



— City Stats —

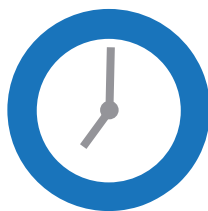
Volunteer Columbia 2021

5,500

people volunteered
with the City of Columbia
Volunteer Program

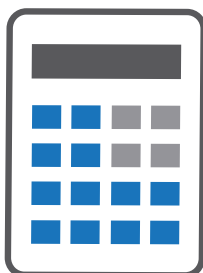


29,810



hours of
service were
given to
various causes

\$850,000



is the value of
service given
by volunteers,
up 18% from
the previous
year

Progress as promised: COU Airport



All guests were able to sign their name on a beam which will be placed for the new terminal. The new terminal is on schedule to open during summer 2022.

Construction of the runway extension at Columbia Regional Airport (COU) was finished on Friday, Dec. 10.

The milestone marks the completion of COU's Master Plan to improve the airport, which was published in 2009. With the extension, the length of the runway has gone from 6,500 feet to 7,400 feet.

The extension will allow for larger aircrafts to use the runway and provide a longer distance for planes to land and take off during inclement weather.

While completing this extension, the old incandescent lights were replaced with energy efficient LED lights. This alone will save approximately 75 percent in energy costs.

Along with the extension, COU hosted a beam-signing and topping-off ceremony, in December, to celebrate progress made on the new airport terminal.

Those in attendance signed their name on the beam, which was then placed on the terminal's foundation. The beam, and the public's signatures, will forever be part of the new COU terminal.

City of Columbia Mayor Brian Treece, Jefferson City Mayor Carrie Tergin, Presiding Columbia County



Celebrating another milestone in the construction of the new COU airport terminal with a beam-signing and topping-off ceremony.

Commissioner Dan Atwill and University of Missouri President Mun Choi spoke at the event. Work to build the new terminal at COU continues and is on track to be completed in summer of 2022.

CoMo.GOV/COVIDVACCINE

LET'S MOVE
FORWARD



Save on your heating bills



Having the correct amount of attic insulation can help you maintain a comfortable temperature throughout your home and reduce heating costs.

Now that cold weather is upon us, many City of Columbia Utilities customers are looking for ways to reduce household energy costs and lower their winter heating bills.

Thermostat setting is the most effective way to manage heating costs. Heating has the biggest impact on winter utility bills for homeowners and small businesses. How much energy is needed to keep your space comfortable depends on multiple factors, including weather, building type and age, heating source, and how you use your thermostat.

Keeping the thermostat a little bit lower when you are home (at 68 instead of 70 degrees, for instance) can lower your costs as much as 3 percent to 5 percent per month.

Here are some more simple changes that can add up to significant energy savings:

- Ensure weatherstripping and door sweeps on exterior doors have a complete seal, and close and lock all windows.
- For windows that receive direct sunlight, keep the shades open during the day to help warm your house naturally.
- If you have a fireplace, make sure the damper is closed when not in use.
- Maintain appliances to improve their efficiency. Replace the filter in your furnace. Clean the coils on your refrigerator. Clear the dryer vent.
- Verify that your attic is properly insulated with up to 17 inches of insulation to improve comfort and reduce heating costs.

Columbia Water & Light offers free energy assessments to residential and commercial customers. The program ensures that customers will receive a personalized review so they can make informed decisions that can help lower costs. Visit

[ColumbiaPowerPartners.com](https://www.columbiapowerpartners.com) for more information.

For qualifying customers, Central Missouri Community Action may be able to weatherize your house at no charge and save you, on average, about \$400 in heating and cooling costs per year. Visit [CMCA.us](https://www.cmca.us) for more information.

Customers struggling to pay utility bills should contact Boone County Public Health and Human Services at: 573.817.6430, SocialServices@CoMo.gov or [CoMo.gov](https://www.CoMo.gov) (search: Social Services)

Code Corner – 2021 Residential Code Enforcement Review

The City's Office of Neighborhood Services works to enforce residential codes to protect property values, protect health and safety, and generally keep our City looking good! In Fiscal Year 2021 (Oct. 1, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2021), the Office handled 6,620 code issues. Issues related to solid waste was the largest category at 2,694; followed by 1,080 health nuisance issues, including trash and debris; 898 landscaping management and vegetation issues; 430 vehicle violations; and 243 property maintenance issues that were related to the structure of the residence. ONS received 241 complaints from tenants about issues in their rental homes and apartments.

Please let the City know if there is an issue in your neighborhood that we can help resolve by calling 573.874.CITY (2489) or visiting [CoMo.gov](https://www.CoMo.gov).

Columbia earns all-star rating, perfect score on Human Rights Campaign Municipal Equality Index

The City of Columbia earned a perfect score of 100 on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index for the fifth year in a row, as well as its sixth consecutive all-star rating.

The Human Rights Campaign, the largest civil rights organization in America working for LGBTQ+ equality, conducted its 10th annual nationwide evaluation by rating cities on five categories: non-discrimination laws, municipality as employer, municipal services, law enforcement and leadership on LGBTQ+ equality.

Of the 506 cities rated in 2021, Columbia was one of 110 cities that earned a perfect score. The national average score was 67 points. Eight Missouri cities were evaluated. Along with Columbia, St. Louis and Kansas City also received perfect scores.

Columbia was also one of 74 cities to earn an all-star rating, which is given to a city when it obtains a high score in a state that lacks comprehensive non-discrimination laws for LGBTQ+ people.

"We pride ourselves on being an inclusive and welcoming community," Columbia Mayor Brian Treece said. "When people feel welcome here, they want to move here, send their children to college here. When people feel a connection to our community, they want to stay here, start new businesses here. Our equality protections are good for families and our economy."

In August 2020, the Columbia City Council passed a provision to its Code of Ordinances requiring that all City contractors implement nondiscrimination employment policies.

The Human Rights Campaign's evaluation included 50 state capitals, the 200 largest cities in the United States, the five largest cities or municipalities in each state, and the cities home to each state's two largest public universities.

Public Works is readying three new trucks for winter weather events



There are 1,418 lane miles of city-maintained streets including 691 lane miles of first, second and third priority routes and 1,100 cul-de-sacs.

This winter, the Public Works department will be deploying a new type of snow removal vehicle: the Class 5 truck.

This type of vehicle has two main advantages: It has the ability to carry nearly as much snow-removal salt as a full-size dump truck, and it can be operated by drivers who don't have their commercial driver's licenses, which will allow a greater number of City staff to use the vehicle.

"The Class 5 truck drives a lot like a regular pickup truck, and it is four-wheel drive, allowing us to get around a lot more easily in the cul-de-sacs," said Sam Thomas, street maintenance superintendent.

Because of the Class 5's versatility and cost-effectiveness, City officials decided to purchase three for the City's fleet of snow response vehicles this year.

In addition to these new acquisitions, Public Works will continue to use the other vehicles that it has at its disposal as conditions require them. These include the six-wheel drive motor grader, a piece



Snowplows serve to make the community and roads passable during the worst winter weather. Give snowplows plenty of room, and don't pass them.

of equipment normally brought out for heavier snow events. The motor grader is able to plow two lanes at a time, allowing for more efficient clearing of wider city streets such as Scott, Nifong and Forum boulevards.

No matter what type of snow-removal vehicle you might see during a snow event, the City asks that motorists maintain a safe distance between their car and the plow at all times. If you're unable to stay at home during a snowstorm and you find yourself required to drive, please make sure it's at a reasonable speed relative to conditions, and refrain from passing any of the snow plows that you encounter. And remember, if you think it might snow, please park your car in your driveway and off of the road. This will make it so snowplow drivers have fewer obstacles to maneuver around, making the snow removal process both faster and safer for our drivers.

When driving in the snow, be aware of the priority routes for plow trucks within the city. Priority routes are plowed and treated 24 hours a day as needed during a winter weather event. There is no parking allowed on priority routes when snow accumulates 2 inches or more. Broadway, Green Meadows Road and Vandiver Drive are the busiest priority routes in Columbia.

To learn more about the City of Columbia's winter weather procedures and its snow-removal priority routes, visit [CoMo.gov/public-works/street-division/comosnow/](https://www.columbiagov.com/public-works/street-division/comosnow/).

The City appreciates the community's cooperation as we strive to provide the best possible snow response that we can this winter.

Parks and Recreation events

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

February 2022

- 9 Black History Month Film, *Southside with You*, Armory Sports Center, 6 p.m., Free
- 19 Stonegrinder 7K Trail Run, Capen Park/Grindstone Nature Area, 9 a.m., ages 12 and up, \$35, must pre-register
- 20 Boy/Girl Scout Day, Hickman Pool, 1-3 p.m., pre-register, \$4 per child
- 27 Black History Month: Gospel Explosion and Soul Food Dinner, St. Luke UMC, 4-7 p.m., Free



Columbia Parks and Recreation oversees over 3,500 acres of parkland and maintains 75 parks.

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 Feb. 4 at 5 p.m.

- Commission on Human Rights
- Public Transit Advisory Commission

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

Volunteer of the Month: Jayne Young



Volunteer of the Month Jayne Young. Volunteer opportunities range from one-time events to ongoing programs. There are many ways to serve!

Jayne Young is one of the City of Columbia's strongly devoted volunteers. Jayne's service began when she joined the Park Patrol in 2003, helping keep our trails and parks safe and well maintained.

In 2019, Jayne began volunteering at the Earth Day Festival to help support the City's commitment to recycling and waste reduction. Since then, Jayne has become a part of many programs such as Recycling Ambassadors, TreeKeepers, litter pickup events, and Parks & Recreation events.

Volunteering gives Jayne a sense of peace and connection. She said "meeting new people with similar interests in

caring for the community," is what keeps her motivated. Jayne believes that every person can make a difference, and she plays an active role in this change herself. Jayne works hard to strengthen our community through all of the programs she's a part of.

Jayne brings care and kindness to every event she works at. You may meet her while she is helping at a City event! We are greatly appreciative of all her time spent promoting waste reduction and ecosystem beautification. If you are interested in volunteering, visit our website at CoMo.gov or contact Volunteer Programs at 573.874.7499 or volunteer@CoMo.gov.

Personal Property Inventory Tracking

Keeping track of your personal property can help you recover it if it is stolen. The Columbia Police Department encourages you to register your property on a safe and secure online database.

There are various proactive, online tools that will let you securely store serial numbers, item descriptions, pictures, and scans of receipts so that your items may be more easily identified in the event of theft or loss.

These FREE services are not operated or maintained by law enforcement, but they will safely and securely store important information that could be useful in identifying or recovering your property if it is stolen, damaged or lost in a natural disaster. By storing the information in one central digital location, you can have access to it anywhere, so long as you have access to the internet.

You can store the information of anything with personal value: collectibles, jewelry, electronics, machinery, lawn equipment, and even designer clothes and handbags. Only you can access it. Police do not have access to this information.

There are numerous free databases online. Make sure to do some research on the available options before registering.

To learn more about registering personal property online visit the Helpful Links section of the police department's website at CoMo.gov (search: Columbia Police Helpful Links).



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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CITY OF COLUMBIA
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CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH ANSWERS

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CITY OF COLUMBIA

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