

— City Stats —

Recycling in Columbia

13,222.41 tons

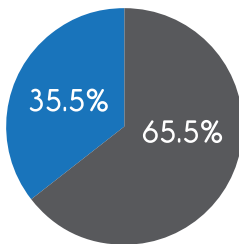
Total material received in 2019
at the Material Recovery Facility.



35.5%

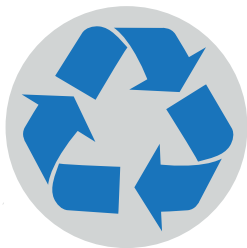
Total material in 2019
from curbside recycling.

The remaining
65.5% comes
from other
areas such
as recycling
centers,
apartment
complexes and
commercial properties.



11 Recycling centers

located throughout
Columbia for residents.



Recycling centers in Columbia

The temporary suspension of curbside recycling has not eliminated all recycling in Columbia. The City still collects recycling material from commercial and industrial properties, apartment complexes, special events and from the 11 recycling centers in Columbia and four recycling centers throughout Boone County.

The City intends to resume curbside recycling once staffing is stabilized and the Utility is able to collect materials on a regular basis. Until that time, residents are asked to use the many convenient recycling centers located throughout the community. These centers are available for anyone to use and are accessible 24/7. The material is processed the same way as curbside recycling.

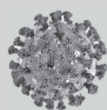
When visiting a recycling center, the best practice is to transport recycling materials in a reusable plastic tub and then empty the loose material directly into a dumpster. Plastic bags can be used but are no longer necessary. Bags create more work for solid waste staff since they must be torn open to access the material inside. Reduce plastic waste by switching to a reusable plastic tub or a recycling bin.

Dumpsters at each recycling center are labeled for “mixed fiber” and “mixed container” recycling. Any dumpster that has a mixed fiber sign can receive paper products such as cardboard, newspaper, magazines, office paper, mail envelopes and paper bags. The dumpster for mixed containers can receive everything that was previously placed in your blue plastic bag. This can include plastic, aluminum cans, glass bottles and jars and metal food cans.

Depending on the recycling center, residents might notice that mixed fiber dumpsters are usually painted blue and mixed container dumpsters are painted green. As this is not always the case, it is very important to read the sign and not rely entirely on the dumpster color.

As recycling centers are utilized more frequently, some overflow issues may occur. Please fold all cardboard boxes and utilize the entire recycling dumpster. While a dumpster may appear to be overflowing in the front, there could be space in the back or middle sections. Staff try to service and empty all recycling center locations multiple times each day. That process is hindered if recycling material has been placed on the ground. Please do not place material on the ground or around dumpsters as that hinders the ability to service the center.

Visit [CoMo.gov/utilities/solidwaste/recycling-drop-off-centers](https://www.comogov/utilities/solidwaste/recycling-drop-off-centers) to learn more about recycling centers or download the City’s app, COMO Recycle and Trash.



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Official Information
Visit [CoMo.gov/Coronavirus](https://www.comogov/coronavirus)



573.874.CITY (2489)
TTY (MoRelay) 711

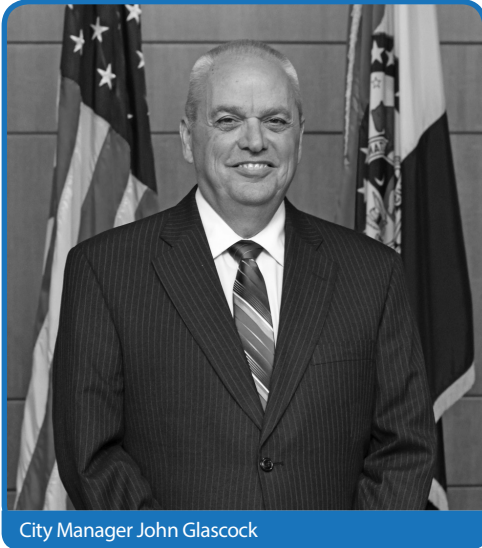


City of Columbia, Mo. Government



@CoMoGov

Letter from City Manager John Glascock



City Manager John Glascock

City of Columbia residents,

As we continue to see cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community, we need to remain vigilant in following health orders, washing our hands and social distancing.

It's important to remember that health orders issued are in the best interest of our community. City staff members make the best decisions we can with the information we have. We know that not everyone agrees with every decision we make, but we want you to know that the health and safety of each person in our community are top priorities.

Additionally, we need to make sure we're working together to get through this hard time. We've seen great examples of neighbors helping neighbors and the selflessness of some to help others. A little can go a long way and I encourage you to show kindness and empathy towards your fellow residents.

With time, we'll get through this together.

John
Columbia City Manager

Code Corner – Rental housing inspections

The City of Columbia has a Rental Unit Conservation Law that was established to keep rental properties safe and in good repair. All rental property in Columbia needs to be registered and inspected to meet basic code. This includes apartments, duplexes, single-family homes and those who have tenants as part of their owner-occupied home. Lease purchase or rent-to-own arrangements need to comply with the ordinance as well.

Currently, more than 28,000 housing units and 10,000 structures are registered through the program. The law also allows tenants to file a complaint if their landlord is not addressing maintenance issues.

If you need to register a property you own, or if you are concerned about the rental status of a property in which you are living or that is in your neighborhood, please let us know. To learn more about rental enforcement, contact Neighborhood Services at 573.817.5050 or visit [CoMo.gov](https://www.columbia-mo.gov/CoMo.gov).

Gate arms system is live in all City of Columbia public parking garages

The new gate arms system has been implemented successfully in all City of Columbia public parking garages.

The rates in all garages are \$1 per two hours with the first hour being free. The maximum daily amount is \$5. Per ordinance, hourly parkers may not park in a City parking garage for over 72 hours or they may be subject to tow.

With the new system, customers can either pay at a walk-up machine or directly at the exit. Customers may pay at the exit machines with a credit or debit card, CoMo Park Card, Google Pay, Apple Pay or Samsung Pay. Cash is accepted only at walk-up machines, not at the exit machines. Exact change is required at the walk-up machines, as they cannot provide change. While Parkmobile is no longer accepted at the garages, it will continue to be an option for on-street meters.

Enforcement for all City of Columbia Parking Garages is Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Parking outside of these hours is free, including all day Saturday and Sunday. For more information, please visit [CoMo.gov/gatearms](https://www.columbia-mo.gov/CoMo.gov/gatearms). For a list on where the City's parking garages are, please visit [CoMo.gov/publicworks/garage-locations/](https://www.columbia-mo.gov/CoMo.gov/publicworks/garage-locations/).

City continues to request public input on Columbia Imagined Status Report

The Planning and Zoning Commission, alongside City staff, are working on a five-year status report for the City's comprehensive land use plan, Columbia Imagined – The Plan for How We Live & Grow. Columbia Imagined was adopted by the City Council on Oct. 7, 2013. The plan provides residents, appointed boards and elected officials with guidance on land use, growth management and quality of life considerations.

Beginning this fall, a series of surveys and virtual public engagement sessions will be held to solicit input from the public to develop the status report. To learn more about Columbia Imagined and to participate in the public input process, visit [CoMo.gov/community-development/planning/five-year-status-report/](https://www.columbia-mo.gov/CoMo.gov/community-development/planning/five-year-status-report/) or call 573.874.7239.

Does your attic insulation measure up?



Columbia Water & Light can help finance energy improvements with rebates and low interest loans.

As winter approaches, it is a good time to start thinking about what can be done to make your home more comfortable during colder weather and what will help save energy and money. One of the biggest areas to look at is how much insulation is in your attic. If you do not have enough insulation, Columbia Water and Light will help finance your project with rebates and loans through our Home Performance with Energy Star program.

Investments in attic insulation in most older, and some newer, houses will pay for themselves in two to five years. Investments in attic insulation will save money on heating and cooling while keeping you comfortable.

How do you know if you have enough insulation? Either read the R-value printed on the batts of your existing insulation or use a measuring tape or ruler to measure the depth of the insulation. Columbia Water and Light recommends having 16 to 18 inches of attic insulation (R-50). If you need help finding information about your home, we can help during a Free Energy Audit, offered to all Columbia Water and Light customers.

For more information on how your attic insulation measures up, the Home Performance with Energy Star Program rebates and loans, or to schedule a Free Energy Audit, visit ColumbiaPowerPartners.com or call 573.441.5528.

Newest Traffic Box Art features work from Shepard Elementary School students



Kindergarten through 5th grade students at Shepard Elementary created the artwork featured on the newest Traffic Box Art.

The newest Traffic Box Art was installed in August on the traffic signal box at the corner of West Broadway and South Garth Avenue. The box features artwork created by Shepard Elementary's Kindergarten through 5th grade students.

All the students were given a paper doll template and asked to draw themselves, considering the ways they are unique and similar. According to Shepard art teacher and design coordinator, Bertie McLaren, the piece "uses the concept of paper dolls to create a work of art that represents the connectedness of the children in our community."

The design was selected after an open call to Columbia's public elementary schools. It is the fifth box completed by classes from Columbia Public Schools and was part of the district's Partnership in Education relationship with the City's Office of Cultural Affairs.

Seventeen traffic signal boxes have been painted or wrapped since 2007.

Parks and Recreation Events

Columbia Parks and Recreation is modifying and adding to the list of community Special Events to ensure compliance with local Health Department orders and social distancing guidelines. For current information, please visit

CoMo.gov/parksandrec or call 573.874.7460. You may also visit the Parks and Recreation Facebook page at [Facebook.com/ComoParksandRec/](https://www.facebook.com/ComoParksandRec/).



The hedonmeter (a study of people's online expressions that measures happiness levels through tweets) shows that park visits correspond with a spike in happiness.

Board and commission vacancies

The City is accepting applications for the following boards, commissions or task forces:

Application deadline is November 6 at 5 p.m.

- Airport Advisory Board
- Climate and Environment Commission
- Columbia Vision Commission
- Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health

Boards and commissions are a way for residents to be involved in local government and to represent the voices of their fellow community members. 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.

Volunteer of the Month: Ziya "Kelsey" Tang



Ziya "Kelsey" Tang volunteers in multiple different ways including picking up litter as part of Cleanup Columbia.

We are pleased to honor Ziya "Kelsey" Tang as the October Volunteer of the Month. Kelsey is an international student from Hangzhou, China majoring in journalism at the University of Missouri. Kelsey quickly got involved with volunteering after arriving in Columbia. Kelsey saw volunteering as a way to give back to those in the community who were helping her assimilate to a new culture.

Whether Kelsey is educating the public about waste reduction as a trained Recycling Ambassador, helping with a Parks and Recreation event, Household Hazardous Waste collection or a litter event she finds great value in her service.

"I feel involved in Columbia because of volunteering. I think the best way to get involved in a community is to help others." Kelsey believes when people are volunteering together "we are united even when we haven't met each other before." Kelsey believes the best part of volunteering is the good energy she receives from working with others to contribute to the community.

In China, most volunteers are high school and college aged students volunteering to earn credits for service. Kelsey has enjoyed volunteering here in Columbia where there is more community involvement and a diverse age range of volunteers. Kelsey misses her beautiful home city of Hangzhou, but is grateful for all the volunteer opportunities that have made her feel a part Columbia.

If you are interested in contributing to our community while working with a diverse group of residents, give Columbia's Volunteer Programs a call at 573.874.7499 or visit volunteer@CoMo.gov for more information.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month brings attention to an important issue. In 2019, Nearly one in 11 females and about one in 15 males in high school experienced physical dating violence, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These statistics show that domestic violence is a real problem that can happen to anyone at any age, no matter the time of day or location.

If you are a victim of domestic violence or know someone who is in danger, please report it to your local law enforcement agency. You can reach the Columbia Police Department at 573.874.7652, or the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1.800.799.7233.

The Columbia Police Department has specialized detectives assigned to the Domestic Violence Enforcement Unit (DOVE). In 2019, patrol officers referred approximately 815 domestic violence cases to the DOVE Unit.

The DOVE Unit investigates domestic violence incidents in Columbia and Boone County. They empower victims, coordinate with other agencies to enhance enforcement efforts, train officers and other professionals in and around Boone County and promote community education.



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

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CITY OF COLUMBIA

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