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March 2017



Your source for City news and information



Columbia Fire Department adds new life-saving tool

According to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, on an average day in the United States more than 650,000 opioid prescriptions are dispensed, 3,900 people initiate nonmedical use of prescription opioids, 580 people initiate heroin use and 78 people die from an opioid-related overdose. The Columbia Fire Department responded to 354 poisonings/drug ingestion calls in calendar year 2016.

Columbia is not immune to opioid related overdoses. Consequently, the Columbia Fire Department began carrying naloxone, a medication used to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdoses, on all front-line trucks. Naloxone has no effects, adverse or otherwise, on individuals who have ingested a substance other than an opioid. Naloxone has been successfully administered to patients as young as 2 years old and the elderly.

"Opioid overdose deaths are devastating to all communities, including Columbia. Our ability to administer Naloxone has the potential to save lives," said Fire Chief Randy White.



The Columbia Fire Department responded to 354 poisonings/drug ingestion calls in calendar year 2016.

Columbia Neighborhood Watch trainings

Columbia Neighborhood Watch trainings begin this month. Neighborhood Watch, with assistance from the Columbia Police Department, will host a series of Neighborhood Watch trainings for residents interested in making their neighborhoods safer. The hour-long training kicks off at Ann Hawkins Gentry Middle School, 4200 Bethel Street, on March 7 at 7p.m. Residents are encouraged to register in advance at ColumbiaNeighborhoodWatch.org/training or arrive 15 minutes early the night of the event. Another training session will be held on April 11 at John B. Lange Middle School, 2201 Smiley Lane, at 7p.m. More training dates will be determined for the spring and summer and will be announced on the website.

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention concepts nationwide. It began in Columbia in the late 1970s as a response to increasing property crimes throughout the city and was organized by CPD. Today, Columbia Neighborhood Watch is a non-profit organization run by a Board of Directors.

Several neighborhoods throughout Columbia participate in Neighborhood Watch and yours could be next. For more information on Columbia Neighborhood Watch visit the following website or e-mail col.neighwatch@gmail.com.

ColumbiaNeighborhoodWatch.org

Neighborhood Watch Training

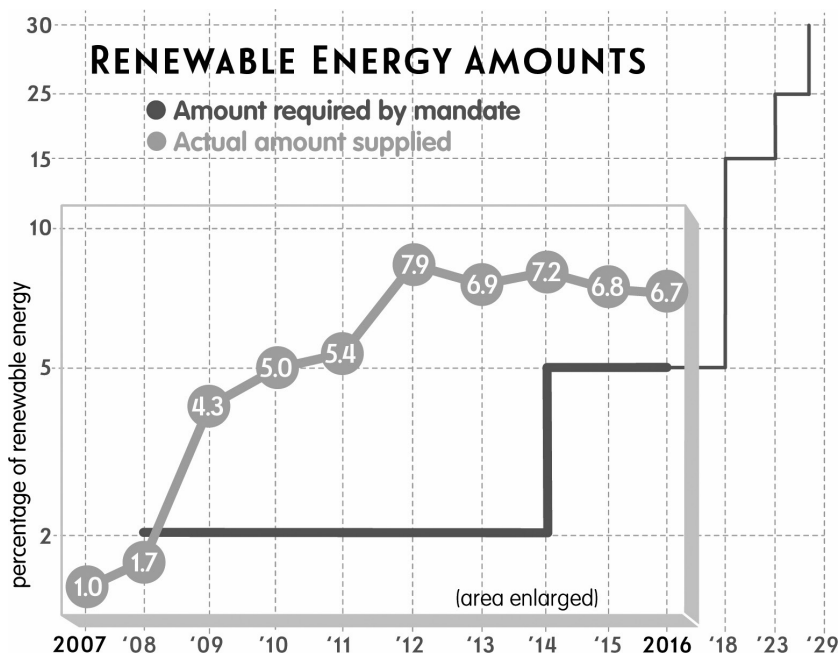


Tuesday, April 11, 2017
Lange Middle School
2201 Smiley Lane

Registration begins @ 6:45 p.m.
Training: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Please join Columbia Neighborhood Watch and the Columbia Police Department in keeping your neighborhood safe! Learn about Neighborhood Watch and the benefits of being a part of it!

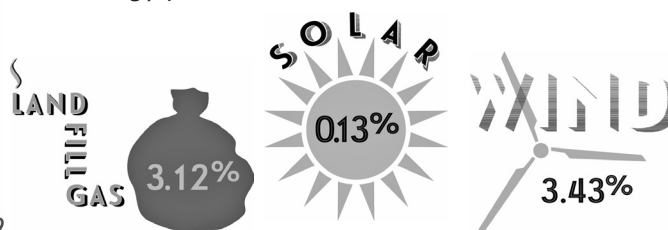
Register online today: www.columbianeighborhoodwatch.org/training/



Renewable energy update - target exceeded

In 2016, Columbia's renewable electric supply was 6.68 percent of the energy generation portfolio. This is higher than the voter approved mandate of 5 percent. The extra money spent on renewable energy was 42.8 percent of the cost cap in the renewable energy ordinance. The next renewable energy target to meet is to have 15 percent of the electric supply coming from renewable resources before 2018. Columbia Water & Light has added a new contract to supply more wind energy in 2017.

Read the full report: CoMo.gov, search for "renewable energy portfolio"



Cleanup Columbia 2017



Photos by Willie Jones

The 21st annual Cleanup Columbia, a city-wide litter control event, will be held Saturday, April 8. Volunteers are invited to spend the morning making our City look great by picking up trash along streets, trails, streams and in our parks.

T-shirts will be provided to volunteers while supplies last. We are also inviting volunteers to join us for a noon, post-cleanup BBQ at Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 2500 Chapel Hill Road.

The City appreciates the help of our sponsors who support the event: Sonshine Graphics, Veterans United, Socket, KOMU TV-8, the Mid-Missouri CW, 102.3 BXR and the Columbia Daily Tribune.

To register or learn more, visit CoMo.gov or call Volunteer Programs at 573-874-7499.



Advancing Renewables in the Midwest Conference coming soon

Network ✨ Share ideas ✨ Find solutions

From investment and new employment to public interest, renewable energy exceeds all other energy sectors in growth and favorability. Stay current on the newest developments in this dynamic sector of the energy economy by attending this Conference.

Mon., April 24 - Tues., April 25

AdvancingRenewables.org

573-882-4349

Hosted by:

Columbia Water & Light

Missouri Department of Economic Development—
Division of Energy

University of Missouri—School of Natural Resources

Earth Hour

March 25, 2017



**Please turn off your lights between
8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Thank you!**

Street Talk: Improvements, construction planned for Providence Road this summer



The Providence Road Improvement Project is scheduled to begin construction in May 2017. The goals for the project include improving Providence Road through traffic movement and improving Grasslands Neighborhood and University access.

"The intersection of Stadium Boulevard and Providence Road is one of the busiest signalized intersections in Columbia," said Engineering Supervisor Allison Anderson. "This causes through traffic on Providence Road to block access to and from the side roads to the Grasslands Neighborhood and the University."

The project improvements include:

- New traffic signals: Installation of traffic signals along Providence Road at the intersection with Burnam Road and at the intersection with Turner Avenue
- Traffic signal removal: Removal of the existing traffic signal along Providence Road at the intersection with Rollins Street
- New sidewalk: Construction of a sidewalk along the south side of Burnam Road from Birch Road to Providence Road
- Southbound right turn lane: Extension of the southbound right turn lane on Providence Road from Stadium Boulevard to Brandon Road
- Intersection access improvements: The intersections of Providence Road with Bingham Road and Kentucky Boulevard will be converted to right-in/right-out/left-in. The intersections of Providence Road with Rollins Street and Brandon Road will be converted to right-in/right-out

"To lessen the impact on local traffic, all lane restrictions on Providence will be performed during overnight hours," said Public Works Director David Nichols. "We appreciate everyone's patience as we complete these improvements."

The project, which is being competitively bid this spring, is estimated to be completed by the end of fall 2017, weather permitting. The Columbia City Council approved the project after a public hearing on June 3, 2013. Other public hearings and interested party meetings were conducted on April 24, 2008; April 20, 2010; November 19, 2012; March 20, 2013; and April 15, 2013. The project investment will be an estimated \$3,920,000 with funds coming from 2005 Capital Improvement Sales Tax and MoDOT's Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds.

Drivers, nonmotorized transportation users and pedestrians are reminded to use caution in and around the work zone. Updates on project progress will be available throughout the year at

CoMo.gov/publicworks/providence-improvement.



Parks & Recreation Calendar

Call 573-874-7460 for more information.

April

8	Kite Flying Day, Douglass Park, 12-2 p.m., FREE
15	Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza, Douglass Park from 12-1:15 p.m., Indian Hills Park from 3-4:30 p.m., FREE
15	Yappy Hour, Twin Lakes Recreation Area, 3-6 p.m., \$12 per dog and person, \$5 per person not bringing a dog
22	Columbia Youth Intro to Track and Field, Hickman High School Track, 9 a.m. check in, \$5
23	Earth Day, Peace Park, 12-6:30 p.m., FREE
26	Tons of Trucks, Target parking lot at Columbia Mall, 4-7 p.m., FREE
29	MLB Pitch, Hit and Run, Rainbow Softball Center at Cosmo Park (red field), 9:30 a.m. check in, FREE

MKT Trail corridor tree restoration



Parks and Recreation staff have been working with the City's Sewer Utility staff and Columbia residents to develop a restoration plan for the area along the

MKT Trail that was recently disturbed by the construction of a new sewer line.

City staff have held several public input meetings as well as solicited feedback online to arrive at a restoration plan that includes native tree, shrub, grasses and forbs to be planted this winter and spring. The Sewer Utility is providing the funding for the plants and Parks and Recreation staff will provide the labor for the installation.

Most of the area disturbed by the sewer project was previously invasive honeysuckle. The new plantings replacing the honeysuckle include butterfly and pollinator friendly flowering plants. In addition, new natural surface trails will be added in the open areas to allow trail users to have easy access to Flat Branch Creek or just have a different trail experience walking through a meadow in bloom.

This project is a great example of two departments working together to create a beautiful area that will allow greater recreational opportunities for the citizens of Columbia as well as improving our natural areas.

March Volunteer of the Month—Mike Szydowski



Mike Szydowski

Thanks to Columbia Public Schools teacher Mike Szydowski, honeysuckle is a much smaller nuisance in Columbia's parks. Szydowski, who leads the Invasive Honeysuckle Project at Science Teachers of Missouri (STOM), which coordinates honeysuckle eradication efforts locally and state-wide, has done an incredible job in Columbia. In collaboration with Columbia Parks and Recreation, he has planned countless removal events, coordinated local volunteers and given all who participate a renewed understanding of the ecological impact of invasive species. Plant biology and ecology now come alive for all of the Columbia Public Schools students who have volunteered with him. Students have spent more than 1,647 hours to date on honeysuckle removal. According to Szydowski, a project that started as a "one-time service learning project has expanded incredibly" with "students asking

to participate again and again."

Not only has Columbia benefited from Szydowski's efforts, but the impact state-wide has been critical. With more than 1,210,000 honeysuckle plants removed so far, Szydowski is truly changing Missouri's landscape. He has found it "very rewarding to work with the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department" and hopes to keep the program moving along.

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, visit our website at CoMo.gov/volunteer, contact Volunteer Programs at 573-874-7499 or email volunteer@CoMo.gov.

Written by volunteer Elizabeth Miller.

Household hazardous waste and compost classes for 2017

Residents can do their part to help our environment through two programs offered by City Utilities and supported by volunteers.



- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections will be held the first and third Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon, starting in April and running through November at the Grissum Building, 1313 Lakeview Drive.
- Composting is a great way to reduce the waste going to the landfill and can be a great source for a soil amendment. Classes are taught by volunteers with home composting experience. Upcoming classes will be held at the Earth Day Festival on Sunday, April 23 at 12:30 and 3 p.m. at Peace Park and at the Compost Demonstration Site at Capen Park on Tuesday, May 9 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, July 22 at 9:30 a.m. Registration is encouraged.

Visit CoMo.gov to learn more about either program or contact Volunteer Programs Specialist Jody Cook at 573-874-6271 or jody.cook@CoMo.gov.

Code Corner – Cars parked on the grass

Cars parked on the grass are unsightly. They are also a violation of the City's zoning code. Both the vehicle owner and the property owner can be held responsible when a violation occurs. Trailers, boats and RV's may also not park on the grass in accordance with the property maintenance code. If there is an issue in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services at 573-817-5050 or neighborhood@CoMo.gov.

Boards & commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline April 7 at 5 p.m.

- Board of Adjustment
- Downtown Columbia Leadership Council
- Planning and Zoning Commission

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at CoMo.gov or at the City Clerk's office. Call 573-874-7208 for more information.

Web did you know?



Check out the City mobile apps you can download for information from the Convention and Visitors Bureau, COMO Connect, Columbia Parks and Recreation, trash/recycling collection and the Public Art Guide. Visit CoMo.gov and click on "CoMo Apps" at the top of the homepage.

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
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573-874-7111 • CoMo.gov

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Brian Treece

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Second Ward	Michael Trapp
Third Ward	Karl Skala
Fourth Ward	Ian Thomas
Fifth Ward	Laura Nauser
Sixth Ward	Betsy Peters
City Manager	Mike Matthes



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