

# CITY SOURCE



Your source for City news and information



## Storm wreaks havoc on Columbia

Some Columbia residents saw little damage from the July 7 storm when they ventured outside the next morning. Many others were bleary eyed from spending most of the night dealing with the massive destruction caused by wind speeds of over 60 miles per hour. Not only were tree limbs down but massive, old trees were uprooted. City of Columbia crews quickly realized Monday night that it was going to be a busy week clearing debris and restoring power.

According to Electric Distribution Manager Tony Cunningham, "In the 35 years I have worked for the utility, I have never seen anything like this storm damage." Boone County Public Safety Joint Communications operators were inundated with over 275 calls in the two hours after the storm hit. First responders made sure residents were safe. The Public Works Department started clearing streets of tree debris. Later in the week, 122 people dropped off 7,100 pounds of spoiled food at the Public Works special collection. A weekend-long special tree waste pickup was scheduled for 400 customers. Meanwhile, Columbia Water & Light spent the work week untangling the mess to restore power to 14,000 customers.

The most severe damage to the electric system was six 80-foot-tall poles on Fairview that were snapped in two. Even though trees in the Spring Valley, College Park and Grasslands neighborhoods had been recently trimmed, these areas suffered major damage with many uprooted trees. Electric linemen had to climb up, over and through debris to hang new electric lines, making the restoration process go slowly. Even with help from Independence, Fulton, Higginsville, Macon and Hannibal electric crews, all working 16-hour days, it took until Friday to restore everyone's electric service.

Damaging storms can hit Columbia at any time of the year so it is always good to be prepared. For more information about creating an emergency preparedness kit and plan, visit [ready.gov](http://ready.gov).



*Between Spring Valley and Westridge, a Columbia Water & Light line-man makes it through the rubble and climbs over the 6-foot-high debris pile to hand the wire to a line-man on the other side.*



*Lacing the 80-foot-tall transmission and distribution poles on Fairview.*



*Public Works collected tree debris and hauled it to mulch sites for redistribution.*

## Do you have critical medical equipment? Make a backup plan for electric outages!

Columbia Water & Light makes every effort to deliver reliable electricity to its customers. Sometimes, there are situations beyond Water & Light's control that cause long-term outages. If you have critical medical equipment, be prepared with backup plans.

Customers with medical equipment are spread all over the city so it is impossible for Water & Light to promise that all of these customers can be restored first. Instead, medical centers are put at the top of the restoration priority list. Familiarize yourself with how long your battery backup system will last. Then, speak to your health care provider about the availability of electric power at local clinics and hospitals in case the outage is lengthy.

## Energy Efficiency Expo

- **Saturday, Oct. 4**
- **11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- **Central Missouri Events Center**  
**(formerly the Boone County Fairgrounds)**

save energy, save money and be more comfortable

Visit with energy experts and learn from interactive presentations.  
FREE event with free snacks and door prizes!

Sponsored by:

**Columbia Water & Light:**

ColumbiaPowerPartners.com,  
info@ColumbiaPowerPartners.com,  
874-7325



**Boone Electric Cooperative:**

booneelectric.com,  
comments@booneelectric.com,  
449-4181



**Ameren Missouri:**

ameren.com,  
800-552-7583



## The Power of Trees

Fall is a perfect time to plant a FREE shade tree to save energy.

Sign up for Columbia Water and Light's Tree Power program and we'll show you the best spot for your FREE shade tree! Well-placed shade trees around your home can reduce your summer cooling costs by 30 percent.



+ Electric customers call 874-7325 or sign up at [ColumbiaPowerPartners.com](http://ColumbiaPowerPartners.com).

## Citizen Survey

A random sample of Columbia households will receive citizen satisfaction surveys in the coming weeks. The City seeks views on a wide range of services and issues. To make sure that the City's priorities are in step with the needs of Columbia residents, every response counts.

The surveys will include postage-paid return envelopes to the survey consultant, and individual responses will remain confidential. To encourage participation, reminder calls will be made a few days after the surveys are mailed. Citizens can respond to the survey during that call, if they wish, or they may complete the survey online. Watch for updates on the online link.

## Share the Light

*Share the Light* is an opportunity for City of Columbia utility customers to contribute to City programs and projects above and beyond what are usually thought of as essential City services. Your giving can make a terrific difference!

*Share the Light* donations are designated to one of six giving areas: Public Art, Community Beautification, Youth Recreation Scholarships, Health and Dental Care, Fire Prevention and Education, and Crime Prevention and Education. Every penny you give goes directly to improve quality of life in the community in the area you choose.

To give to *Share the Light* simply fill out the perforated flap of the Share the Light envelope that comes with your September utility bill. Specify if you would like to make a one-time or monthly gift, and enter the amount you wish to give. Your future utility bills will reflect the amount added for this purpose.

If you have misplaced or discarded the envelope but still wish to donate, email [ucs@Go-ColumbiaMo.com](mailto:ucs@Go-ColumbiaMo.com) (include your name, address and account number), call Columbia Water & Light at 874-7380 or visit Water & Light at 701 E. Broadway, downtown.

If you have questions about *Share the Light*, call John Baker, City of Columbia Trust Specialist, at 817-5027.

## City buses connect football fans with the game

There's no better way to get to the football game this year than to have someone else do the driving. COMO Connect offers convenient bus routes to all of MU's home football games for only \$1.50 each way. The bus routes include two downtown routes that travel by many favorite pre-game destinations and parking garages as well as routes that pick up customers from hotels and restaurants around town. Plus, catch a ride back 30 minutes after the game ends. Avoid the hassle of traffic and parking this year and find maps and schedules online at [comoconnect.org](http://comoconnect.org).



# The wait is over...although construction continues on Scott Boulevard

As promised, Scott Boulevard between Bellview Drive and Vawter School Road reopened to traffic Friday, Aug. 8. Columbia Public Works would like to thank you for your patience, understanding and time while this project was completed in five months.

Some new features motorists are now enjoying as part of the Scott Boulevard Phase II project include:

- A new bridge over Hinkson Creek which can be expanded to four lanes in the future; protected bicycle and pedestrian lanes; above the 100 year floodplain
- A new roundabout at Scott Boulevard, Vawter School Road and Brushwood Lake Road, which improves traffic flow
- A new section of Brushwood Lake Road built above the 100-year floodplain
- 3,600 linear feet of new sidewalk, including closing the sidewalk gap on the west side of Scott Boulevard between Country Hill and Bellview
- A new water quality cell to treat stormwater runoff from the roadway
- A new, wider underpass for MKT Trail users

Motorists are urged to use caution on this section of Scott Boulevard while the contractor finishes some grade work and to expect short, temporary delays at times.

## Carbon Monoxide Danger

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas created by the incomplete burning of fuels, such as oil, natural gas, kerosene, coal and wood. Many household appliances use these fuels. **If you have a clothes dryer, water heater, oven or fireplace that uses natural gas, CO buildup can happen.** Wood burning fireplaces and stoves, as well as kerosene space heaters, also produce CO. If not detected, CO buildup from these appliances can seriously injure or even kill you.



The dangers of carbon monoxide escalate during periods of extreme heat and extreme cold. On cold days, homes are tightly sealed to keep in the warmth. You may have the heat turned up, the fireplace burning or a space heater running. If CO leaks because one of these devices is malfunctioning, it builds up. Carbon monoxide related injuries and deaths are 100 percent preventable. Having a fully-functioning CO detector in your home can save your life.

## PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

### October

4	Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day, Capen Park, 10 a.m.-noon, ages 10-14, FREE
18	Bear Creek Run Half Marathon, Bear Creek Trail, 8 a.m., ages 10 and up, \$40
31	Spooktacular, Site TBA, 6-8 p.m., FREE

## 2015 Most Notable Historic Properties

Columbia's Historic Preservation Commission is now taking nominations for the City's Most Notable Properties for 2015. The deadline for submission is Oct. 3, 2014.

Properties need to be at least 50 years old, located within the City and have architectural or historical characteristics which contribute to the City's social and/or aesthetic resources. The properties may be endangered, derelict, recently restored or nicely maintained. They may be a private home, public or private workplace or any other space, public or private. They may be modest or grand, hidden away or in public view.

Online and downloadable applications are available on the City's website at [GoColumbiaMo.com/community\\_development/planning/HistoricPropertiesSearch.php](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/community_development/planning/HistoricPropertiesSearch.php). For more information, call 874-7239.

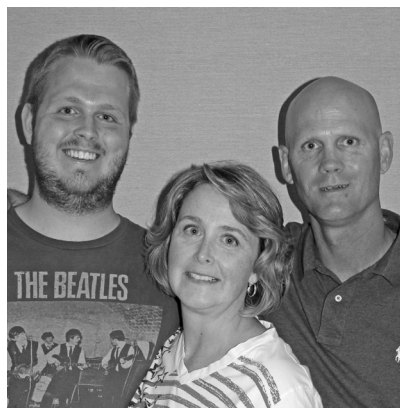
## Code Corner

### Trash and Debris

The City considers accumulations of trash, debris and garbage as well as any accumulation of material that does or could afford harborage for rats, mice or snakes to be a nuisance. Property owners where these violations are found may receive an abatement notice, and if the issue is not resolved, the City may abate the violation and tax bill the property.

If you have a nuisance to report to the City, contact the Office of Neighborhood Services at 817-5050 or [neighborhood@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:neighborhood@GoColumbiaMo.com).





*The Powers Family*

## Volunteers of the Month

### Powers Family

Ten years ago, the Powers family volunteered at a Special Olympics event. The parents and three kids enjoyed working with the athletes so much that they are still involved with the program today.

Columbia's Parks and Recreation Special Olympics program has 278 participants who participate in nine sports throughout the year. These sports are an avenue for personal, emotional and physical growth.

Tim Powers, the dad, is head coach for bowling and golf individual skills, a chaperone and fills in for multiple sports and tasks.

"He works hard to create an environment to maximize the athletes' success," said Jody Cook, Parks and Recreation Special Olympics.

Marigrace, the mom, is an assistant coach for bocce and a lane volunteer for bowling. She also supervises the monthly adaptive dances with Tim. Joe, a junior at Father Tolton High School, is an assistant coach for bocce, a lane volunteer for bowling and the disc jockey at adaptive dances. Abbie, a junior at Mizzou, is a bowling lane volunteer. Anna, a recent graduate from Notre Dame, has volunteered with basketball and track and field.

"Find something you enjoy and it keeps you coming back," Joe said.

"As a volunteer you learn things and serve others, but both of you get something from the experience," Anna added.

## Halloween Safety Tips

Keep the following safety tips in mind when celebrating Halloween:

### Costumes

- Choose costumes that are light-colored and have high visibility (with reflective tape or strips).
- Avoid masks and wigs that restrict your child's ability to see and breathe.
- Avoid costumes that restrict movement, visibility and are trip hazards.
- Choose flame-retardant materials.
- Props (wands or swords) should not have sharp points or edges and should be flexible.

### Trick-or-Treating

- Accompany younger children and do not leave them alone.
- Trick or treat in a group and stay together.
- Only visit houses with porch lights on.
- Walk on sidewalks and driveways, and stay off the grass.
- Walk facing traffic.
- Equip your child with a working flashlight and/or glow sticks.

### Pumpkin Carving

- Small children draw designs and adults carve.
- Remove pumpkin guts with hands or blunt spoons.
- Clean up pumpkin guts from the floor. They make floors extremely slippery.
- Substitute candles with glow sticks and or flameless candles.

## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

*Application deadline: Oct. 3 at 5 p.m.*

- Citizens Police Review Board
- Columbia Community Development Commission
- Commission on Cultural Affairs
- Substance Abuse Advisory Commission

*Application deadline: Nov. 7 at 5 p.m.*

- Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health

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.

## Did You Know?

You can see live tracking and real-time bus stop information on any City bus? Check out [comoconnect.doublemap.com](http://comoconnect.doublemap.com), or download the free DoubleMap app today. Riding the bus has never been easier.



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City of Columbia  
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### MAYOR

Bob McDavid

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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



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