

# News for Park Patrol Volunteers



**Winter 2010**

## **Brrrr... it's cold out there!**

We know the cold temperatures, ice and snow reduce the activity among Park Patrol volunteers this time of year. Still, several of you are out and about – thanks for your reports! We want to stay in touch with you, provide some short updates and say **THANKS** for your time and effort to serve as ambassadors on our trails and in our parks. Think Spring!!

## **MKT Bridge Replacement... from Columbia Parks & Recreation**

A portion of the MKT Trail between Twin Lakes Recreation Area and Scott Boulevard is **closed for construction** to facilitate the replacement of Bridges #12 and #13. Detour signs will be posted on the trail. The construction is scheduled for the winter months to minimize the impact to trail users. It is anticipated that the construction will be completed and the trail re-opened in time for its busy spring season.

These 100+ year old bridges located on the western end of the trail have *timber supports that have deteriorated over time*, compromising their structural integrity and resulting in their being closed to vehicle traffic for the past several years. Replacement of these bridges will provide continued safe use by pedestrians, as well as re-open their use for emergency vehicles and service equipment needed to maintain the trail corridor. Portions of historic bridge #12 will be saved for future display.

More information and a map of the detour is available online at:  
[http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec/Parks/MKT\\_Trail/index.php](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec/Parks/MKT_Trail/index.php).

**Thanks to those Park Patrollers** who helped with the First Night 5K run! Thanks for your assistance to make this night a success.

## **Volunteer Services has moved!**

The Office of Volunteer Services is now the City of Columbia Volunteer Program, a division

of the Office of Neighborhood Services. We have moved to 3601 S. Providence Road in the old Fire Station 7.

Thanks to Park Patroller Rich Eyler who was among the many volunteers who helped us move out of the Gentry Building at 1 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street in December.

Stop by and say hello if you are in the area!

## **Welcome New Park Patrol volunteers!**

The Park Patrol program has added six new volunteers since our last newsletter: **Ted Arnlund, Bob Bailey, April Klug, Brian Kuhn, Nancy Rezabek, and Seth Weber**. Welcome aboard!

## **Twin Lakes Winter Dog Park**

The Parks and Recreation Department has created a temporary winter area for the dog park at Twin Lakes Recreation Area to keep dogs safe from venturing onto the frozen lake and falling through the ice. This change is in response to a request from the Columbia Fire Department who was dispatched nine times last year to rescue dogs that had fallen through the ice. Concern was also for dog owners and bystanders that might find themselves in the same life threatening situation trying to rescue a dog in distress.

The temporary winter area was created with portable fencing around the former swimming lake area, which has been drained to a depth of three feet and size of about .8 of an acre. The temporary winter area will serve as the dog park at Twin Lakes Recreation Area from December through February.

### **Handy Phone Numbers:**

Office of Volunteer Services – 874-7499

Parks & Recreation Forestry – 874-7520

*Trail maintenance issues; tree issues*

Parks Management Center – 874-7201

*Parks and trail maintenance issues*

Park Ranger Rosanna Arens – 874-7717 or 999-4583

Joint Communications – non emergency – 442-6131

**Reporting Your Hours** There are a number of convenient ways to report your hours. Please select the method that is easiest for you, but please don't duplicate your reporting.

- On-line form: Report your hours and share feedback on our on-line form found at [www.GoColumbiaMO.com/Volunteer](http://www.GoColumbiaMO.com/Volunteer). You can use this form to report for single days or for entire months – just indicate the time frame you are reporting in the form.
- Reporting Line: Dial 881-3000 and leave a message with your name, badge number, time you patrolled, and trail you were on. Please speak slowly and clearly. Return the enclosed postcard to the Office of Volunteer Services: We will send these out on a quarterly basis to those who do not have e-mail. Please report your hours and any other items of interest!

We appreciate you taking the effort to report the time you spend on the trail as a Park Patrol member. Having an accurate count of the hours assists us in communicating the impact you have on our trail system.

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