



Winchester Newsletter

May 2012

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

City Calendar



- May 2 - **Court**, 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- 2 - **MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**
Daniel Boone Library Auditorium,
7:00 p.m., 300 Clarkson Road
- 8 - **STREET SWEEPING**
- 9 - **STREET SWEEPING, RAIN DATE**
- 9 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- 13- **MOTHER's DAY**
- 28 - **MEMORIAL DAY**, City Hall Closed
- 31 - No trash service today!
Holiday Schedule



ELECTION RESULTS



The April 3, 2012 election results are as follows:
ALDERMAN:

WARD I(Elected to a 2 year term)	
Carol J. Kraft.....	37
Brad Mason	3
Karl W. Koeb.....	22
Thomas P. Hennessy	12
Write-Ins:	0
WARD II(Elected to a 2 year term)	
Michael Schmidt	30
Write-Ins:.....	0

- June 1 - Holiday trash pick up TODAY!
- 6 - **Court**, 7 p.m.
- 13 - **City Meeting**, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 - **FLAG DAY**
- 17 - **FATHER's DAY**

CITY MEETING NEWS



In service to the community, your Board of Aldermen took the following action during **April 2012:**

ORDINANCE #1009 - An ordinance adopting the Phase II Storm Water policy that promotes the maintenance of retention ponds and rain gardens to prevent their becoming a nuisance to the health and welfare of the community.

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



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

Carol J. Kraft
Term Expires April, 2014
636/399-0859

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

WARD II
Michael Schmidt
Term Expires April, 2014
636/394-7592



**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.)

**REPORT THE CRIME,
MAKE THE CALL**

If you see a **crime in progress or another emergency situation** that requires an immediate police response, **call 911**. Provide the call-taker with a good description of the incident, the offender, and the exact location.

For non-emergencies, do not call 911. Non-emergency calls to 911 can slow the response time to true emergencies. **The numbers to call for non-emergencies are (314) 889-2341 or 636-527-2341.**



(Information extracted from St. Louis County website ,
Recycling and Solid Waste Health and Wellness page,
April, 2011)

**HELPFUL TIPS FOR REDUCING
LEFTOVER PAINT**

Before you start on your next painting project, plan to avoid creating leftover paint. If you do have leftover paint, dispose of it properly. The following are suggestions on how to reduce and discard unusable paint:

1. Buy only what you need. TIP: To determine the number of gallons of paint needed for one coat, measure the total square footage of the surfaces to be painted and divide by 400, or check the label. The paint cans will tell you the square foot coverage of the can's contents.

2. Keep paint fresh for years. Store paint so it lasts for years. Cover the opening with plastic wrap, and make sure the lid fits securely over the plastic so the paint doesn't leak. Then store the paint can upside down! This creates a tight seal, and keeps the paint fresh to use again.

3. Use all your leftover paint. It's great for touch-up jobs and smaller projects. You also can blend and mix smaller quantities of similar colors of latex paint to use as a base coat.


4. Give it away to someone else to use it. Full, unused paint can be donated to Habitat for Humanity. Their information can be found at www.habitatstl.org.


5. As a last resort, dispose of unwanted/usable paint properly. If you do need to dispose of unwanted paint, then do it safely. Latex paint that has been subjected to freeze-thaw (will look like cottage cheese or curdled milk) cannot be used or recycled. Solidify latex paint by mixing with an absorbent, like oil dry or traditional, non-clumping cat litter and leaving the lid off so it can dry. Add more absorbent if the paint is soft or runny after 10 minutes. Repeat until the material is very thick, then throw dried paint away with your regular trash. When hardened, latex paint can be safely discarded in the trash.

Reduce  Reu  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 new pavilion and gazebo project at Reber Park got under way on April 2nd. The pavilion is normally available from April through October; however, this year, due to a grant enabling the City to replace the 35+ year old pavilion and to build a gazebo, it is expected that a pavilion will possibly not be available before July. For updates on the progress, you may check the website at www.city.winchester.mo.us. watch the announcement board at the park or call City Hall.

 This year's Easter Egg Hunt was held on March 31st at 11 a.m. in Reber Park. The morning was favored with perfect weather. Altogether, about 200 people attended. It was good to see that after the hunt was over, adults and children stayed to socialize and enjoy the spring weather and the park. It seems that the event was fun for all ages.



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.



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.



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



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



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.



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.

RAIN GARDENS



Rain Gardens Help the Environment. They allow storm water runoff from roofs, driveways, and other impervious areas to be absorbed into the ground which reduces erosion, water pollution and flooding.

Native plants are recommended for rain gardens because they generally don't require fertilizer and are more tolerant of local climate, soil and water conditions. The plants take up excess water flowing into the rain garden. Water filters through soil layers before entering the groundwater system.

Rain gardens are beneficial for many reasons: improvement of water quality by filtering run-off; providing localized flood control; being aesthetically pleasing; reducing the need for irrigation, and providing interesting planting opportunities. In addition, the water in the rain garden will infiltrate the ground within a day or two and not allow mosquitoes to breed.

For more information about rain gardens, visit www.showmeraingardens.com



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.



CORP - County Older Resident Programs

CORP is part of St. Louis County Government's Department of Human Services. CORP offers adults 21 years of age and older, volunteer opportunities for the summer months and school breaks. Most positions are available during weekday hours and *involve interaction with older adults*. Location, hours and frequency of volunteering vary according to the type of position:

Neighbor Driving Neighbor - mostly weekday hours, using volunteer's car to take a senior to medical appointments, shopping, etc. This position would be most suitable for someone who enjoys direct interaction with older adults.

Home Visitor - flexible hours, usually within volunteer's community, to provide a senior with social interaction of help with light chores. This position would be most suitable for someone who enjoys direct interaction with older adults.

Training and mileage reimbursement are available for all positions. For additional information, please contact Patty Gramke at 314-615-4018 or pgramke@stlouisco.com.



DEVELOPING LOCAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Is Your Neighborhood Ready?

The midwest is subject to many types of disasters... earthquakes, floods, power outages, severe weather and tornadoes. It pays to take precautions and be prepared.

Do an Earthquake Home Hazard Hunt

Here are a few steps that can be taken to help “Earthquake Proof” your home:

- Fasten tall bookcases and shelves to studs with flexible fasteners(e.g., nylon straps) and lag screws
- Prevent heavy appliances from moving by blocking the rollers
- Do you have hanging light fixtures or plants that could strike a window? Use closed hooks on all hanging items.
- Where possible, replace glass bottles with plastic containers
- Anchor heavy mirrors and pictures over beds, chairs and couches. Locate beds away from windows.
- Think about fire safety. Remove all flammable liquids such as painting and cleaning products to an outside storage area
- Secure the water heater with metal straps that can be used to fasten the unit to the wood studs of the nearest wall

Teach responsible members of your family how to turn off electric, gas and water at main switch and valves. **Caution:** Do not shut off gas unless an emergency exists. If gas is ever turned off, a professional must restore service. Contact your local utilities for additional information. Label the water shut-off valve found where water enters the house.

WHEN A TORNADO STRIKES

If you see a funnel cloud nearby, take shelter immediately. If you spot a tornado that is far away, help alert others to the hazard by reporting it to the newsroom of a local radio or TV station before taking shelter as described later. Use common sense and exercise

caution: if you believe that you might be in danger, seek shelter immediately. The key to surviving a tornado and reducing the risk of injury lies in planning, preparing, and practicing what you and your family will do if a tornado strikes. Flying debris causes most deaths and injuries during a tornado. Although there is no completely safe place during a tornado, some locations are much safer than others.

General Tips

If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (such as a closet or interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck. *Do not open windows.*

For People with Functional Needs

If you are in a wheelchair, get away from windows and go to an interior room of the house. If possible, seek shelter under a sturdy table or desk. Cover your head with anything available, even your hands.

If you are unable to move from a bed or a chair and assistance is not available, protect yourself from falling objects by covering up with blankets and pillows.

If you are outside and a tornado is approaching, get into a ditch or gully. If possible, lie flat and cover your head with your arms.

After the Tornado

Give first aid when appropriate Help injured or trapped people Don't try to move seriously injured people unless

Turn on the radio or television for the latest emergency information. Use the telephone only for emergencies.

Clean up spilled medicines, bleach, and flammable liquids immediately. Leave the area if gas or burning fumes are present.