



— City Stats —

Preparing for winter weather

Lane miles of first and second priority snow routes: **466**

City dump trucks and one-ton pickups fitted with plows/salt spreaders:



Snow response crews:
8 to 30
employees
per shift working
12
hours
per shift



Road treatments include: salt, brine, calcium chloride and beet juice.
Learn more at CoMoSnow.com.
Resources can change as needed.

City offices closed for upcoming holidays

The City of Columbia will be closed for the following observed City holidays: Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 22), the day after Thanksgiving (Nov. 23), Christmas Day (Dec. 25) and New Year's Day (Jan. 1).

During the observation of these holidays, City offices will be closed. This is the first year that City offices will be closed on the day after Thanksgiving, as approved by City Council.

All Solid Waste services (landfill and all collections) will not operate on Thanksgiving Day. Solid Waste will resume normal operations on Friday, Nov. 23. Thursday and Friday curbside routes will be delayed by one day following the holiday. Thursday customers will be collected on Friday and Friday customers will be collected on Saturday.

Curbside trash and recycling collection will not occur on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. All curbside routes will be delayed by one day after the holiday for the remainder of the week. Residents can download the COMO Recycle and Trash app for collection day reminders and notifications. Questions concerning holiday collection should be directed to the Contact Center at 573.874.CITY (2489).

Parks and Recreation's Activity & Recreation Center (ARC) will close at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21 and will remain closed on Thanksgiving Day. The facility will reopen the day after Thanksgiving for normal operating hours of 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Recreation swim will be open that day from 12 to 9 p.m. The ARC will close early at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and New Year's Eve (Dec. 31). The ARC will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Go COMO, Columbia's public transit system, will not operate and parking meter regulations will not be enforced on the observed City holidays. Although administrative offices for both the Police and Fire departments will be closed, all other emergency services will be available.

Please visit CoMo.gov/utilities for phone numbers to contact staff regarding emergencies related to Water & Light, Sewer and Stormwater.



City of Columbia offices will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

City's Community Scholars Program wins state award



Community Scholars students JayQual Hayes and Roberto Lauer receive instructions from Fire Engineer Josh Card while learning to use the fire hose during their time job shadowing with the Columbia Fire Department. The award-winning Community Scholars Program is a partnership with the City of Columbia and Hickman High School to help students succeed.

The City recently received the Innovation Award and Member's Choice Award from the Missouri Municipal League (MML) for the Community Scholars Program.

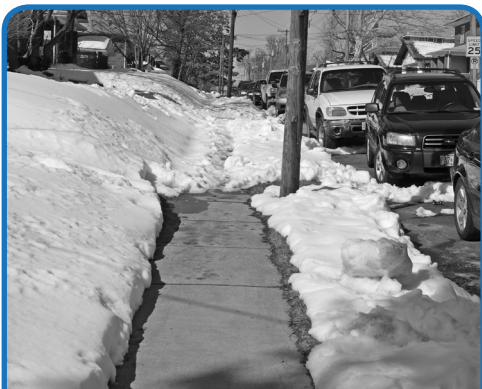
The City partnered with Hickman High School and Columbia Public Schools in the summer of 2017 to implement the Community Scholars Program. The program continued in the summer of 2018. The program provides at-risk students and their families with the support they need and is centered on the fundamental premise that it takes a whole community to raise a child.

At-risk ninth grade students participated in a summer school class which included job shadowing opportunities with City staff in order to jump-start the state of Missouri's A+ Scholarship program.

Participating students have the opportunity to earn one unit of high school credit and up to 12 hours of job shadowing, which are counted towards the 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring for the A+ Scholarship. The City's CARE Program assisted the Hickman teachers by providing job readiness skills training and an opportunity to apply for a CARE summer job the following summer. Together, the City and Hickman High School are developing a curriculum guide and forms to make the program easily replicable and scalable in other communities.

The MML Innovation Awards showcase projects that demonstrate new approaches for solving municipal challenges. The Member's Choice Award is chosen by MML members who vote for their favorite project.

Have you prepared for winter weather?



Residents who are below 200 percent of the federal poverty line with a qualifying disability, or at least 55 years old, may qualify for assistance in clearing their sidewalks.

Missouri winters can be unpredictable from year to year, which makes it all the more necessary to begin preparing before the first ice or snow. If you don't live on a priority snow route, if you live at the top or bottom of a steep hill or if you have special medical needs, it's important to think through your winter-weather travel options.

During winter weather events, City snow operations crews must concentrate on priority snow routes to ensure safe access to hospitals, fire stations, schools and major roadways.

If you absolutely must go out during winter weather for work, healthcare or school, what is your planned route? Is public transportation or carpooling an option? If you need to go up or down a steep hill, do you have access to a four-wheel drive vehicle? Have you considered snow tires or chains? Have you packed your car with emergency winter-weather supplies?

Don't forget your sidewalks. Be a good neighbor by making sure the walkways in front of your home are not dangerous for your family or other pedestrians. By City ordinance, property owners and renters are responsible for keeping their sidewalks clear of ice and snow. Do you have sturdy snow shovels and salt on hand? Supplies may dry up during a major winter event or series of events. Services for Independent Living (SIL) connect volunteers to those with disabilities or are 55 years or older in Boone County whose income is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty line. To volunteer or request assistance, contact Madison Anderson at manderson@silcolumbia.org or 573.874.1646 ext 223.

These are just some of the things you should think about before winter begins. For more information about the City's snow fighting policies and procedures, visit CoMoSnow.com.

Holiday recycling tips

- Most wrapping paper is not recyclable. Please make an effort to only purchase wrapping paper that is advertised as being recyclable. When in doubt, you can use newspaper or brown Kraft paper.
- Tape and stickers do not need to be removed from recyclable wrapping paper or cardboard (...but it does help).
- Holiday cards and envelopes are recyclable.
- Ribbons, bows, ornaments and tinsel should be reused or donated – they are not recyclable.
- Broken holiday lights can be taken to Mid-MO Recycling, 6104 Brown Station Road.
- Plastic holiday trees are not recyclable, but live trees can be composted. Please take your live trees to a Yard Waste Drop-off Center or directly to the City's Compost Operation. Any trees left on the street curb will be sent to the landfill.
- Bubble wrap, air cushions, Styrofoam packaging peanuts, and flat sheets of Styrofoam can be taken to The UPS Store (any location) to be reused or recycled.
- Donate or sell old clothing, electronics, furniture, kitchenware, etc.
- Avoid plastic bags when recycling. Use plastic tubs or cardboard boxes to transport recyclable material.
- Support the recycling industry by purchasing items that contain recycled material – often advertised as “post-consumer content.”
- Shop local! Explore local retail shops, thrift stores, Craigslist, Facebook or others.

Almeta Crayton Memorial Toys for Columbia Youth



In 2017, more than 250 children received toys for the holidays through the Almeta Crayton Memorial Toys for Columbia Youth Drive.

Columbia Parks and Recreation is organizing the annual Almeta Crayton Memorial Toys for Columbia Youth Drive. Families interested in applying for the program may do so by Monday, Dec. 10. The toy drive serves children ages 12 and under. To be eligible, families must be Columbia residents, meet income requirements and not be receiving toy assistance from another agency.

Donations of new toys and money are being accepted through Dec. 10. Toys can be dropped off at the Armory Sports Center, 701 E. Ash; the Activity & Recreation Center (ARC), 1701 W. Ash; or the Parks and Recreation office, 1 S.

Seventh St. For other drop-off locations, please check CoMo.gov.

In addition to toys, donations via cash, checks or credit cards are accepted. A letter of receipt for tax purposes will be provided for your generosity. Please call 573.874.7460 for more information.

Holiday cooking safety

The Columbia Fire Department offers the following cooking safety tips to keep you safe during this holiday season:

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the kitchen while food is cooking and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire, oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains, away from your stovetop.

If you have a cooking fire:

- Get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire. Call 9-1-1 after you leave.
- If trying to fight the fire, be sure others are out and you have a clear way out.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

Parks and Recreation Calendar

Call 573.874.7460
for more information

DECEMBER

- 1 Stonegrinder 7K Trail Run, Capen Park/Grindstone Nature Area, 9 a.m., ages 12 and up, \$35, must pre-register
- 1 City Kwanzaa Celebration, Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, 702 Banks Ave., 2-5 p.m., Free
- 7 Lights and Sights Tour, meet at the Activity & Recreation Center (ARC), 6:15-7:30 p.m. or 7:45-9 p.m., \$7.50 per person, must pre-register
- 11 Central Columbia Holiday Party, Armory Sports Center, 6:30-8 p.m., Free

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline is Dec. 7 at 5 p.m.

- Firefighters' Retirement Board
- Human Services Commission
- Police Retirement Board

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at CoMo.gov or at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, 701 E. Broadway.

Call the City Clerk's Office at 573.874.7208 for more information.

Volunteer of the Month: Nia Imani



Nia Imani

Nia Imani is honored as the November Volunteer of the Month for her work with Live Well by Faith, a program of the Columbia/Boone County Department of Health and Human Services.

Nia leads weekly preventive health programs in her church, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, including cooking classes and Weight Watchers meetings. She has served in this role for the last two years. The goal of the Live Well by Faith program is to promote healthy lifestyles in the African American community where health disparities are the greatest.

Health Educator Verna Laboy nominated

Nia because of her effectiveness. Nia has collaborated with several church denominations to build a thriving program. Members from six different churches attend her programs.

"Nia is an awesome leader and her enthusiasm is contagious," Laboy said. "She is passionate about the work and has lost over 30 pounds herself."

Live Well by Faith has had success because of the dedication of volunteers like Nia Imani. Thank you, Nia, for the difference you are making in the lives of others in Columbia.

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, visit the City's website at CoMo.gov, email volunteer@CoMo.gov, or call 573.874.7499.

Fostering Equitable and Inclusive Neighborhoods event

Many Columbia families live in insecure housing or neighborhoods that negatively shape their health and other life outcomes. These issues are often poorly understood and difficult to address with meaningful impact.

The City of Columbia is hosting an evening with Dr. Tiffany Manual, a national thought leader on affordable housing, community development, equity and inclusion. This event will provide both academic and practical insights on these complex social problems. The event is free and open to the public. The event will be held at 6 p.m. on Nov. 29 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 701 E. Broadway.

Update Utility Customer Service information

Whether leaving town for an extended holiday visit, or moving out of Columbia permanently, please update contact information (address and phone number) with Utility Customer Service (UCS).

Many accounts go delinquent over the holiday season because UCS does not have correct mailing information. Customers leaving town for a month or more may also provide a temporary alternate mailing address, then go back to receiving bills at the service address when returning to Columbia. Visit CoMo.gov, click utilities, and submit the form to update contact information, or call 573.874.7380. UCS would like to wish all of our customers a safe and healthy holiday season!



OUR VISION

Columbia is the best place for everyone to live, work, learn and play.

OUR MISSION

To serve the public through democratic, transparent and efficient government.

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CITY OF COLUMBIA
CONTACT CENTER
573·874·CITY
CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH ANSWERS

The City of Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, receipt of governmental assistance, alienage or citizenship status, status as a victim of sexual or domestic violence or order of protection status.

CITY OF COLUMBIA

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Cover photo: A group of students at Hickman High School participated in a program with the City called Community Scholars. The students spent part of their time in summer school job shadowing City employees who work in fields the students are interested in learning about.