

CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



Citizen Survey

The 2013 citizen satisfaction survey, conducted this spring, will help City officials work on items important to you. To see all the results, enter citizen survey results in the search box on the home page of the City's website at GoColumbiaMo.com.

Residents generally have a positive perception of the City, no matter where they live. The survey revealed that Columbia is setting the pace for customer service compared to other cities in Missouri, Kansas and across the nation. Better-than-average marks also were given to parks, solid waste services, value of service for the tax dollar and other categories.

The City did not compare as well in stormwater drainage, public safety, code enforcement and planning for growth. Future directions include improving City street conditions; making the community more safe; assuring that City utilities are reliable; and keeping citizens informed with useful information about City services. Another citizen satisfaction survey will be conducted in 2014.

Thank you,
Columbia, for
sharing your
views on City
services.



COLUMBIA ★ TOURISM Ambassadors

The Columbia Tourism Ambassadors (CTA) Program has been in full swing since its launch in April. Nearly 150 fellow Columbia residents have been certified in this nationwide effort to create positive experiences for every visitor to our destination.

In Columbia, employees from 10 City departments, 15 hotels and an array of other businesses have signed on to be certified. The program consists of a pre-read notebook, four-hour class and open-book test. Within the class, participants learn about the importance of tourism to the community, exceeding customer expectations and get an in-depth knowledge of what the area has to offer visitors.

This exciting program truly brings Columbia together to enhance the tourism industry, visitor experiences and the quality of life for residents. To sign up to become a CTA, visit CTANetwork.com. Classes are only \$25 and are scheduled through the end of 2013. **Questions?** Contact the Convention and Visitors Bureau at 875-1231.

36th Annual Heritage Festival & Craft

History will come to life at the 36th annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show at historic Nifong Park. Columbia Parks and Recreation will hold the festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 21-22. The Heritage Festival has no admission charge and offers entertainment and fun for all ages.

Attendees will enjoy music and dancing on two stages. Featured entertainers include the Haskell Indian Nations Dancers along with a variety of traditional and roots music, including bluegrass, folk, German, Cajun and special guests the "Ugandan Children's Choir."

Visitors can experience "living history" by strolling through a replica Lewis & Clark outpost, cowboy and prospector camps and a lost arts area with traditional artisans. The Village at the Boone County Museum will be open with a historic car display and re-enactors in the buildings. A large contemporary handmade craft area will also be featured.

The Mid-Missouri Organization of Storytellers will sponsor ghost stories 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sept. 21. The Heritage Festival will also feature numerous children's activities in the Fun for Young'uns Area.

The Heritage Festival is coordinated by Columbia Parks and Recreation and sponsored by the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, KFRU and KPLA 101.5.

Call 874-7460 for more information about the festival, or visit GoColumbiaMo.com.

Peak Warnings

Why Water & Light needs your help

Peak electrical demand occurs during the hottest days of summer when electric consumption is critically high. To meet the demand, Columbia Water & Light sometimes needs to buy power from the wholesale electric market where the prices can be very high. Lowering Columbia's electric demand from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. can help the utility save money, which helps keep your electric rates low.

During hot summer afternoons:

- Set thermostats up one or two degrees.
- Avoid heating the kitchen. Barbecue, use the microwave or prepare a cool meal instead.
- Change the air conditioning/furnace filter.
- Leave window shades that receive direct sunlight down during the day.
- Make sure all storm windows and fireplace dampers are closed.

Postpone using major electric appliances, doing laundry or using automatic dishwashers and dehumidifiers until after 8 p.m.

Thank you for your help!

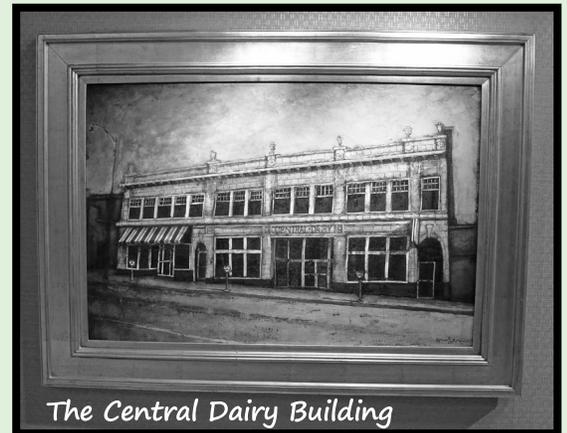


Parks and Recreation presents last Family Fun Fest of 2013

Columbia Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the City's Office of Cultural Affairs to present the last Family Fun Fest event of 2013. It will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Sept. 18 with the theme "Creative Kids."

Kids will be able to enjoy participatory art activities and family-friendly performances of music, dance and theater. Family Fun Fest is free. Entertainment for the entire family will also feature face painting and guaranteed fun for all ages.

The Family Fun Fests are sponsored by the Convention & Visitors Bureau, KPLA 101.5, KOMU 8, EntPro Entertainment and Columbia Home magazine.



New Art for City Hall

Civic, commerce and culture. These are the themes for the three paintings by artist Joel Sager, now on display on the fifth floor of City Hall. Each of the three paintings features a different building in Columbia; the courthouse (civic), the Central Dairy building (commerce) and The Blue Note (culture).

Sager used his unique artistic process to create the paintings, which were installed at the end of June. This new work is part of the City's Percent for Art program, which allows for one percent of the cost of new City construction or renovation to be used for site-specific art.



Use water wisely this summer

Do you need to water your lawn?

- Watering thoroughly, but infrequently, develops a deep root system so plants can use moisture and nutrients deep in the ground.
- Water according to moisture in the soil, not a fixed schedule.
- Lawns are dry when footprints remain in the grass long after being made.

How much should I water?

- Lawns need only one inch of water per week, approximately three times a week for 20 minutes.
- Use a tuna can or a rain gauge to accurately measure the amount of water your irrigation system or sprinkler delivers.
- Set a timer as a reminder to turn off the sprinkler.
- Water in the early morning from 6-8 a.m., avoiding windy conditions.

Other easy ways to conserve...

- Don't irrigate the pavement; choose and adjust sprinklers to fit the lawn area.
- Mulch to retain moisture and prevent water-robbing weeds.
- Mow grass to a height of 2 ½ inches with a sharp blade.
- Never use a hose to rinse off pavement; sweep leaves and grass clippings.
- Landscape with native plants that are tolerant to Missouri summers.

Labor Day holiday

City offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, in observance of Labor Day. The regular City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 3. Residential refuse and curbside recycling collection will not be made Sept. 2 and will be delayed one day the remainder of the week. Contact the Solid Waste Division at 874-6291 if you have questions. Also, Columbia Transit buses will not operate, the landfill will be closed and parking meters will not be enforced.

Did you know?

Did you know law enforcement agencies from around Missouri raised \$2.3 million for Special Olympics this year? The Columbia Police Department has been active in fundraising for Special Olympics Missouri since 1986.



PARKS & RECREATION CALENDAR

Call 874-7460 for more information.

September

3	Pooch Plunge, Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center, 6:30-7:30 p.m., \$4 per dog, must pre-register at 874-7460
5	Stephens Lake Park Amphitheater Concert Series: Norm Ruebling Band, 7-9 p.m., FREE
13	Movies in the Park, "Brave," Flat Branch Park, 8:30 p.m., \$2 per person, 8 and under FREE
18	Family Fun Fest: Creative Kids, Flat Branch Park, 6-8 p.m., FREE
21-22	36th Annual Heritage Festival and Craft Show, Nifong Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., FREE

CODE CORNER

Building Identification

If you have an emergency, could public safety personnel find your home? The Property Maintenance Code adopted by the City of Columbia states that structures to which a street number has been assigned shall have a number displayed in a position easily observed and readable from the public right of way.

All numbers shall be Arabic numerals at least 4 inches high with a ½-inch stroke and of contrasting color. Existing Arabic numerals 2 inches high with a ½-inch stroke that are being maintained and in good condition may remain until replaced.

To learn more about residential codes or file a complaint, contact Neighborhood Services at 817-5050.



Marv and Laura Wells

August Volunteers of the Month

When Marv and Laura Wells began walking their dog several times a day, they noticed a large amount of trash littered their road.

"It hit us," Marv said, "that there was no reason for us to be living on a trashy street. If it was going to be clean, we would need to do it."

In 2007, they contacted the City and joined the Adopt-the-Spot Litter Control

Program. They clean both sides of the road on Stewart, between Garth and Providence. With a liquor store, three fast food restaurants, several fraternities and numerous rentals in the vicinity, they often fill a blue recycling bag and a large black garbage bag.

While the Wells have volunteered to clean their adopted spot four times a year, they go above and beyond and often clean several times a month. During football season, they clean weekly.

The couple also volunteers for Bike, Walk & Wheel Week, Cleanup Columbia, Heritage Festival and Show Me State Games. Laura volunteers weekly with the Boone County Council on Aging, where she helps a person shop, pay bills and do other tasks.

Marv says that picking up trash may not be grandiose, but it does make a difference and people do notice. Occasionally, pedestrians, bikers and people in cars will stop and thank he and Laura for cleaning the roadside.

"It spurs us on," Laura said.

To learn more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com.

Written by volunteer Theresa Nelson

Community Development Service Center

The City of Columbia's Community Development Department was formed in 2011 to become the City's "one-stop shop" for individuals planning improvements to their properties, handling development projects from inception through completion and maintaining existing properties through enforcing the property maintenance code and rental compliance program.

To enhance customer service, a service center was set up on the third floor of City Hall. All building permits and inspections, rental compliance certificates and development/construction plan submittals are handled through this center.

The service center also contains a senior building inspector and an experienced site inspector dedicated to answering general questions regarding the City's permit and inspection processes. If additional technical assistance is required, service center staff will contact the appropriate person and bring them to you.

For more information, visit the Community Development Department's page of the City's website at GoColumbiaMo.com/community_development or call 874-7239.

Share the Light

It's almost time again to *Share the Light!*

Be on the lookout for your *Share the Light* envelope in September's City utility bill.

Your gifts help make a safer and stronger community as we *Share the Light* together!

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline: Sept. 6 at 5 p.m.

- City of Columbia New Century Fund Inc. Board
- Convention and Visitors Advisory Board
- Personnel Advisory Board

Application deadline: Oct. 4 at 5 p.m.

- Citizens Police Review Board
- Columbia Community Development Commission
- Commission on Cultural Affairs
- Substance Abuse Advisory Commission

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at GoColumbiaMo.com or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

CITY SOURCE is published by the City of Columbia as a public service to the residents of Columbia, Missouri.

The City of Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, handicap, familial status or sexual orientation.

City of Columbia
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MAYOR

Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	Fred Schmidt
<i>Second Ward</i>	Michael Trapp
<i>Third Ward</i>	Karl Skala
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	Ian Thomas
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	Laura Nauser
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	Barbara Hoppe
<i>City Manager</i>	Mike Matthes



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