



# Winchester Newsletter

June-July 2011

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

## City Calendar



- June**
- 1 - **Court**, 7:00 p.m.
  - 3 - No trash service today! *Holiday Schedule*
  - 4 - Holiday trash pick up TODAY!
  - 8 - *Budget Hearing*, 7:00 p.m.
  - 8- *Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing*, 7:15 p.m.
  - 8 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m.
  - 14 - FLAG DAY
  - 19 - FATHER'S DAY
  - 30 - Ballfield Permits end



- July**
- 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY,  
*City Hall Closed*
  - 6 - **Court**, 7:00 p.m.
  - 8 - No trash service today! *Holiday Schedule*
  - 9 - Holiday trash pick up TODAY!
  - 13 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m.

- Aug.**
- 3 - **Court**, 7:00 p.m.
  - 10 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m.
  - 13 - **Party in the Park** at the Lower Playground & Pavilion, 10 a.m. - Noon

## CITY MEETING NEWS



In service to the community, your Board of Aldermen took the following action during **May, 2011:**

### Resolution #2011-02, April 5, 2011 Election Results:

A resolution declaring the results of the General Election held in the City of Winchester, St. Louis County, Missouri, on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. At the May 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, the City Administrator/Clerk swore in both Marie Bach and Tony DeLuca as Aldermen for Wards I and II, respectively, each for two year terms.

Mayor Gail M. Winham announced the following Aldermanic responsibilities:

- Alderwoman Marie Bach -  
Park & Recreation Liaison  
Safety Coordinator  
(Mrs. Bach also elected by the Board of Aldermen as President of the Board)
  - Alderman Karl W. Koeb -  
Street Commissioner
  - Alderman Tony DeLuca -  
Code Enforcement Liaison
  - Alderman Michael Schmidt  
Maintenance Department Liaison
- Mayor Winham will be responsible for duties of Emergency Management Director, Recycling Coordinator and Flood Plain Manager.

### 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.

### MAYOR

GAIL M. WINHAM

Term Expires April, 2013

636/394-6023

### WARD I

MARIE BACH

Term Expires April, 2013

636/227-6344

### BOARD OF ALDERMEN

KARL W. KOEB

Term Expires April, 2012

636/527-4215

TONY DeLUCA

Term Expires April, 2013

314/220-2119

### WARD II

MICHAEL SCHMIDT

Terms Expires April, 2012

636/394-7592

## PARK & RECREATION NEWS

All municipal parks in the City of Winchester shall be ***closed between the hours of Dusk and 7:00 AM*** and a person shall not be in the parks during those hours except as authorized by Pavilion permit.



### **PARTY IN THE PARK**

Family fun comes again to Winchester's annual Party in the Park on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. 'til Noon. There will be something for everyone in the family to experience and enjoy.

Attractions are still in the planning stage. At this point there will be two clowns doing face painting and balloon sculpting, Tekno Bubbles will be back with an exhibit.

The St. Louis County Police will have their many displays of cars and equipment. The radar throw will be back to check just how fast you can throw a baseball. There will be an opportunity to view a helicopter up close and see a Police canine team. The West County EMS & Fire Protection District will provide ambulance and pumper demos as well as, weather permitting, their Safety House. As a service to parents attending, there will be someone on hand to make Child ID records that the parents can take home and keep.

Watch for more specifics in the Winchester August-September Newsletter.

### **A HELPFUL TELEPHONE NUMBER "211"**

In Missouri, those who need assistance can now dial 2-1-1 from a landline 24/7 to find resources for help. Just a few of the hundred or more reasons to call 2-1-1 are locating food pantries, shelters, rent and utility assistance, as well as answers to questions concerning Medicaid and Medicare. For more information visit [www.211missouri.org](http://www.211missouri.org).



**REBER PARK PAVILION** - The Pavilion at Reber Park is available for use from April through October, 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., for special functions, family reunions, barbeques, and birthday parties. Reservations are taken on a first come - first served basis at City Hall.

- ⊗ 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.

## **RE M I N D E R S**



**LEASH LAW** - It is evident that our neighborhood is filled with pet lovers. Please consider that dogs and cats are not permitted to run at large in Winchester. They must be on a leash, in an enclosed area, or properly restrained.

For the safety and enjoyment of all Winchester residents, City Hall encourages dog and cat owners to be responsible and leash or confine pets whenever outside.

*Municipal Code Section 205.190*

Pet waste left in yards can provide food for rodents. It also comes into contact with storm water which carries pollutants into the storm sewer system and cause viruses and parasites that can infect humans with dangerous pathogens such as salmonella. Studies by the EPA have found that bacteria levels are often elevated 100% after a rain. One way to reduce that level is to clean up after your pets.

***We would also remind residents who walk with their pets to be responsible and be prepared to clean up after their animals. Not doing so is a violation of Municipal Code.***

*Municipal Code Section 205.230*



All of us have heard of the Phase II Stormwater Management Plan which has been initiated by the Federal Government through the EPA. We might not have thought of it as anything in which we could or should be involved; however, in St Louis County, MSD partners with 59 municipalities to comply with Federal guidelines. There are often articles in the newsletter that ask that residents participate in picking up pet waste, keeping sewers and catch basins free from chemicals and natural debris.

The Saint Louis County Department of Health, in order to better serve the residents of the county, is developing a network of permanent household chemical drop-off locations that will be open on a routine schedule. Though popular, one-day collections don't address disposal needs between events and holding the events is costly. It is anticipated that the first site will be open in the fall of this year. If construction issues delay opening the first permanent site, scheduling one-day events later this year will be considered.

The permanent program will be more cost-effective and more convenient but residents can expect some changes. To allow collection of the more difficult to manage, and highly toxic products, more sustainable options are being investigated, especially for the management of latex paint.

At this time of year, the City requests your cooperation in helping to maintain our sewers and catch basins as well as our streets. Improper disposal of *any* waste in the sewers and catch basins can cause unnecessary damage and expensive repairs. Keeping grass clippings, pine cones, sweet gum balls, mud, leaves or other debris on the streets from entering the sewer/catch basins will help to save your tax dollars. Also, residue from the washing, repairing, or changing lubricants and other fluids in your motor vehicles should not be left in any roadway within the city. Please dispose of debris properly.

Residents helping with these requests and using information applicable to them will help keep the City in compliance with Federal guidelines.

*(Municipal Code Sections 210.680, 210.690 and 340.220)*



**WINCHESTER NEIGHBORHOOD STATION  
FIREWORKS**

Chapter 810 of the St. Louis County Code governing fireworks states that it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell, possess, offer for sale, expose for sale, give, use, discharge or explode fireworks within St. Louis County. *In other words, it is illegal to possess fireworks in St. Louis County.*

Fireworks are very dangerous in the hands of an untrained person. Instead of putting you or your family and friends in jeopardy, we suggest you attend one of the local firework displays. Check your local news or newspapers for a location near you.



**Grass Cycling - "Mulch" Easier than Bagging**

A healthy lawn and grass cycling go hand in hand! Do your back and your lawn a favor and kick the bagging habit!

Grass clippings are a valuable source of nitrogen-rich organic matter. When mowing, remove no more than one-third of the total plant height so that the clippings are small enough to sift back down into the turf and break down quickly, thus returning valuable nutrients back to the soil. Using a mulching lawn mower or simply converting your existing mower with a mulching attachment is an easy way to practice grass cycling.

Mulching your grass clippings does not cause thatch! Thatch is a layer of living and dead organic matter that occurs between the green matter and the soil surface. It is actually the tough fibrous part of the grass stem (which takes much longer to decompose) that contributes to thatch buildup. However, clippings are very high in water content and break down rapidly when returned to the lawn after mowing (assuming the lawn is mowed regularly and that no more than one-third of the leaf blade is being removed during mowing).

Reduce 

Reuse 

Recycle

*Naturally!*



**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS** - The West County Senior Center at 14535 Manchester Road needs volunteers for Meals on Wheels. If you can help or know a homebound senior in need of a hot lunch, please contact Janice Fischer at 636-227-3882. Volunteers are asked

to give one hour a week. Pick up for the deliveries are at 10:30 a.m. in the Manchester area. The more volunteers, the more seniors that can be helped.

**MEAAA** serves older adults in the counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson and Franklin. The West County Senior Center is open Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. til 3:00 p.m. Hot lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Anyone over 60 years of age is welcome to participate in the activities.



**City of Winchester Curfew for Children under 17** -Children under 17 shall not loiter, idle, stroll, drive or ride in an

automobile or play in or upon public streets, highways, roads, alleys, parks, play grounds or other public place buildings, places of amusement and entertainment, vacant lots or other unsupervised places between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights or between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. on other nights of the week.

A parent, guardian or other adult having the care and custody of a child under 17, shall not permit a child to violate the city curfew regulations. Fines for such violation range up to \$500.00 and juveniles may be taken into custody and transported to St. Louis County Juvenile Authorities. Please report any curfew violations witnessed to the St. Louis County Police Department at 636-527-2341.

*Please remember, Reber Park is closed between the hours of Dusk and 7:00 a.m.*



**St. Louis County Outdoor Warning Sirens** will be activated whenever the National Weather Service issues a tornado

warning for our area. These warning sirens are activated in a 3-5 minute steady alert tone. Individuals should immediately seek information, then shelter, if recommended. Check local television and radio broadcasts or alerts issued by the National Weather Service on your weather radio. *There is no all clear message sounded through the siren system.* Stay aware, being alert saves lives!



**HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE** - The Memorial Day Holiday May 30, 2011, will change our regularly scheduled Friday pick up to Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. The July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday, will change our regularly scheduled pick up to Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. The City's regular trash removal schedule will resume the following week.



**24-HOUR PARKING** - No person shall park a vehicle on any street for an uninterrupted period of time longer than twenty-four hours except in an emergency.

*Municipal Code Section 355.120*



**UTILITY EASEMENTS** - Utility easements give various utilities: *Gas, Water, Electric, Telephone, Sewer, Cable, etc.*, the right to enter onto property. These utilities have the right to enter for the purpose of maintaining existing facilities, installation of new facilities, and in general to do those things which are needed by the utilities to provide their service.

An easement does not require that the utility give prior notice to property owners of their intent to work on the easement. As a practical matter, most utilities will give prior notice if any major undertaking is being proposed.

Routine maintenance, such as trimming of trees in power lines, excavating of sewers for repairs and the like will be done at the discretion of the particular utility without necessarily giving prior notice. It is the policy of all utility companies to attempt to restore any disturbed areas to as near their original condition as possible. Technically and legally the utilities are not required to replace such improvements, although as a practical matter most companies will replace these improvements if they are disturbed by construction work being done by the utility.

As a final note, the ownership of the easement remains with the property owner. A bit of advanced planning when thinking about the installation of utility sheds, shrubbery and fences is a good idea. Permanent type improvements such as concrete slabs and accessory buildings should be kept off the easements so as to avoid loss or damage to the improvements.

If you have specific questions, feel free to contact the utility whose easement is affected by your concerns. They will be happy to work with you to minimize inconvenience and damage to your property.