FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Columbia Parks and Recreation - (573) 874-7460

Earth Day 2005 activities announced

COLUMBIA, MO (April 12, 2005) -- Don’t miss Columbia’s 2005 Earth Day Festival set for
Sunday, April 24. This year’s celebration will mark the 35th anniversary of the event.

The street fair will be held from noon to 6:30 p.m. that day and the children’s area will be open
from noon until 5 p.m. Attendees will be able to enjoy live music on stage from noon to 7 p.m.

All activities will be held at MU’s Peace Park located downtown along Elm Street between 6th
and 9th streets. Booths for the street fair will be set up on adjacent streets. Booths for the
Volunteer Fair will be set up along the circle drive next to the park.

In the event of inclement weather, the Earth Day Festival will be moved to May 1.

More details about the event follow:

Annual Community Volunteer Fair
Join the biggest social movement in America today - volunteering! More than 100 million
Americans volunteer billions of dollars worth of time and services to local, state and national
agencies and organizations.

Dozens of agencies and not-for-profit groups will have information booths at the Earth Day
Festival sharing information on how you can make a difference in one person's life or in the life
of your community by volunteering your time and talent. Explore opportunities to enrich not just
your life, but your family's life by volunteering as a family. Enrich your relationships with one
another and gain insights into challenges that other families face. Don't know where to start?
Check out the Voluntary Action Center's Booth for ways that you can get involved.

Family and Kids’ Activities
Come along with your kids and explore the wonders of nature while learning to help care for the
planet (just south of the stream in Peace Park – noon to 4 p.m.).

Dig/Skip Stones/Stack Sticks/Braid Vines: Active play with nature’s toys, for toddlers, teens and
adults.

Plant a seed: Join the Missouri Master Gardeners to learn what plants need. Start your own
plants to take home and care for this summer.

Catch a Crayfish: Join the Missouri Department of Conservation to learn what crayfish need.
Learn the safe way to catch one and get an up close look at our very own stream monsters.

Wonder at Wildlife: Join staff and volunteers from Rock Bridge Memorial State Park to learn
how bats find their babies and other interesting wildlife facts.
Make Friends With Worms: Learn “what worms want” and how to set up a compost bin in your home or yard to make your kitchen waste magically disappear - courtesy of Columbia Public Works.

Discover your Watershed: Join the Community Stormwater Partnership to find out what watershed you live in and how to keep your streams clean.

Sort those Recyclables: Can't keep those recycling categories straight? Check out some fun games to help you learn what goes where - courtesy of Columbia Public Works Department and Hickman Biology Club.

Run, Jump and Play: Run with the Giant Earth Ball and take the stilt challenge with Columbia Parks and Recreation.

Try out Tattoos, Seed Art and Butterfly Baggies: Try out fun washable tattoos, make some beautiful seed art and butterfly baggies with Columbia Parks and Recreation.

Animal Art: Create animal masks and puppets using found art materials.

The Sustainable Home
New this year! Visit the “Garage,” the “Yard,” the “Kitchen” and the “Living Room” under the Green Canopies (between the Kid’s Area and the Geology Building in Peace Park – noon to 4 p.m.). We’ve pulled together some great ideas and information about how to live more sustainably. Each canopy has ideas for different parts of the home, and activities for kids, as well as adults. Learn how to diagnose the source of a leak in your car, about basic bike maintenance, how to store hazardous chemicals, or your kid’s view of the neighborhood at the Garage. In the Yard, find out about native plants, rain gardens, and invasive species. In the Kitchen, discover ways to save energy, how to reduce what you throw away, and about simple, healthy snacks. In the Living Room, find out how lighting, heating and cooling affect your energy bills, and find out how to track energy vampires.

Street Fair
Sample the wares (and ideas) of hundreds of vendors and organizations at the street fair. We have everything from fluorescent light bulbs to fluorescent T-shirts, from saving energy to saving souls. Nothing is too practical or too esoteric for the Annual Earth Day Street Fair.

Stage Schedules
Come hear Columbia's up and coming (and free) musical talent - covering a wide range of tastes, styles and influences. Spread out a blanket in Peace Park and spend an afternoon soaking up culture and sunshine.

8th Street Stage
12 - Carolyn Mathews & Friends
12:35 - Jeff Arrigo
1 - The Shades
1:35 - Bocomo Drum Heads
2 - Psycho Sis
2:35 - Jon Huffman
3 - Thinline
3:35 - Laura Jean Binkley
4 - One Shot Crockett
4:35 - Moon Belly Dancers w/The Dragonflys
5 - Aurora Borealis
5:35 - Recycled Fashion Show
6 - Witch’s Hat

Peace Park Stage
12 - Sheryl Clapton
12:15 - Joe Willett Jazz Ensemble
12:55 - Sheryl Clapton
1:10 - Divine Rhythm
1:35 - Deva Dancers
2 - Raging Grannies
2:20 - Soulstace
3 - Victoria Day w/Mike Barber
3:20 - Madahoochi
4 - Pippa Letsky
4:20 - Hilary Scott Band
6 - Debra Hardin
6:20 - Bockman

West Field
Betty Gayle Smith, member of the Master Gardeners & founder of Labyrinths of Turtle Island will have a meditative labyrinth available all day in the Northwest corner of the field. The labyrinth is a simple spiral path designed to allow you to follow the path to the center, where inner tensions, burdens, etc. may be left behind before following the path back out.

Want a Nitty Gritty Earth Day experience? Here’s How to Volunteer -
To help with logistics (traffic control and/or clean-up), please contact Mark Haim, 573/875-0539, peacewks@coin.org.

To help with family and kid's activities, please contact Jan Weaver, 573/874-0171, envstudy@missouri.edu.

To assist the stage and sound crews, please contact Shannon Morris, 573/442-5338, shannon@shannonmorris.com.

Earth Day is sponsored by: