

## — City Stats —

### Diversity Awards stats

97

Community sponsors,  
2017-2021



56

Award honorees  
over 29 years



800

Expected  
attendance  
for 2022



## Warming centers available this winter

Extremely cold temperatures can pose a severe threat to health and safety. It is especially dangerous for people without shelter, those who are stranded or those who live in a home that is not adequately insulated or without heat.

Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) works in conjunction with community partners to provide a system of warming centers throughout the community. Warming centers are open to the general public during the building's regular business hours. The public can access common areas, such as lobbies, restrooms and drinking fountains. Below is the list of warming centers:

- ARC (Activity & Recreation Center) - 1701 W. Ash St.
- Boone County Government Center - 801 E. Walnut
- PHHS - 1005 W. Worley St.
- Columbia Public Library - 100 W. Broadway
- Salvation Army - 1108 W. Ash St.
- Harbor House - 602 N. Ann St.
- St. Francis House - 901 Range Line St.

More information can be found here: [CoMo.gov/Health/Public-Health-Safety/Warming-And-Cooling-Centers](https://www.comogov.gov/Health/Public-Health-Safety/Warming-And-Cooling-Centers).

## COVID-19 vaccines available for children ages 5-11

After review, recommendation, and authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) last month, Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccinations are available for children ages 5 to 11.

Vaccination is the best way to protect children ages 5 and older from COVID-19. COVID-19 has become one of the top 10 causes of pediatric death, and tens of thousands of children and teens have been hospitalized with COVID-19. While children and adolescents are typically at lower risk than adults of becoming severely ill or hospitalized from COVID-19, it is still possible.

Before being authorized for children, scientists and medical experts completed their review of safety and effectiveness data from clinical trials of thousands of children. The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine was rigorously tested and reviewed, and more than 11 million adolescents ages 12-17 have already safely received the COVID-19 vaccine.

Anyone interested in getting a COVID-19 vaccine can find a list of Boone County vaccinators by visiting [CoMo.gov/CovidVaccine](https://www.comogov.gov/CovidVaccine).

**COMO.GOV/COVIDVACCINE**

LET'S MOVE  
FORWARD



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City of Columbia, Mo. Government



@CoMoGov

## Refuse, recycling vouchers scheduled to arrive in mid-January

City of Columbia Solid Waste residential curbside customers should begin receiving refuse and recycling bag vouchers in their mailboxes in mid-January. In the January packet, customers will receive two vouchers for 26-count rolls of black refuse bags and two vouchers for 18-count rolls of blue recycling bags. If customers do not receive their vouchers by Jan. 24, they should contact the City's bag contractor, WasteZero, at 1.800.866.3954 or [customerservice@wastezero.com](mailto:customerservice@wastezero.com).

Vouchers will be mailed to the service address, regardless of who is paying for the utilities. The vouchers are perforated, and customers are asked to separate them and use only as needed. The single-use vouchers are tracked by bar code and cannot be duplicated.

All trash placed on the curb for collection must be in official City-provided trash bags with a City of Columbia logo. There is no limit to the number of bags placed curbside as long as they are the City-issued bags.

If needed, residents can purchase additional black refuse bags in rolls of five for \$10. The charge for the additional bags acts as a usage fee where customers throwing away more garbage will pay a higher rate. The \$2-per-bag fee will cover extra costs, including the landfill disposal fee, employee salaries and vehicle maintenance.

Customers needing additional blue recycling bags should call WasteZero, and a voucher will be mailed free of charge.

### Bag vouchers are redeemable at the following Columbia locations

#### Gerbes Super Markets

- 1729 W. Broadway
- 2900 Paris Rd.

#### Hy-Vee

- 3100 W. Broadway
- 25 Conley Rd.
- 405 E. Nifong Blvd.

#### Menards

- 3340 Vandiver Dr.

#### Moser's Foods

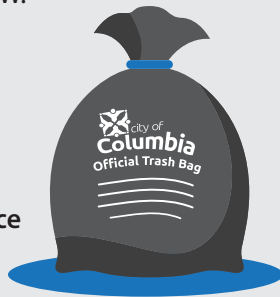
- 705 Business Loop 70 W.
- 4840 Rangeline St.
- 900 N. Keene St.

#### Schnucks

- 1400 Forum Blvd.

#### Utility Customer Service

- 701 E. Broadway



## Stormwater Management Plan revision addresses impact of runoff on environment

One might not think of precipitation when discussing pollution, but the City of Columbia's stormwater system is separate from its sewer system. That means stormwater runoff enters our waterways untreated—and it can bring pesticides, oils, road salt and other pollutants with it.

Since 2003, the City of Columbia, Boone County, and the University of Missouri have implemented a variety of programs and initiatives to address water quality impacts because of stormwater runoff. The three entities are co-permittees for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

As we get ready to enter 2022, Columbia, Boone County, and the University of Missouri are revising the Stormwater Management Plan. This plan will describe the programs, practices, and goals for addressing stormwater runoff and how it affects the environment. Interested parties are encouraged to review a draft of the plan and provide comments.

The Stormwater Utility has scheduled an Interested Parties meeting for Jan. 19 at City Hall to discuss the five-year Stormwater Management Plan. More information and schedule updates will be posted on the Utility's social media feeds and at [CoMo.gov](https://www.como.gov) as it becomes available.

### The Stormwater Management Plan describes the approach for reducing pollutants in stormwater runoff through the following measures:

- Public education and outreach.
- Public involvement and participation.
- Illicit discharge detection and elimination.
- Construction site stormwater runoff controls.
- Post-construction stormwater management in new development and redevelopment.
- Pollution Prevention and Good House keeping for Municipal Operations.

## Holiday safety tips from CPD

As the 2021 holiday season approaches, the Columbia Police Department would like to provide tips to help prevent you from becoming a victim of a crime:

- ALWAYS lock your vehicle and home.
- Park your vehicle in a busy and well-lit area while shopping.
- Store all packages and valuables in your trunk or other covered and lockable storage while shopping.
- At home, don't open your door without knowing who is on the other side.
- Track packages online to confirm they have been delivered. Don't let a package sit on your front porch too long. Ask a trusted neighbor or friend to pick up the package if you won't be home when it arrives.
- Break down boxes and place them in the recycling drop-off points located around town. Find recycling drop-off centers by visiting [CoMo.gov](https://www.como.gov) and searching "Recycling drop-off."
- Don't post your travel plans on social media.
- If you are away for the holidays, create the illusion that you are home by using timers on lights, radios and TVs. Ask a trusted neighbor or friend to watch your home and park in the driveway from time to time.

# Updates on the status of current Public Works construction projects

Public Works contractors have been hard at work on various street and traffic improvement projects throughout the year. Here is an update on six constructions projects that are still ongoing as of mid-November, 2021:

- Contractors completed paving improvements to Lenoir Street on Oct. 25, and once utilities have been relocated, the sidewalk will then be graded and constructed. The inlet throat, a piece of pavement meant to direct the flow of stormwater, is scheduled for construction in early November. The overall project is expected to be completed by early December.
- Significant progress has been made in paving Discovery Parkway. With only the tie-in at Rolling Hills Road still needing to be paved, the major construction project is nearly complete. Improvements to Nifong Boulevard and the roundabout project at Route K and Sinclair Road are also nearly finished. Contractors are working to complete the last few pieces of the project in the coming weeks, weather permitting.
- Audible pedestrian signals have been installed at all four corners of the intersection of Route 763 & Smiley Lane, and two existing ADA ramps at the intersection were replaced to further increase accessibility.
- Finally, the Leslie Lane sidewalk project, an effort to eliminate sidewalk gaps, has been completed. There is now a complete sidewalk path all the way from Providence to Garth Avenue.

Please keep in mind that each project timeline is subject to change based on weather conditions and other outstanding factors. The City of Columbia Public Works department will continue to provide updates on these projects. For more in depth project information, including project history, planning information and maps, visit the City's project database at [CoMo.gov/cip](https://www.columbia-mo.gov/cip).

## Missouri Department of Natural Resources revised water primacy fee structure change effective Jan. 1

City of Columbia Water & Light utility customers will see an increase in their monthly bills in 2022 because of the revised primacy fee structure from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

The primacy fee, which was signed into Missouri law in July 1992, is a user fee paid by customers of the state's public water supply systems. The annual fee supports the MDNR's efforts to ensure Missourians are provided safe drinking water. The restructured fees, which go into effect Jan. 1, are based on the size of the customer's connection (see chart below).

City of Columbia Water & Light forwards the fees to the Missouri Department of Revenue to fund the Missouri Public Drinking Water Program.

Missouri Primacy Fee rate structure table		
Number of connections with unmetered or meter size <1"	Current fee amount on monthly bill	Revised fee amount effective Jan. 1, 2022
35,001 to 50,000	\$0.13	\$0.40
Meter size:		
>1" <2"	\$0.62	\$1.75
>2" ≤4"	\$3.43	\$8.50
>4	\$6.87	\$16.50

## Parks and Recreation events

For more information, please visit [CoMo.gov/Parks-and-Rec](https://www.columbia-mo.gov/Parks-and-Rec) or call 573.874.7460. You may also visit the Parks and Recreation Facebook page at [Facebook.com/ParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/ParksandRec).

### January 2022

- 17
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Candle Light Walk and Celebration, Walk at Armory Sports Center at 6:30 p.m., proceed to St. Luke UMC
- 22
- ROC Trail Run, Rhett's Run Trail at Cosmo Park, 9 am, ages 12 and up, \$35



Having more access to outdoor activities ranked #3 as 2021 home buyers' top reasons for changing locations, according to [Realtor.com](https://www.realtor.com).

## Board and commission vacancies

Boards and commissions are a way for residents to be involved in local government and to represent the voices of their fellow community members. The City is accepting applications for the following boards, commissions or task forces:

- Application deadline is Jan. 7 at 5 p.m.**
- Parking Advisory Commission
  - Tree Board

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at [CoMo.gov](https://www.columbia-mo.gov). Call 573.874.7208 for more information.



## Volunteer of the Month: Aubrey Fairless



Aubrey Fairless volunteers at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. Recycling education helps to build a more sustainable Columbia.

Aubrey Fairless has been committed to volunteer work since she was in high school. She began by helping around hospitals, but has since found interests in waste reduction efforts. As an avid recycler, Aubrey was naturally attracted to the Recycling Ambassadors program. For the past five years, Aubrey has assisted with waste reduction education efforts and is a regular volunteer with Household Hazardous Waste Collection.

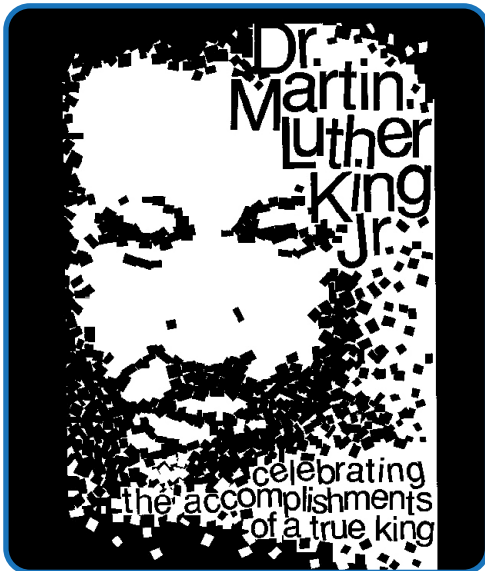
Volunteering allows Aubrey to gain a stronger relationship with the community. As a natural introvert, she says, "volunteering forces me to put myself out there." Aubrey not only uses volunteering as a way to connect with

others, but also to build a large impact on the community. She believes that service is so important because it allows for low cost functions that educate and bring people together.

Aubrey encourages others to begin volunteering, regardless of time availability. She realizes how hard it can be to find the time to volunteer. She says, "however, by taking a leap of faith, you can be a part of rewarding and impactful opportunities, too."

Thank you, Aubrey, for your service! To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, visit [CoMo.gov](https://www.columbia.mo.gov) or email [volunteer@CoMo.gov](mailto:volunteer@CoMo.gov).

## Columbia Values Diversity Awards



Join us at the 2022 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, from 7-9 a.m. at the Holiday Day Inn Expo Center! We will remember the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and celebrate diversity in our community.

The 2022 theme is "Healing Together" and will include breakfast, followed by the presentation of the annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. The awards honor those whose work in our community exemplifies the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in fostering individual dignity, racial equality, understanding, peacemaking, and solving problems through non-violence. The program will also

feature an artistic program featuring local artists and arts organizations.

Tickets are \$20 for individuals or \$180 for a table of eight. Registration forms and online registration are available at [CoMoDiversityCelebration.com](https://www.CoMoDiversityCelebration.com). Also available online are a list of community resources for learning, local history, and initiatives currently working to build a more inclusive community and a calendar of other local events celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



### OUR VISION

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

### OUR MISSION

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

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CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH ANSWERS

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