of residential projects that do not require a permit are:

- accessory structures less than 200 square feet;
- fences not over 12 feet in height;
- retaining walls not over 4 feet in height;
- painting, flooring, cabinets, countertops and similar finish work; and
- swings and other playground equipment.

A permit can also help you avoid problems when you sell your home. Sellers are legally obligated to disclose improvements completed without a permit. Should the buyer require that the work be brought up to code, the permit fee will be doubled and you may be required to dismantle the previous work so that necessary inspections can be completed.

When in doubt, just ask. The Building and Site Development Division can be reached at 874-7474 or via e-mail at bldg-inspection@GoColumbiaMo.com.



Thanksgiving Holiday

City offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 22, in observance of Thanksgiving. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made that 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.



Report streetlight problems

Help keep Columbia's streetlights shining when they should. If you notice a light on during the day or one out at night, please report it.

Online streetlight problem reporting form:

GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight/Forms/stlightout.php
874-6202



Fire Safety Tips:

Change your clock, change your battery.

As you turn your clocks back one hour Sunday, Nov. 4, you are also reminded to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. A properly installed and maintained smoke alarm is the only thing in your home that can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whether you're awake or asleep, a working smoke alarm is constantly on alert, scanning the air for fire and smoke.

Get your flu vaccine now

If you're age 6 months or older, make plans to stop by the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services for your annual flu vaccination. Flu vaccine is available Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the clinic, 1005 West Worley. No appointment is needed; walk-ins are welcome.

This year, thanks to generous support from University of Missouri Children's Hospital, the David B. Lichtenstein Foundation, Boone Electric Community Trust and Boonslick Kiwanis Club of Columbia, the department has free seasonal flu vaccine (injectable and FluMist®) for all children ages 6 months - 18 years. For adults ages 19 years and older, cost of the injectable vaccine is \$25 (\$30 for high-dose vaccine for persons ages 65 and older). FluMist® is \$30 and can be given to healthy non-pregnant people ages 2-49 years. The following insurance plans are accepted: Medicaid, Medicare Part B, Aetna, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, CIGNA, Coventry, Humana, Medicare Railroad, UMWA and United Healthcare. The clinic accepts cash, check and debit/credit cards. Receipts can be given upon request.

Learn more at the department's "flu page": <http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Health/fluclinic-schedule.php>. For up-to-date flu vaccine updates and overall healthy living information, find the health department on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/CoMoHealthDept> or Twitter @CoMo_HealthDept.

Proposed Southern Electric Transmission Line

Columbia Water & Light is continuing to study ways to serve electric loads and improve reliability for the southern part of the city. This project involves adding transmission lines to connect the new Millcreek substation on Peach Tree Drive with some of the existing substations. After gathering input from those living in the area, preferred routes for both Option A and Option B have been determined. In addition, another option referred to as B-2, runs a section of transmission lines along existing city property near the Waste Water Treatment Plant, the city's wetland cells and the Water Treatment Plant. These properties also contain a section of the MKT trail.

At a meeting in November, the history of this project will be reviewed along with showing the preferred routes for each of the options. Advantages and disadvantages of each option, cost estimates of the project and the potential rate impact of installing overhead versus underground lines will also be presented. The final routes for the transmission lines could be decided by the Columbia City Council after a public hearing this winter.

NOVEMBER INFORMATIONAL MEETING: Details were not confirmed at press time. Please check the city's website for the meeting time and location. www.GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight/Electric/ProposedElectricTransmission.php

Renting your first home?

Follow these tips to keep your utility bills from climbing too high.



- Set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher in the summer and 70 degrees or lower during the winter.
- For windows that receive direct sunlight, keep the shades closed during summer days. In the winter, make sure the shades are open during the day and closed at night.
- Replace the filter four times a year or when it becomes dirty. Dirty filters keep the air from efficiently moving through the system.
- Make sure all the supply and return registers for the air conditioner/furnace are unobstructed by furniture, rugs, etc.
- If you have the option, use the "energy saver" switch inside the refrigerator.
- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs in your most commonly used light fixtures.
- Make sure all windows and storm windows are tightly closed during the heating and cooling season.
- Keep the doors and damper of a fireplace closed when not in use.
- Check with the property owner about caulking and weather-stripping leaky doors and windows.
- The water heater temperature settings should be 120 degrees to 125 degrees. If you are going to be away for several days, use the vacation setting on your water heater or turn it off.
- Check for leaks, drippy faucets, running toilets, wet spots around the water heater, etc. Contact your property owner right away to fix the leaks since they can greatly increase your water use.

Looking for an energy efficiency rental next year? See our tips at GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight/Conservation/r-searching.php.



Tyler Rasmussen, Columbia Water & Light, finishes repairs to a broken water main on Clark Lane.

Drought takes toll on water system

Columbia made it through the extreme drought conditions this summer without water restrictions but getting the water where it needed to go kept water division employees very busy. During times of extreme moisture and/or temperature changes, Columbia's clay-based soil shifts which can lead to water main breaks.

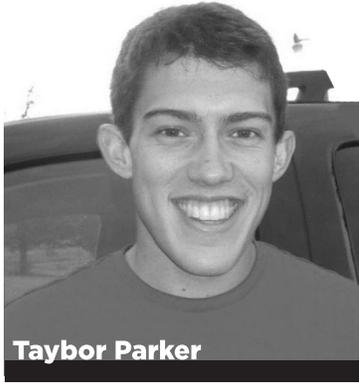
From January to May, Columbia had 60 water main breaks. From June through August, there were almost 200.

Dedicated water crews worked around the clock to promptly repair the problems to minimize service disruptions.

When a water main breaks and the pressure in the line drops substantially, a back flow situation can occur. This means there is a threat that a possible contaminant could be siphoned into the water distribution system. In these situations a water boil advisory is issued. This is different than a water boil order when there is known contamination.

The best way to be notified of issues with the water system is to sign up for the Nixle notification service. You can select to be notified by either email or text when a situation with the water service in your area occurs. Sign up for the Nixle service or learn more about water boil advisories at: GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight/Water/WaterBoilAdvisoryOrder.php.

October Volunteer of the Month: Taybor Parker



Taybor Parker

When Taybor Parker saw kids wearing Blue Thunder uniforms and cars sporting Blue Thunder signs, his curiosity was sparked. Blue Thunder is a Parks and Recreation competitive track club that serves Columbia area youth ages 7 to 17. Parker, a 21 year-old senior at Mizzou majoring in biology, was a member of the track team at his Joplin high school and had also volunteered for three summers at the Southwest Missouri Running Camp near Joplin.

With a background in running, Parker wanted to give back to the community and make an impact on kids. He volunteered to help and spent the next four months as the 11-and-up distance coach for Blue Thunder. Three of his team members became regional champions, and several qualified nationally.

“The kids totally loved Taybor,” said Blue Thunder head coach Camren Cross. “He was an excellent, quiet leader by example. Taybor had a great impact on the kids. Most of us coaches are far from them in age, so for them to see a younger man step in and do a great job was a big plus and a good example.”

Parker enjoyed the opportunity to work with Columbia’s youth and would like to volunteer again. “Those kids taught me more than I taught them,” he said. “They have an upbeat attitude and you get excited working with them.”

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

Are you insulated?

If you are tired of your house being hot in the summer and cold in the winter, it might be time to upgrade your insulation. Remember when insulating your home, you must also adequately ventilate it so that your attic can “breathe.”

Here are Columbia Water & Light’s minimum recommendations:

- Attic Insulation: R-38
- Floor Insulation; R-19 above unheated areas
- Crawl Space Wall Insulation: R-10 with a vapor barrier
- Duct Insulation: R-13 in unheated areas
- Rim Joist Insulation: R-13



Electric customers can receive incentives plus a low-interest loan for adding insulation. Check out our Home Performance with Energy Star program at ColumbiaPowerPartners.com or by calling 874-7330.

Web Did You Know?

The Office of Cultural Affairs page of the City’s website has a complete listing of publicly accessible art in Columbia. Take a self-guided tour and learn about public art around town. Many entries in the online guide include audio or video clips featuring interviews with the artists.

Also, be sure to check out the interactive Google map, which allows you to pinpoint the exact location of each piece of public art. Visit www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts to view the online Public Art Guide.



Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline: Nov. 2 at noon—

- Columbia Vision Commission
- Mayor’s Committee on Physical Fitness

Application deadline: Dec. 7 at noon—

- Boone County Community Services Advisory Commission
- Firefighters’ Retirement Board
- Police Retirement Board

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.

Leisure Times

A new issue of Parks and Recreation’s Leisure Times will be published Nov. 14. Call 874-7460 for more information.

CITY SOURCE is published by the City of Columbia as a public service to the residents of Columbia, Missouri.

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Bob McDavid

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<i>Second Ward</i>	Michael Trapp
<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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