



# CITY OF COLUMBIA/BOONE COUNTY, MISSOURI



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMISSION

August 26, 2008

Mayor & City Council  
City of Columbia  
PO Box 6015  
Columbia, MO 65205

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Attached is the Environment and Energy Commission's Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Barbara Buffaloe, Chair  
Columbia/Boone County Environment & Energy Commission

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMISSION  
ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by:  
Jean Sax, Vice Chair, EEC  
June 2008

Summary of the activities for the Columbia-Boone County Environment and Energy Commission for the period of June 2007 thru May 2008:

- **Tree Ordinance.** A subcommittee reviewed tree preservation revisions and the establishment of a tree ordinance. The subcommittee received clarification from the City Council on the evaluation of the tree preservation policies as well as a directive to move forward on some ideas following a letter to suggest placing the tree preservation guidelines under one chapter in the Code of Ordinances. In June 2007, Chris Starbuck of the MU Plant Science Department and guest speaker, discussed xeriscaping and plant selections as part of the Tree Ordinance issue. In February 2008, Lou Phemister, City Arborist, was a guest speaker on the development of an Urban Forest Plan and a tree ordinance. A letter was submitted to the City Council recommending an Urban Forest Plan. *2007-2008*
- **CO2 Report Review.** Dan Dasho, Director of Water and Light, was a guest speaker on the CO2 report compiled by the Water and Light Department. *July 2007*
- **City Building Renovations.** Guest speaker Tony St. Romaine, Assistant City Manager, discussed the Daniel Boone Building renovations. *August 2007*
- **Additional Commissioners.** Upon request the EEC submitted a report to the City Council recommending that the commission size remain the same and not be expanded by two additional positions. *September 2007*
- **Increasing Passive Solar Energy.** Councilperson Barbara Hoppe requested that the EEC suggest means of increasing passive solar energy. A letter was sent to the City Council. *September 2007*
- **New School Locations.** Several members attended meetings with Columbia Public Schools to discuss the design and location of the new elementary and high school buildings. A letter was written to Columbia Public Schools regarding the new school design and the environmental impact. *September 2007*
- **Street Lights.** City Council requested that the EEC review roadway lighting options and provide a report containing types and spacing of street lights. In November 2007, Brad Grainger of Holophane was a guest speaker on street lights. In May 2008, a commissioner met with Columbia Water and Light staff to discuss the phase out of mercury vapor street lights.
- **Solar One and Quaker Oats.** Dan Dasho, guest speaker, spoke on the installing of solar panels on the roof of Quaker Oats and reselling the energy back to customers who volunteer. *November 2007*
- **Land Disturbance.** In November 2007, John Glascock, Director of Public Works and guest speaker, discussed land disturbance issues as part of the continued discussion on land disturbance and preservation. The Chair attended a Council work session to discuss land disturbance in January 2008. The EEC generated a report on land disturbance for

the City Council retreat. John Fleck, Senior Planner/GIS Coordinator, presented the Natural Resources Inventory Project in relation to the land disturbance issue in April 2008.

- **Home Performance with Energy Star.** Terry Freeman, Residential Services Manager, was a guest speaker on the Home Performance with Energy Star program. *December 2007*
- **Ground Source Heat Pumps.** Guest speakers John Welek, Travis Rehagen and Brenda Rehagen discussed the geothermal systems that were installed in all units of the Vista Home Developments. The EEC submitted a letter to the City Council regarding ground source heat pumps. Council approved a motion to refer the recommendations to the Building Construction Codes Commission for review. *February 2008*
- **City Council Work Session.** Commissioners attended a Council work session to discuss the questionnaire survey given by the City and speak with Council on the EEC progress. *May 2008*

#### LETTERS:

- City/County Logging *9-14-07*
- Tree Ordinance Reorganization Recommendation *9-21-07*
- Size of Commission *10-12-07*
- CO2 Emissions Comments *10-12-07*
- Passive Solar Incentives *10-24-07*
- New School Design *2-12-08*
- Street Lighting *4-16-08*
- Urban Forest Plan *4-22-08*
- Ground Source Heat Pumps *5-27-08*

#### ADDITIONAL TOPICS/ACTIVITIES:

- Renewable Energy Report
- Report Card
- Columbia's Visioning Groups
- Solar Home Tour
- Annual Report
- Earth Day
- Providing Utility Feedback – Commissioner met with City staff.
- Smoking Ban Revisions



---

Environment and Energy Chair