



City of St. John NEWSLETTER

April 2015 ~ Vol. 82

Published by the City of St. John

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CITY MANAGER Regarding Proposition "S"



John Morris
City Manager/Police Chief

Since becoming a City, St. John has always provided quality municipal services to its residents. We take great pride in the streets of our community being Safe, Clean, and Secure. Our families have come to expect our roads being plowed and salted during winter months. We have all grown accustomed to seeing our Police Officers patrol our neighborhoods each and every day and night. We feel safe knowing our Police can respond to an emergency in less than two (2) minutes, anywhere in our City. Parents know their children can walk to school and play in our City Parks, knowing they are being protected by our Police.

The demand and expectations of services from municipal government hasn't changed since St. John became a City in 1974. We all want and expect quality, affordable, professional services. The level and quality of services often-times determines the future of a community.

Quality municipal services cost tax dollars. Unfortunately, revenue dollars have not kept pace with the rising costs for municipal services. Furthermore, revenue sources are

constantly being challenged in Jefferson City by being altered, transferred, or eliminated. Anytime there is a change in revenue patterns municipal services can be impacted.

Demand and costs for Police Services and Street Maintenance continues to increase. Equipment to support their services is costly and must be periodically replaced. Valued employees are long-term, well-trained, and professionally certified.

Law Enforcement, Street Maintenance and Snow Removal are ESSENTIAL services provided to our residents. Without an increase in our General Fund budget, major cuts in municipal services would be considered.

PROPOSITION "S" is a 1/4 cent sales tax increase to help maintain and continue critical municipal services to the citizens of St. John. PROPOSITION "S" will generate an additional \$200,000 in new revenue in our General Fund. These funds will be used exclusively to support Law Enforcement and the maintenance of streets.

Supporting PROPOSITION "S" will protect the quality and level of services provided by YOUR St. John Police Department and YOUR St. John Street Department.

ELECTION DAY IS APRIL 7, 2015.

The future of our community is dependent upon support from our community.

APRIL 7TH MUNICIPAL ELECTION

On April 7th voters will go to the polls to elect a Councilman for their respective Wards. This year, you have three people running for Office. Two for Councilman of Ward I and One for Councilman of Ward II.

As always, the City cannot provide you with the political views of candidates. However we can provide you with brief introductions to each one for your information.

See Ward I and Ward II candidates on page 2...



APRIL 7TH MUNICIPAL ELECTION, cont.

WARD I COUNCILMAN CANDIDATES



PAM HOLLENBERG
8401 Madeline

Pam and her husband Mark are lifelong residents of St. John. She is employed as a Supplier Analyst in Technology at Elsevier, Inc. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Pam has been serving as Councilman Ward I since April 2011 and previously served on the Council from 1997 to 2009. She has past and current experiences on the committees for Budget, Tax Increment Financing, Code Review, Human Rights, Financial Investment Board and the Home Improvement Program. She is a former board member of North County, Inc. She is a Missouri State Licensed Funeral Director and St. Louis County Notary Public.



DAVID WIEDA • 2953 Kincaid

David has been a lifelong resident; over 30 years in St. John. He lives with his wife, Susie. They have one son who lives in Atlanta.

He went to Ritenour High School and after graduating in 1969, went directly into the US Army for 6 years as an M.P. After his discharge, he went to college and has an Associates Degree in Law

Enforcement. He is retired now.

WARD II COUNCILMAN CANDIDATE



MARY HALASKA • 9221 Central

Mary has lived in St. John since 1977. She is married and has two grown children and 6 grandchildren. Mary has been active in Girls Scouts and her church - Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

She currently works as an Administrative Assistant for a human resource consulting firm. She had worked in the

real estate industry for 25+ years both as a Broker and as an Administrative Assistant.

Mary has been a member of the Personnel Board, Park Board, Board of Adjustment, Code Review Committee, Budget Committee, Home Improvement Program Committee, Human Rights Commission, Financial Investment Board and Comprehensive Plan Task Force both in 1998 and 2011-2012.

What Is All That Construction Along The Rock Road?



Many people have inquired as to what the construction is that is being done on St. Charles Rock Road from Bridgeton all the way down into St. John.

It is the construction of an underground sewer line that will provide the St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) with additional options for routing pretreated wastewater to MSD facilities. The project has the added benefit of enabling the Landfill to reduce the number of tanker trucks transporting pretreated wastewater on local roads by as many as 200 trips per week.

The underground sewer line will support the Landfill's new leachate pretreatment plant. This plant involves highly sophisticated systems to treat leachate – the byproduct of decomposing waste – onsite. It was approved by MSD and began 24-hour operations last fall.

The Landfill is funding the construction of the sewer extension line. Construction plans were developed in coordination with, and to meet the requirements of, MSD and the Missouri Department of Transportation. Construction work is being performed by a local contractor and involves local labor. The project is nearly complete. Upon completion, MSD will assume ownership of the highly-durable sewer extension line, including maintenance responsibilities.

The new underground sewer line is another investment by the Bridgeton Landfill in odor control, environmental remediation and site improvements that benefit our community. The Landfill first announced the roughly 7.5 mile underground sewer line extension project on June 20, and provides regular updates at <http://www.bridgetonlandfill.com>.

THE FACTS ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY TAXES

Everyone knows that they pay property taxes; and that it is split up among different entities. Therefore, not all of it goes to the City they live in. But, do you know how much really goes to your City?

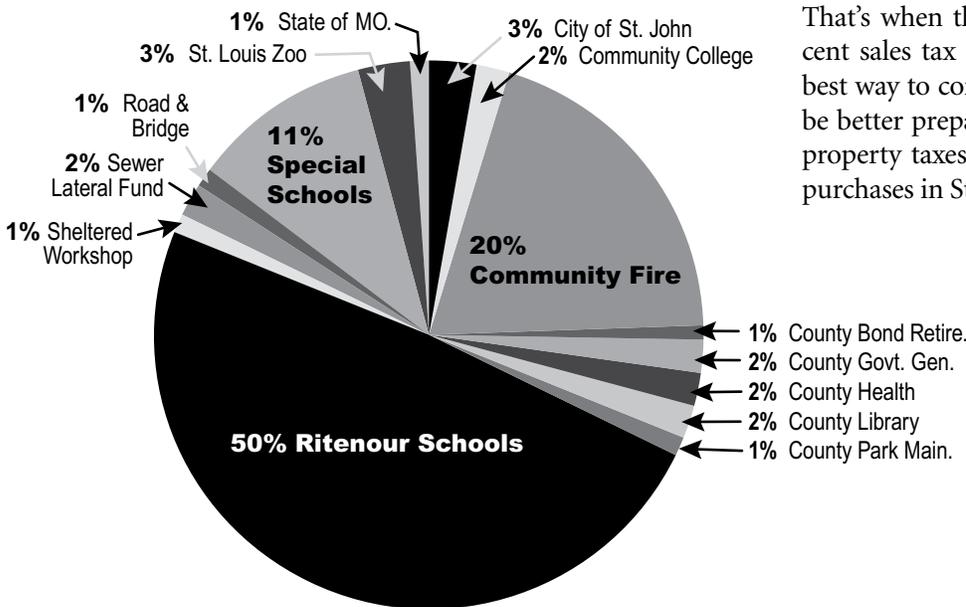
The table below gives you a breakdown of all the places your property taxes go to, and how much each entity gets. The numbers may surprise you.

City staff and your elected officials work diligently year after year creating and managing the annual budget for the City of St. John. Demand and costs for municipal services continue to rise, while revenues decline. To compound the problem, Jefferson City legislation is introduced each year to alter, transfer or eliminate

revenue away from local government. Therefore the City is constantly looking for the means to increase revenues to offset the shortfalls or any current revenues that are redirected from the City.

When considering what the best course of action would be to prepare for these shortfalls, a property tax increase was initially considered. However, as you can see, when reviewing the Property Tax Distribution table, you'll notice only 3% of a residential tax bill supports St. John Municipal services. The average residential property tax bill is \$1,100-\$1,700. So at 3%, only \$33-51 per household per year supports St. John Municipal Services. Any property tax increase would have minimal impact at 3%.

That's when the City decided on Proposition "S"; a 1/4 cent sales tax increase that the Council felt would be the best way to continue providing quality municipal services, be better prepared for revenue shortfalls, and not increase property taxes. This tax would apply to everyone making purchases in St. John.



At the April 7, 2015 election you will see Proposition "S" on the ballot.

We encourage everyone to please vote...

2015 TRASH RATES

The new 2015 rates for Republic Services (Allied Waste) will take effect April 1st. They are as follows:

\$ 18.01/basic monthly (\$54.03 quarterly) for seniors*
 \$20.34/basic monthly (\$61.02 quarterly) for all other customers

*These rates include once a week trash, recycling and yard waste pickup along with a trash and recycling toter, weekly bulky item pickups** and weekly appliance pickups**.*

Optional Services Available At Additional Cost:
 Construction Material Pickups*** – *This is based on the quantity and type of items. There is a \$50 minimum pickup fee.*

TVs & Monitors*** – *There is a \$25 trip charge for first item and \$15/for each additional item.*



- * In order to qualify for the senior rate:
 - You must be 65 years of age or older
 - You must live at a St. John residence and the account must be in your name (not a landlord's name)
 - You must notify Republic Services of your qualifications by mailing a clear, legible copy of your Drivers' License or State ID to: Republic Services, 12976 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044, Attn: Customer Service
- ** Limit two (2) items per week and You must call Republic Services in advance to schedule a pickup (636-947-5959).
- *** You must call Republic Services in advance to schedule a pickup(636-947-5959).

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

SPRING CLEAN UP AND...

Mark your calendars because this year spring clean up week will be April 20-24. During that week Allied Waste has agreed to pick up the extra "stuff" you may want to get rid of during your normal pick up time. Just set it out at the curb in a neat and orderly manner and Allied Waste will pick it up. Now is the time to clean out that basement or garage and get rid of those things you don't want our use anymore.

LAST WEEK OF LIMB CHIPPING

As usual, the last time the limb chipper will run through the City this spring will be April 27-29. The Street Department will run the chipper through the entire City one last time on those three days. Please be sure to get your limbs out for the chipper on April 27-29. After that, it will be up to you to dispose of them.

CITY OF ST. JOHN & ROCK ROAD ANIMAL HOSPITAL 2015 RABIES CLINIC

Join us for the 2015 Annual Rabies Clinic!! Rock Road Animal Hospital veterinarians will be offering vaccinations for dogs and cats at a reduced rate on Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Our Annual Rabies Clinic will be held on the lower level of the new Public Works Garage, located at 8920 Bristol Avenue (behind City Hall). Vaccinations will be administered from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. City of St. John Animal Licenses will be available at the clinic for \$2.00 each for spayed/neutered animals and \$20.00 for unaltered animals.

As a matter of public safety, all animals are required to be in a crate or on a very short leash to avoid contact with other individuals or animals. We hope to see you there!



PACKAGE PRICES

Altered Canine

RV/DHLPP/TAG = \$44.00

\$5 PACKAGE SAVINGS

Non-Altered Canine

RV/DHLPP/TAG = \$52.00

\$5 PACKAGE SAVINGS

Altered Feline

FVR-CP/RV/TAG = \$44.00

\$5 PACKAGE SAVINGS

Non-Altered Feline

FVR/CP/RV/TAG = \$52.00

\$5 PACKAGE SAVINGS

INDIVIDUAL PRICING

Rabies Vaccination \$15.00

DHLPP \$25.00

FVR/CP \$25.00

FeLeuk \$20.00

Altered Rabies Tag \$9.00

Non-Altered Tag \$17.00

St. Charles Tag \$6.00

Out of Area Tag \$5.00

GREAT BATTERY ROUNDUP

Helping To Keep Members On-the-Go and Make the Earth a Little Greener at the Same Time



April 20-24, 2015

Sponsored By AAA AND Floyd's Tire & Car Care
8646 St Charles Rock Rd. • St. John, MO 63114
(314) 427-2840

AAA realizes that the environment is important to you, and it's important to us too! AAA's annual Great Battery Roundup® campaign, held this year from April 20th to the 24th in commemoration of Earth Day, seeks the public's help in corralling the millions of used, lead-acid batteries that have not made their way back to their natural habitat: the recycling plant. The campaign augments the year-round collection efforts of the AAA Battery Service, which is available in select areas and removes used batteries for recycling each time a replacement automotive battery is installed.

Lead-acid batteries can be dangerous to children and pets and can pollute soil and groundwater. Just one of these batteries contains 21 pounds of lead, three pounds of plastic, and one gallon of sulfuric acid, all of which can be reprocessed into new batteries.

AAA Approved Auto Repair Facility and Floyd's Tire & Car Care are pleased to provide this recycling opportunity to the public in the St John area. Just bring your old car, truck, boat, and motorcycle batteries in for proper recycling.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Looking to increase your activity level?

AEROBICS



Join our senior oriented aerobics class involving low impact aerobic exercise and the use of Dyna-bands. Class is held on Monday & Wednesdays from 8:45 – 9:30 am. The cost is only \$2.00 per person per class. You only pay for the classes you attend.

T'AI CHI CHIH



Join other area seniors for exercise of the mind and body through slow movements and concentration. Class is held on Thursdays from 8 – 8:45 am. The cost is only \$1.50 per person per class. You only pay for the classes you attend.

2014 SENIOR UTILITY TAX REBATES



Utility tax rebates are being issued now until April 30, 2014 for the year 2014. The rebate is \$30.00 per household. In order to qualify for this rebate, residents must:

- 1) Have turned sixty-five (65) years of age or older at some point during the year 2014;
- 2) Currently reside in the City and have previously resided in the City for the entire calendar year of 2014;
- 3) Apply on forms provided by the City for a rebate on the previous year's taxes.

Qualified residents need to provide the following documentation to the City Hall in order to collect the rebate:

- 1) Picture identification;
- 2) Identification showing current address and date of birth;
- 3) One utility bill for January 2014 and one bill for December 2014 reflecting the address which they reside at and are requesting the rebate for.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 427-8700, ext. 3.

FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING & DOCUMENT SHREDDING EVENT



Saturday, May 9th 9am-Noon (RAIN OR SHINE)



Bristol Ave. Parking Lot Across from
The St. John Municipal Center,
8944 St. Charles Rock, St. John, MO

This Event Is Open To The Public
You DO NOT have to be a St. John resident.

There is no charge for items unless otherwise noted. Basically anything that has a cord or uses batteries is accepted. Items can include:

Computers; Printers; Keyboards; Hard Drives; Fax Machines; Scanners; Laptops; VCRs; Stereos; DVD Players; Speakers; Answering Machines; Cell Phones; Pagers; Televisions*; Kitchen Appliances; Radios; Power Tools; Air Conditioners; Furnaces; Water Heaters; Lawn & Garden Equip.**

*A fee may apply depending on the type and size of the TV. Cash or check accepted on site.

**Lawn & Garden Equipment Must have Oil & Gas Removed.



American Document Destruction is AAA Certified by the National Association For Information Destruction. For more information call them at 314-423-8388.



Midwest Recycling is registered with the EPA and is Level 4 Certified with the Missouri Department of Natural Services. Midwest Recycling has a zero landfill policy. For information contact Midwest Recycling at 636-931-3930 or www.midwrc.net

PETS – LEASHES, PARKS & WASTE



Spring is just around the corner! It is the perfect time of year for people to be out walking their dogs and enjoying our city and county parks; which also makes this the perfect time to remind our residents of the rules and regulations pertaining to pets in the City of St. John.

When outdoors, for their safety and the safety of our residents, all dogs and cats should be kept inside a fenced area from which they cannot escape or kept under tethered control. Dogs and cats are not allowed to roam, or to be away from the owner's premises unless restrained by a leash. Dogs may be tethered in the front of the premises, but

only when accompanied by a person and tethered in a way that they may not reach the public right-of-way.

St. John has three City parks and one County park. Pets are not allowed in Home Heights Park. Dogs and cats are allowed in St. John Park, Reed Park and the St. Louis County Park on Endicott. Pets should always be properly leashed and never permitted to roam freely in the parks. St. John City Park and Reed Park both have pet waste stations. These green boxes are located inside the park and provide plastic pet waste bags for picking-up and disposing of pet waste deposited in the park.

If your animal defecates on your own premises, St. John Municipal Code allows 24 hours for the removal of the feces. If your animal defecates anywhere other than the owner's private property, the owner/handler of the animal is required to remove and dispose of the feces prior to leaving the immediate area. It is always a good idea to carry pet waste bags or other means of waste disposal anytime you are away from home with your pet.

DOG & CAT ORDINANCE AMENDED

At the Council's March 16, 2015 Council meeting, the Council voted to amend the Dog & Cat Ordinance by changing the maximum number of animals that can be kept as follows:

"It shall be unlawful to keep, maintain or care for more than five dogs and/or cats on any residence or commercial establishment within the City of St. John.

Of the maximum number of five dogs and/or cats allowed, no residence or commercial establishment may have more than three of either species at any one time."

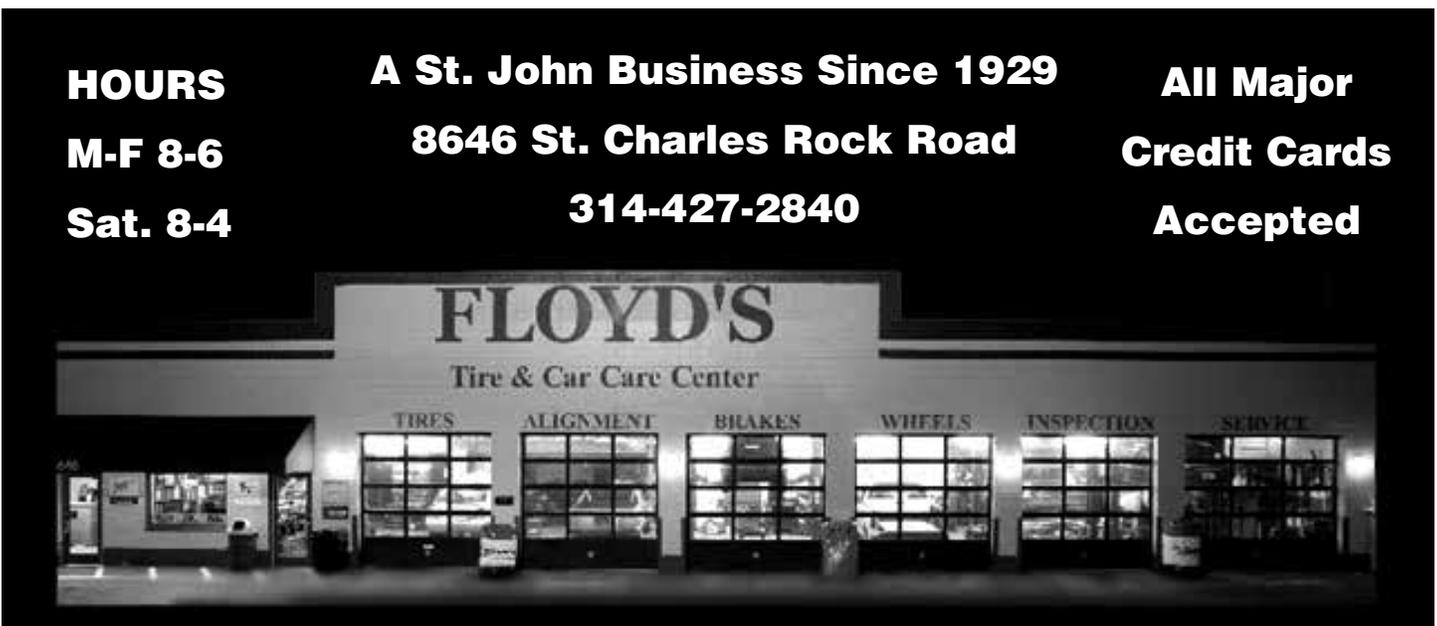


If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Our Animal Control Officer, Shari Pijut at 427-8700, #3.

HOURS
M-F 8-6
Sat. 8-4

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REPORTING TAX FRAUD / IDENTITY THEFT



The beginning of the New Year means resolutions, cold weather, and yes...taxes. As we progress quicker than most would like into the age of technology another opportunity presents itself for cyber criminals to take advantage of...tax return fraud.

This year the St. John Police Department has received numerous cases of tax return fraud. By this I mean individuals are filing their taxes only to discover that their taxes have already been filed. Person/s unknown have gained access to the victim's Social Security number and illegally filed their tax return.

Often this discovery leaves the victim feeling frustrated and helpless.

So, what can you do if you think someone has filed a tax return using your Social Security number? The Answer Is.....

- If you receive a notice from the IRS that leads you to believe someone may have used your Social Security number fraudulently, please notify the IRS immediately

by responding to the name and number printed on the notice or letter.

- If you are an actual or potential victim of identity theft and would like the IRS to mark your account to identify any questionable activity, please complete Form 14039 (.pdf), Identify Theft Affidavit. Mail or fax the form to the address or fax number listed on the notice with your tax return if your electronic filing was rejected or to the address/fax located in the instructions.

- You may also contact the IRS's Identity Protection Specialized Unit (IPSU) at 800-908-4490. IPSU employees are available to answer questions about identity theft and resolve any tax account issues that resulted from identity theft.

- Review Publication 4535 (.pdf), Identity Theft Prevention and Victim Assistance, for more information. It is available in both English and Spanish.
- If you suspect someone else is using your Social Security number, or to secure information on how to prevent identity theft, you can contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Identity Theft Hotline toll-free at 877-438-4338.
- Contact the St. John Police Department for additional help.

For further information go to www.IRS.gov to learn about obtaining an Identity Protection Personal Identification Number (IP PIN) and also the Tax Payer Bill of Rights.

We hope you find this information helpful and as always, feel free to contact us with any concerns at (314) 427-8700, #5.

RODENT CONTROL

Rats not only startle and frighten us, they also carry diseases, which makes it important to keep rat populations under control. Rats live in burrows underground. They will burrow along the foundation of a house, garage, shed, under a driveway, or under piles of debris or rubbish. They usually live within 150 feet of their food and water sources. Rats are scavengers and will eat any source of food available. This includes garbage, pet food, animal feces and that which falls from fruit or nut bearing trees.

Eliminating all sources of food or harborage is the best way to knock down rodent populations and prevent infestations. Dispose of any junk or debris on the premises that could

attract rats. Firewood and other materials should be stored 12" off the ground. Ensure all trash is picked up and deposited in an appropriate container with a lid. Promptly remove and dispose of pet waste and all fruits or nuts which fall from trees on your premises. Pet food should be stored in containers with tight fitting lids.



Let's work together to keep our city as rodent free as possible!

CORRECTLY DISPOSING OF HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE



Ah, springtime is coming. Time for spring cleaning. And what happens when we clean the basement, the garage and under the sink? We often come across things like paint, motor oil, and cleaners. Can they go in the trash or are they considered household hazardous waste (HHW)?

Products around the home that contain chemicals which are toxic, flammable, corrosive, or reactive are hazardous household products. These products are safe when used and stored following label direction. However, when the products become unusable and are no longer wanted, they become household hazardous waste.

Until recently, the best option for disposing of household hazardous waste in our area was to wait for collection days organized by various government entities and non-profits.

In 2013, through a partnership with the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility opened at 291 E. Hoffmeister, St. Louis, MO 63125 on the grounds of the Lemay Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Residents of Jefferson County, St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis are encouraged to take advantage of this facility. Additional locations are anticipated to open in the coming years.

For more information including what you can drop off, visit: <http://www.hhwstl.com>. While on the site, make sure to learn about ways to reduce and reuse household hazardous waste materials so you don't have to make the trip too often.

MOSQUITO SPRAYING

As many of you know, the City does not provide mosquito spraying itself but contracts out that service to the St. Louis County Health Department. St. Louis County provides a two-phase approach to mosquito control; adulticiding (the fogger that most of you are used to seeing), and larviciding.

Since the active ingredient in most fogger spray has to actually land on a mosquito to kill it, spraying is the least effective means of mosquito control and therefore is used less frequently. The amount of times the fogger will go through the City depends upon how many of the *Culex Pipiens* mosquitoes are found in traps spread throughout the City. *Culex Pipiens* is the mosquito known to carry the West Nile virus, so most spraying efforts are aimed at reducing the numbers of that species of vector.

Larviciding is much more effective because it is focused on eliminating breeding sites and actual mosquito larva. This is



much easier to do because control chemicals can be placed directly on standing water which greatly increases the chances of killing mosquito larva. Keep in mind that St. Louis County does not treat private property, only public areas of standing water. Therefore it is critical to our overall mosquito control effort that residents manage the standing water on their property. Do not let water stand in dog dishes, bird baths, gutter drains,

etc. for more than seven (7) days. If you let water pond on your property you are inviting mosquitoes to breed there.

Help everyone out and make your experience outdoors this summer more enjoyable by following this bit of advice. Remember, spraying with the fogger is the least effective and most expensive way to manage the mosquito population. Don't expect to see it out very often and do your part to help control this bothersome nuisance.

Newsletter in Spanish

If you would like a copy of our newsletter in Spanish, please email Tom Halaska (in Spanish is fine) at thalaska@cityofstjohn.org

Si usted quiere una copia en Español de nuestro boletín de noticias, por favor mándeme un correo electrónico (en español está bien) at thalaska@cityofstjohn.org

Bales Property Services
Grass Cutting • Yard Work
Spring Clean-Ups
Call Bill (314) 574-2976

UNLICENSED VEHICLES



It is unlawful to park or store any unlicensed vehicle(s) on your property, whether or not in useable condition, unless the vehicle is stored in an enclosed garage with four sides and a roof. In addition no vehicle shall be parked on your property if it is in a state of disrepair without first having obtained a permit from the Chief of Police which will allow you three days to make the necessary repairs.

JUNK AND DEBRIS



The City of St. John requires all properties be maintained in a sanitary manner. All properties must be maintained free of any vehicular parts, equipment parts, inoperable appliances, limbs, trash, junk, debris or material of any the kind.

GRASS AND WEEDS



Spring is upon us and before we know it, it will be time to cut the grass and keep all unwanted weeds from our properties. As a reminder, 8" is the maximum height your grass and/or weeds can be. Anything higher than that can result in a summons being issued.

STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE

Street sweeping will resume May 4th this year. We will be coordinating our sweeping with all trash routes so that we are not trying to sweep around trash cans set out at the curb. Allied Waste collects trash from a designated zone of the City every day of the week so we have configured our sweeping zones based on their trash pick-up schedule. We have decided that we will sweep the entire City the first full week of each month. The streets in each zone and the day of the week that zone will be swept are as follows:

Zone 1 Will Be Swept On Monday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 1 is comprised of: Hume, Hilleman (off of Hume), Walton, Ridgeway, Kincaid, Endicott, Renz, Melody, Betty Lee, Ramona, Connor, Outerbelt Ct. and Wood.

Zone 2 Will Be Swept On Tuesday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 2 is comprised of: Havenbrook, Belhaven, Belcrest, Hagner, Ardelia, Moran, Hilleman (between North & Ardelia), North Ave. (between McKibbon and Valleywood), Ginger, Loyd, Markdale, Valleywood, Norman, Debbie Ct., Engler, Hilleman (off of Engler), Thomas, Kitchell Ct., Chaney Ct., Rosalind, Madeline, Engler Park Ct.

Zone 3 Will Be Swept On Wednesday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 3 is comprised of: St. Charles Ln., Eminence, Charlack, Roy, Lindscott, Janet Ct., St. Louis Ave., Rosemore, North Ave. (Brown Rd. to Boswell), Patrice, Pallardy, Patrick, Herbert, McNulty (Brown to dead end in cul-de-sac), Killarney Ct. and Bobb (from Brown to Boswell).

Zone 4 Will Be Swept On Thursday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 4 is comprised of: Bristol, Orlando, McKibbon, Crocus, David, Susan, Ezra, Mavis, Marvista, Maryknoll, Marshall, North Ave. (McKibbon to Brown), Winterowd, McNulty (Brown to Marshall), Kitchell (off of McKibbon), Bobb (Marshall to Brown), Harry's Ln., St. Charles Ln., Toddy, John Pl., North & South.

Zone 5 Will Be Swept On Friday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 5 is comprised of: Boswell, Ritenour Ct., Gordon, Jonell Ct., Francis Ct., Frann Lynn Ct., Central, Leenora, North Ave. (Woodson to Edumndson), Bobb (Brown to west City limits), Marvin, Marvin Gardens, Calvert, Dix, Joel Ct., Edmundson, Burdella, Roslan, and Edmund.

Please look carefully at the above schedule and determine which zone you live in and on which day your street will be swept. We ask that you do not park your cars on the street on the day your street is scheduled to be swept.

Finally, if the weather is rainy or otherwise inclement, and if your regular sweeping day falls on a holiday, we will not sweep your street that month.



PARKING RESTRICTIONS FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Pursuant to the City Code, the definition of a recreational vehicle is as follows: "Any vehicle which relates to, or is used primarily for, recreational activities." At the March 2, 2015 Council meeting, the City Council amended the existing recreational vehicle ordinance to restrict parking of this type of vehicle to behind the front building line of the home. As before, recreational vehicles are still required to be

parked on improved surfaces (asphalt or concrete driveways) and may not be parked on the grass.

The reason for this was because some recreational vehicle owners were parking the vehicle on a short driveway with a portion of the unit extending into the street. Even though they parked a truck next to that portion of the RV that stuck out into the street, it was regarded as dangerous and unsightly.

Code enforcement staff have been instructed to give notice to current RV owners who are parking their vehicle in front of the building line of their home and wait six months to begin enforcing this ordinance. This will give owners time to either extend their driveway if possible, or make arrangements to park the unit elsewhere.

One other item was added to the current recreational vehicle ordinance at this meeting. As of March 2, 2015, no RV parked on a residential property may be connected to any utilities. Using recreational vehicles as a dwelling unit for sleeping or living quarters was already prohibited, but we have found that some owners had them hooked up to water and electric and were using them for that purpose despite this prohibition. This action just strengthens the existing prohibition against using a RV as a dwelling unit while parked on a driveway in the City.



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AMEREN WARNS CUSTOMERS TO BE AWARE OF SCAM ARTISTS WHO ARE USING AMEREN'S NAME

Last year an estimated 1,400 Ameren customers were affected by phone scams totaling more than \$23,000. The majority of scams reported to Ameren threatened disconnection of utility service unless a payment was made immediately from a pre-paid money card over the phone. Some thieves have even come right to customer doors. Ameren's director of corporate security, Tim Reagan, told us "We've received reports of scam artists coming to homes and businesses suggesting that there are problems with electrical equipment. Scammers will demand payment for repairs that don't exist. We never demand payment at a customer's home or business."

Ameren offers these tips against scammers:

- Ameren never demands personal, account or financial information for immediate payment. Never give your credit card, debit card, Social Security, ATM, checking or saving account numbers to anyone who comes to your home, calls or sends an email requesting this information.
- Ameren field employees do not accept payments.

- Never let anyone into your home claiming to be from the utility unless they show proper Ameren badge identification.
- Ameren never sends emails that include attachments, unless you've contacted us to specifically request information. Never open attachments unless you've contacted Ameren and are expecting to receive information.

Ameren continues to work with federal, state and local authorities to investigate utility scams. "We know how important it is to keep customers' information safe and secure, and we appreciate any information they can provide to help eliminate these scams altogether," said Reagan.

If you suspect someone is impersonating an Ameren employee, end the conversation and immediately call Ameren Missouri at 1-800-552-7583.

Customers can also follow Ameren to receive the latest updates on scams at: www.ameren.com/about/connect-with-us

THE ANNUAL CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE.....

As a recap on how this works, each side of town will have two Saturdays in which they can hold their garage sales. If sellers want to sell on only one of the two days or both days, they will be allowed to. If someone elects to sell on the first day and closes due to rain, they can still sell on the second day. If someone elects to sell only on the second day and closes due to rain, they can always get a garage sale permit for another day. All residences are allowed three sales per year with a permit. It will be each seller's prerogative. This will also allow people to sell and shop in their own side of town if they like, as well as the other side of town.

For those that don't know, and a reminder to those that do know, the City is divided into the following two sections for sales:

East of Brown Road (including homes on the East side of Brown Road)

will hold their sales on the first & second Saturdays in June (June 6th and 13th).

West of Brown Road (including homes on the West side of Brown Road)

will hold their sales on the third and fourth Saturdays in June (June 20th and June 27th).

The following lists the standard information for the sale:

1st – The sales will be held on their respective Saturday from 7 am - 3 pm. For these days only, no garage sale permits will be required. If you want to hold a sale on a date other than your respective side of town, you will need to obtain a permit from City Hall (no charge) provided you have not already had three sales for the year.

2nd – Residents are encouraged to sign up at www.cityofstjohn.org AFTER May 1st and click on the Garage Sale Tab on the home page. From there you will be able to create an account, enter your sale items and edit or delete them if you need to do so at a later time. Your entry should show up online in approximately 24 hours; 48 hours if entered on a weekend. You may also sign up in person at the Municipal Center or by calling 427-8700, ext. #3.

3rd – Users can print out a list of all sellers for a specific date. This will provide potential buyers the means to print an up to date list of participating addresses at any time instead of having to go up to City Hall for a copy.

Should you have ANY questions, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall at 427-8700, #3.

City of St. John
8944 Saint Charles Rock Road
Suite 100
St. John, MO 63114-4200
www.cityofstjohn.org

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Newsletter can be interpreted upon request.

GENERAL INFORMATION

City Council

Mayor, Tom Halaska
9221 Central • 427-7154

Ward I

Pam Hollenberg
8401 Madeline • 429-5251

Justin Saffell
8647 Ardelia • 428-4647

Mark Stief
8551 Ginger • 800-5715

Ward II

Curt Pierce
3535 Gordon • 681-9659

Mary Halaska
9221 Central • 427-7154

Bill Bales
9077 Pallardy • 428-3555

Administration

John R. Morris • 427-8700 #5
City Manager/Police Chief

Connie Poteet • 427-8700 #3
Asst. City Manager

Chad Rackers • 427-8700 #5
Police Captain

James Phillips • 427-8700 #3
Public Works Director

Marilyn Betkis • 427-8700 #3
Finance Officer

Linda Elder • 427-8700 #6
Court Supervisor

Donna Davis • 427-8700 #3
City Clerk

Police Administrative Offices

427-8700, #5 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

Non-emergency Police Dispatcher

889-2341 (after office hours)

City Hall Administrative Offices

427-8700, #3 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

Municipal Court Offices*

427-8700, #6 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

***Court closes at 3 pm on days night court is held and reopens at 6:30 pm. There is no telephone service during day or night courts. See website for a list of court dates.**

*Regular council meetings held 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7 pm
2nd Floor Council Chambers*

DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES