

— City Stats —

The City of Columbia started a new Solid Waste system Feb. 1.

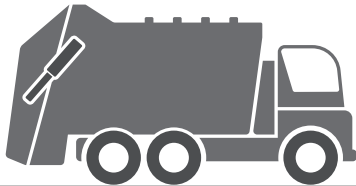
Between Jan. 15 and Feb. 1, residents redeemed

1.1 million

black refuse bags and

645,000

blue recycling bags



7,524

rolls of black refuse bags and

7,194

rolls of blue recycling bags were picked up during Solid Waste's drive-through event at Cosmo Park

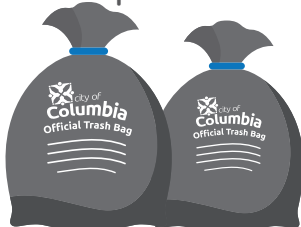


Each black refuse bag is

33 gallons

and holds up to

50 pounds



Cleanup Columbia pandemic style



Volunteers find joy in picking up litter all over town during Cleanup Columbia. The photo was taken prior to the coronavirus pandemic.

COVID-19 has affected so many events over the last year, including Cleanup Columbia, our annual citywide litter pickup. Unfortunately, litter did not take a break during the pandemic, so the help of volunteers to keep our City looking great is still needed!

During the month of April, volunteers can work with the City's Volunteer Program staff to pick up trash along a street, stream, trail or in a City park. You pick the date and time and we will

provide you with a location assignment, bags, gloves, safety vests (if needed) and arrange to have your filled bags picked up. Due to COVID-19, we ask that groups be 20 or fewer per site.

Volunteers can register online at CoMo.gov/Volunteer. For more information, contact us at Volunteer@CoMo.gov.

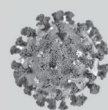
Residential curbside recycling collection returns

The City of Columbia Solid Waste Utility was excited to resume residential curbside recycling collection in February. After suspending curbside recycling collection last July, the Solid Waste staff is sufficiently staffed to offer a curbside recycling program on a reduced basis.

The revised recycling program means curbside collection will be on an every-other-week basis. On alternating weeks, customers can put their blue recycling bags and paper and cardboard bundles curbside on their refuse pickup day.

Containers, such as plastic bottles and aluminum cans, should be placed in a blue bag. Fibers, including newspapers and cardboard, can be placed in a paper bag or a box.

Customers can visit <https://tinyurl.com/CoMoRecycleMap> to view an interactive map that will help residents determine their recycling collection days. Customers can also download the CoMo Recycle and Trash app to receive weekly reminders on refuse and recycling collection days.



Official COVID-19 Vaccine Information

Visit CoMo.gov/CovidVaccine



Progress as Promised: Parks and Recreation completes improvements at Bear Creek Park



Voter-approved Park Sales Tax funds were recently used to make improvements to Bear Creek Park.

Columbia Parks and Recreation recently completed improvements at Bear Creek Park, 1402 Elleta Blvd.

A new playground, swings, bench and walkways were part of those improvements. The former playground at Bear Creek Park was 40 years old.

A 2015 citizen survey showed that 72% of respondents believed that City officials should place a high priority on maintaining the condition of Columbia's parks, trails and recreation facilities. Parks and Recreation staff continue to prioritize park improvements based on this public support.

The total cost of investment was \$40,000. Funding came from the voter-approved 2015 Park Sales Tax.

For more information, please contact Parks and Recreation at 573.874.7460.

Municipal election scheduled for April 6

A general municipal election will be held Tuesday, April 6, for City Council Members for Ward 2 and Ward 6. You can see a map of each ward by visiting CoMo.gov/Maps/Wards.

Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on April 6. The last day to register to vote is March 10. The application deadline for absentee ballots to be mailed to a voter is March 24 and the deadline for in person absentee voting in the Boone County Clerk's Office is April 5.

For more information about the election or to view your polling location, request an absentee ballot, view a sample ballot or register to vote, please visit the Boone County Clerk's website at ShowMeBoone.com/Clerk/Elections.

COVID-19 vaccine update

As we mark a year of the coronavirus pandemic, we hope there is some light at the end of the tunnel now that vaccines are being distributed. However, that does not mean we can let our guard down just yet.

As vaccine supplies are limited, Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services asks for your patience as health care providers work to get vaccines to folks who want it. Vaccine doses are available for Boone County residents based on the state's phase and tier system. For the most up-to-date information, visit CoMo.gov/CovidVaccine.

Even though our friends, family and neighbors are being vaccinated, it is still important to continue the guidelines we have been following for many months, including:

- Wearing masks.
- Social distancing.
- Avoiding large gatherings.

Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services appreciates the efforts of every resident to keep our community safe and healthy. With time, we will get through this together.

Updating contact information can help during a power outage

April showers bring May flowers – but when those showers turn into thunderstorms, power outages can occur. Make sure your contact information is up to date on your utility account. This helps to ensure that the electric utility can resolve the issue in as little time as possible.

If you have a phone number in our system, your number is associated with your address and makes the outage-reporting process very quick and easy when you call from that phone number.

To report a power outage, please call 573.875.2555. To update your contact information, visit the Utility Customer Service page on CoMo.gov.

The City also has a map of electrical outages so you can see where current power outages are happening during a storm and if a crew is assigned to restore power. To view the map, visit CoMo.gov and search "outage viewer." If you are without power but aren't sure if the City knows yet, we encourage you to report the outage by calling the number listed above.

Molly's Miles 5k

Since 2017, Molly's Miles 5K and Virtual Run has brought together people from all walks of life in celebration of the officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty and their families.

On April 24, family, friends and supporters can join the celebration by either participating in person at the Molly Bowden Memorial Park, 900 W. Stadium, or virtually.

The event was named in honor of Molly Thomas Bowden who was the first Columbia Police officer to lose her life in the line of duty. This year, Officer Bowden will also be memorialized with the construction of a new policing center that will be located in the north side of the city.

Molly's Miles is a Missouri non-profit organization dedicated to honoring the survivors of fallen law enforcement officers. All proceeds from the event benefit the Missouri Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), which helps support family members of police officers killed in the line of duty.

To register or for more details visit, MollysMilesRun.com.

Street Talk: Pavement Management Plan



Examples of pavement management include asphalt overlay, mill and overlay, chip sealing, reclamite and surface sealing. Photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Columbia's street infrastructure is critical to the operation of the City. The replacement cost of Columbia's 1,389 lane miles of streets is estimated at more than \$575 million. Over the years, traffic, weather, water, and aging of asphalt and concrete pavements all contribute to street deterioration.

The City of Columbia Pavement Management Plan proactively addresses street deterioration in the short-term and improves the integrity and service life of Columbia streets over the long term. The Plan is grounded in the principle that preventative and rehabilitative street maintenance is more cost effective than reconstruction.

The purpose of the pavement management program is to proactively manage the pavement condition of Columbia streets. It's important to keep the streets in good condition because maintaining roadways that are already in good condition is typically the most economical approach.

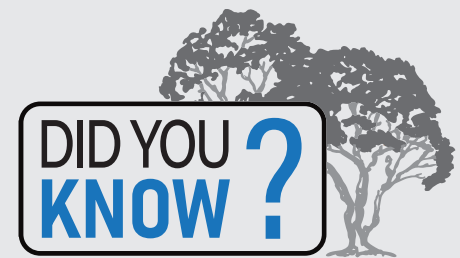
Staff members utilize the nationally recognized Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system to assess the condition of Columbia streets. Good condition is considered a 7.0 or above in the PASER 10 point scale system. The concept of preventive maintenance is using the right treatment, on the right road, at the right time to save or delay future expenditures. The Pavement Management Plan focuses on prevention of future deterioration once a road has been repaired to a good or excellent condition.

More information on the City's Plan, as well as each Ward's PASER rating map, can be found at CoMo.gov/PublicWorks/Streets-and-Sidewalks/Pavement.

Parks and Recreation Events

Columbia Parks and Recreation is modifying and adding to the list of community special events to ensure compliance with Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services 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/ParksandRec.



The City of Columbia's trail system consists of 63 miles. Get out there and explore!

Board and commission vacancies

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

Application deadline is April 2 at 5 p.m.

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

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. Call 573.874.7208 for more information.

Volunteer of the Month: Downtown Optimist Club & Rick McKernan



The Downtown Optimist Club has assisted with the Homes for Computers since 2003.

Rick McKernan has lived in Columbia since 1992. Encouraged by his good friend and fellow Optimist, along with his experience as a youth camp counselor in France during his college years, he joined the Downtown Optimist Club in 1998.

The Downtown Optimist Club employs many projects, such as their oratorical contest, essay contest, Bicycle Safety Class, Soap Box Derby, as well as providing financial support for local sports, food and scholarship programs.

One particular project that Rick is especially proud of is Homes For Computers.

"Before COVID-19, a substantial number of Columbia students did not have regular access to computers at home to help with school work. The Homes For Computers project was a great way to equalize educational opportunities by putting computers into the homes of kids who might otherwise not have that advantage," Rick said.

Through Homes for Computers, surplus computers from the City of Columbia are given to low-income individuals and families identified by the Voluntary Action Center. The Downtown Optimist Club provides their building on Grand Avenue for the distribution and club members help clean, test and assist recipients in loading their computers. The program started in 2003.

After Optimist International created an internet safety program to help kids safely navigate the web, Rick said the program was the "perfect marriage."

"Volunteer Columbia, along with the Optimist Club, provide a small way for me to give back, to show my gratitude and hopefully make a difference in the life of a child," Rick said.

Written by volunteer Courtney Risner

Code Corner: House identification

House numbers may help visitors and delivery people find your home, but they are also essential in the event of an emergency when fire or police personnel need to get to your home.

City code requires premises identification of contrasting numbers or letters a minimum of four inches in height and a minimum stroke width of a half inch. Existing house numbers that are two inches in height are acceptable until they need to be replaced.

Neighborhood Services may be able to help with an issue or question where you live! Reach us at 573.874.CITY (2489) or Neighborhood@CoMo.gov.

Contact Center connection

Need to schedule a curbside pickup for a large item or find information on collections schedules? Chat with us on [CoMo.gov](https://www.cocomo.gov), email City@CoMo.gov or call 573.874.CITY (2489) for more information.



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.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

MAYOR

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WARD 2

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CITY MANAGER

John Glascock
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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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