



Winchester Newsletter

May 2011

City of Winchester - 109 Lindy Blvd., Winchester, MO 63021-5299

City Calendar



- May 4- **Court**, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 8 - MOTHER'S DAY
- 10 - STREET SWEEPING (5/10)
- 11 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- 12 - STREET SWEEPING RAIN DATE
- 30 - MEMORIAL DAY, City Hall Closed

- June 1 - **Court**, 7 p.m.
- 3 - No trash service today! *Holiday Schedule*
- 4 - Holiday trash pick up TODAY!
- 8 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 - FLAG DAY
- 19 - FATHER'S DAY



- July 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY, *City Hall Closed*
- 6 - **Court**, 7 p.m.
- 8 - No trash service today! *Holiday Schedule*
- 9 - Holiday trash pick up TODAY!
- 13- **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m.

ELECTION RESULTS

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The April 5, 2011 election results are as follows:

ALDERMAN:

| | |
|---|----|
| WARD I(Elected to a 2 year term) | |
| Marie Bach | 58 |
| Write-Ins: | 5 |
| WARD II(Elected to a 2 year term) | |
| Jennifer Johnson..... | 16 |
| Tony DeLuca | 37 |
| Write-Ins:..... | 0 |



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
STREET SWEEPING ON
MAY 10th (Rain Date-May 12th)**

**REMEMBER..... DO NOT PARK
ON CITY STREETS!**

Winchester City Hall
Voice-TDD: 636/391-0600
FAX: 636/391-6365
Email: winchestermo@charter.net

Business Hours
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Monday through Friday
Board Meeting: 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.

MAYOR
GAIL M. WINHAM
Term Expires April, 2013
636/394-6023

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

WARD I

MARIE BACH
Term Expires April, 2013
636/227-6344

KARL W. KOEB
Term Expires April, 2012
636/527-4215

Tony DeLuca
Term Expires April, 2013
314/220-2119

WARD II

Michael Schmidt
Term Expires April, 2012
636/495-7592



**WINCHESTER NEIGHBORHOOD STATION
VACATION CHECK PLEASE!**

The *Vacation Inspection Program* is a service offered to St. Louis County Residents by the St. Louis County Police Department. Upon your request, an officer will check your residence while you are on vacation.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

You may stop by City Hall and fill out the form during normal business hours.

Have the following information available:

Street address

Home phone number

Date leaving

Date returning

Is mail delivery going to be stopped?

Basic questions about house (Are there going to be timers? Is there an alarm system? etc...)

Vehicles left behind (Year, Make, Model, Color, License, Location)

Name, address, and phone number of an emergency local contact. Address and phone number where you can be reached (mobile phone number, if available.)



(Excerpted from a St. Louis County Health Recycling article on their website - Spring 2011)

**Spring Housecleaning -
Easier, Cheaper, and Less Toxic**

Commercial household cleaners can be a common source of toxins. Wouldn't you prefer using safer alternatives? By using common ingredients, you can make your own, less-toxic cleaners. And they are inexpensive – some even cheaper than

commercial brands. The benefits are many, including improved air quality in your home, less exposure to harmful chemicals, and fewer waste concerns. Below is a list of the most common ingredients you'll need:

1. **Baking Soda** – Baking soda cleans, deodorizes, and softens water (increasing its potential for suds, and thus soap's cleaning power). It also serves as a good scouring powder.
2. **Borax** – Borax cleans, deodorizes, and softens water. It is also an excellent disinfectant. You can find it in the laundry section of most grocery stores.
3. **Castile Soap** – Castile soap is a type of soap made entirely from plant-based products. It is non-toxic and it biodegrades safely and completely. It can be found in most grocery stores, drug stores, and health food stores.
4. **White Vinegar** – White vinegar cuts grease and freshens.
5. **Lemon Juice** – Lemon juice, like white vinegar, cuts grease and freshens.

Following are alternatives for common household cleaners. Mix the ingredients and use as you would the commercial alternatives.

1. **Basin, Tub, and Tile Cleaner:** Mix ½ cup of baking soda with 2 to 3 tablespoons of liquid castile soap.
2. **Disinfectant:** Mix ¼ cup of borax with ½ gallon of hot water.
3. **Fabric Softener:** Add 1 cup of vinegar or ¼ cup of baking soda to the wash during its final rinse.
4. **Floor Cleaner:** Mix ½ cup of white vinegar with 1 gallon of warm water.
5. **Grease Remover:** Use borax on a damp cloth.
6. **Household Cleaner:** Mix 1 teaspoon of liquid castile soap, 1 teaspoon of borax, and the juice from one lemon in 1 quart of warm water, or mix ¼ cup of baking soda, ½ cup of borax, and ½ cup of vinegar in 1 gallon of warm water.
7. **Mildew Remover:** Dissolve ½ cup of vinegar and ½ cup of borax in warm water. Apply using a sponge or spray bottle.

8.Toilet Bowl Cleaner: Pour ¼ cup of baking soda into the toilet bowl and drizzle with vinegar. Let sit for ½ hour. Scrub and flush. Add borax to eliminate stains.

9.Window Cleaner: Add 2 teaspoons of vinegar to 1 quart of warm water or 2 tablespoons of borax to 3 cups of water. After using, rub the glass dry with newspaper to avoid streaking.

Note: Make sure that all homemade formulas are well-labeled and kept out of the reach of children.

Reduce  **Reuse**  **Recycle**
Naturally!

PARK & RECREATION NEWS

All municipal parks in the City of Winchester shall be closed between the hours of Dusk and 7:00 a.m. No person shall be in the park during those hours except as authorized by a Pavilion Permit.



REBER PARK PAVILION - The Pavilion at Reber Park is available for use from **April through October** of each year, **7 a.m.-9:30 p.m.** for special functions, family reunions, barbeques, and birthday parties. Reservations are available at City Hall beginning on a first come - first served basis.

- A non refundable fee of \$30.00 is required for each date the pavilion is reserved.
- Reservations *must* be made in person; however, you are encouraged to call City Hall to inquire whether a specific date is available.



This year's Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 16th at 11 a.m. in Reber Park. 45-50 neighborhood children turned out to hunt eggs, find special eggs with "winner slips" in them for special prizes and have their pictures taken with Peter Rabbit. The weather was cool and windy but the hunt was fun for all.

The City would like to thank the Walgreen's at Baxter and Manchester for donating candy as well as all the volunteers who helped to make this year's egg hunt a success.

PAVILION SURVEY

The City would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents that filled out and returned the survey included in the March Newsletter. It will be used to complete one of the elements of the application for funds from the Municipal Parks Grant Commission. If you missed the form and would like to participate, forms are available at City Hall as well as on line at www.city.winchester.mo.us If you would like to consider a donation to the fund as a memorial to a loved one, your gift will receive permanent recognition by the City.

LAFAYETTE OLDER ADULT PROGRAM (L.O.A.P.)



COME EXPERIENCE THE FUN! If you are 55 plus, this is a great group in which to become involved! Participants will meet the second and fourth Monday of every month between the months of September and May. The year ends with the annual BBQ.

May 9th Annual BBQ at The Pointe

For more information, please call:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| City of Ballwin, Colleen Ahearn: | 636-227-8950 |
| City of Chesterfield, Becky Dooley: | 636-812-9510 |
| City of Ellisville, Sherri Klekamp: | 636-227-7508 |
| City of Manchester, Stephanie Hardesty: | 636-391-6326 |
| City of Winchester, Vicki Jones: | 636-391-0600 |

The group disbands for the summer. Meetings commence again in September.



20 MPH SPEED LIMIT - Let's keep the City a safe place for the children to play this summer. We ask that Winchester citizens observe and obey the 20 mph speed limit. Your cooperation is necessary to make Winchester a safe place to live.



Remember, a cyclist is safest when following the same rules as a motor vehicle operator. Ride with the flow of traffic. **BE SEEN.** Wear a helmet and light colored clothing. At night, use the minimum required lights and reflectors.



UNNECESSARY NOISE

Just a reminder about being responsible for your dogs when they are outside. Do not allow them to continuously bark and thereby disturb the public peace. Any unnecessary noise from “the keeping of any animal or bird which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any persons in the vicinity” is prohibited. If a complaint is made, the pet owner could be summoned to municipal court.

Municipal Code Section 210.235



DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITORS -

Let’s all work together to keep our City safe – please, report unregistered solicitors and any suspicious activity immediately to the police.



MID-EAST AREA

AGENCY ON AGING

MEAAA serves older adults in the counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson and Franklin. The West County Senior Center is located at 14535 Manchester Road and is open Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. til 3:00 p.m. Hot lunch is served from 11:30 - 12:30. MEAAA needs your help to identify seniors in your neighborhood who are homebound and could benefit from a home delivered meal “**so no senior goes hungry**” in our area. The MEAAA phone number is 636-207-1323.



The following information is presented from the stormwater library of the Phase II Stormwater Management Plan which has been initiated by the Federal Government through the EPA.

NATIVE PLANT RAIN GARDENS



Miniature wetlands reduce stormwater problems and create wildlife habitat. Ever watch your gutter’s down spout gush during a heavy rain? According to the Missouri Departments of Conservation and Agriculture,

the average Missouri roof sheds tens of thousands of gallons of water a year. You can turn your roof runoff into a refuge for birds, butterflies and dragonflies. You can ease the stress on the local stormwater system by channeling your roof’s runoff into a rain garden, which is a miniature wetland!

What about mosquitoes, you ask?

Mosquitoes need at least a week of standing water to complete their life cycle. Unless you design your rain garden to hold water, its densely rooted plants will absorb water, preventing the formation of mosquito-friendly puddles. Poorly maintained birdbaths and rain gutters are more likely to serve as mosquito breeding grounds than a rain garden, which attracts mosquito-hungry bats and dragonflies.

Rain gardens should be 10 feet from the foundation and on a gentle slope that catches down spout or sump-pump water. Your rain garden’s size should be about one third the size of the roof area providing runoff. Before digging, make sure you won’t encounter any utility lines. Dig a 6-8" deep depression, test the overflow pattern by filling the depression with water and watching the overflow. If necessary, dig a shallow channel to direct water away from buildings and toward the street.

Wildlife prefer locally grown native plants. Visit www.grownative.org to find nurseries that specialize in Missouri - grown native plants. After your plants are selected and planted, put a 3-inch layer of untreated, shredded hardwood mulch on the bare soil around the plants to conserve moisture and keep your design neat. Place rocks or garden ornaments in and around your rain garden to add interest. Water every other day for the first few weeks or until it shows growth and good establishment.

A tiny wetland (rain garden) will reduce drainage and flooding problems, keep pollutants out of your local stormwater system, and bring beauty and wildlife to your landscape.



GRASS & WEEDS - The green season is here and that means it is time to give your lawn mower a workout. Please keep your yard looking neat by mowing your lawn. Property owners or occupants who allow their grass and/or weeds to grow to a height in excess of seven (7) inches are violating a City Ordinance. In addition to keeping your lawn mowed, watch out for those limbs and branches of trees that may be below a height of ten (10) feet above the sidewalk and street. Please keep any tree or shrub trimmed so as not to interfere with persons or vehicles using the street or sidewalk.

Be a responsible neighbor and help not only to promote the beauty and integrity of our City but also to aid in mosquito control and prevention of the West Nile Virus.

Municipal Code Sections 215.015 (a)(b) and 215.130



Summer is coming....a WARNING from the Humane Society of Missouri and the St. Louis County Police Department. A pet should never be left unattended in a parked car when the outside temperature is over 70 degrees. Allowing an animal to be harmed in this way is considered animal abuse. It is illegal and punishable by fines and imprisonment. If you see an animal in distress or locked in a parked car, you can call the society's hotline at 314-647-4400 or your local police.



REBER PARK- As residents are aware, the City attempts to keep the park clean and safe and hopes that it will be an asset in the lives of both children and adults. During the summer months acts of vandalism are more likely to occur. The City is once again asking for your vigilance, especially those of you living close to the park. If you see any suspicious activities, *please report them immediately to the police*. Their non-emergency phone number is 636-527-2341.

**PUBLIC HEARING
PLANNING & ZONING BOARD
CITY OF WINCHESTER**

The Planning & Zoning Board for the City of Winchester, St. Louis County, Missouri will hold a Public Hearing Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Winchester City Hall, 109 Lindy Blvd., to consider the following:

- 1. Amendments to the Zoning Code regarding Site Design Guidelines and Planned Unit Development, both for storm water quality protection.**
- 2. Adoption of the Manchester Road Great Streets Plan as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.**
- 3. The amendment of the Zoning Code for review costs to be recouped from applicants.**

**Barbara Beckett, CMC
City Clerk**

The City of Winchester is working to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act mandates. Individuals who require an accommodation to attend the meeting should contact City Hall, (636)391-0600 (V/TDD) or Relay Missouri, 1-800-735-2466 (TDD) at least 48 hours in advance.