



# Winchester Newsletter

October, 2016

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

## City Calendar



- OCT 3 - Business Licenses Due**  
*Licenses are due and payable the first business day in October*
- 5 - Court, 7:00 p.m.**
- 8 - Electronic & Tire Recycling Event,**  
Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - South end of park - 8 am - 11 am  
*See p. 5 for details*
- 12 - City Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- 31- HALLOWEEN**  
*Safety Center at Reber Park hosted by the St. Louis County Police,*  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
- NOV 2 - Court, 7:00 p.m.**
- 6 - Daylight Savings Time Ends, Turn your clocks back 1 hour**
- 9 - City Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- 24 - THANKSGIVING,**  
*City Hall Closed*  
No trash service today
- 25 - City Hall Closed**  
Holiday trash pick up TODAY!



## CITY MEETING NEWS



In service to the community, your Board of Aldermen took the following actions during **Aug - Sept, 2016:**

**ORDINANCE #1053** - adopts the 2015 edition of the International Residential Code which deals with construction, alteration, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, location, removal and demolition of single family dwellings.

**ORDINANCE #1054** - adopts the 2015 edition of the International Building Code regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures.

**ORDINANCE # 1055** - adopts the 2015 edition of the Existing Building Code, regulating repair alteration, addition and relocation of existing buildings.

**ORDINANCE #1056** - adopts the 2015 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code governing conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures.

**ORDINANCE #1057** - adopts the 2015 edition of the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code governing swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs.

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



Are you 55 or older and interested in making new friends, hearing great speakers, going on exciting trips, and playing cards? The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at Ballwin Golf Course, 333 Holloway Road, Ballwin, MO 63011 from 10 am - 2 pm. Cost \$2 per meeting. Please bring your own sack lunch. Coffee, soda and dessert provided.

\*Special luncheons may involve separate fees.

### Winchester City Hall

Voice-TDD: 636/391-0600

FAX: 636/391-6365

Email: [cityhall@city.winchester.mo.us](mailto:cityhall@city.winchester.mo.us)

### 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, 2017

636/394-6023

### WARD I

Marie Bach

Term Expires April, 2017  
636/227-6344

Sarah Gibbs

Term Expires April, 2018  
309/749-7003

### BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Tony DeLuca

Term Expires April, 2017  
314/220-2119

### WARD II

Michael Schmidt

Term Expires, April 2018  
314/706-8169

Website: [www.city.winchester.mo.us](http://www.city.winchester.mo.us)



**WINCHESTER NEIGHBORHOOD STATION**

**(October is National Crime Prevention Month)**

*The following information is presented from the Home Safety Handbook of the St. Louis County Police Department.....*

**BURGLARY Q & A**

Although no two burglaries are exactly alike, here are some general answers to frequently asked questions:

**Q.** What time of day do most burglaries occur?

**A.** It is traditionally thought that most burglaries occur in the middle of the night. The truth is, burglaries are occurring at all times during the day and night. Whenever you are away from your home, your house is vulnerable.

**Q.** What property is most often taken during burglaries?

**A.** The items taken most frequently in residential burglaries are money, jewelry, guns and small electronic equipment.

**Q.** How is entry gained in most burglaries?

**A.** Even with the increasing concerns over crime in America, the sad truth is that most entries are made through unlocked doors and windows.

**Q.** What should I do if I am home when a burglar breaks in?

**A.** Burglars usually look for an opportunity when a house is empty; they very seldom enter a house where someone is home.

**Q.** Is it safer to answer my door when I am not expecting guests or just ignore the person?

**A.** Always acknowledge you are home. (This does not necessarily mean open the door.) Remember, a burglar is looking for an empty house. If you do not answer the

door he may think the house is empty and attempt to enter. If someone is outside your house and you feel threatened, immediately dial 911.



**TRICK OR TREAT** - Halloween is almost here and your local

St. Louis County Officers are preparing for all you "ghosts & goblins". They will host a Halloween Safety Center from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Reber Park, Halloween night. Treats will be available. Look for upcoming details on the Reber Park Sign Board.



**PROPER LEAF DISPOSAL** - Falling leaves announce Autumn's arrival; however, they can create problems.... problems that the City needs your help in preventing. We ask residents to consider the following:

***Leaves and/or other debris filling storm sewers cause the sewers not to function well and can lead to unnecessary flooding.*** This is the reason why placing leaves out onto the street is strictly prohibited.... leaves end up in storm sewers!

Leaf disposal is available through the Solid Waste Disposal Company's yard waste program. Yard waste removal costs are included with your normal Solid Waste bill. All you have to do is rake or gather the yard waste, put it in marked containers or yard waste bags, and set out at the curb no sooner than 24-hours before pick up day.

*Municipal Code Section 210.680*



**NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

*(Excerpts from nfpa.org)*

*A review of the origin of Fire Prevention Week.*

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

According to popular legend, the fire broke out after a cow - belonging to Mrs. Catherine O'Leary - kicked over a lamp, setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire. Chances are you've heard some version of this story yourself; people have been blaming the Great Chicago Fire on the cow and Mrs. O'Leary, for more than 130 years. But recent research by Chicago historian Robert Cromie has helped to debunk this version of events.

But if a cow wasn't to blame for the huge fire, what was? Over the years, journalists and historians have offered plenty of theories. Some blamed the blaze on a couple of neighborhood boys who were near the barn sneaking cigarettes. Others believed that a neighbor of the O'Leary's may have started the fire. Some people have speculated that a fiery meteorite may have fallen to earth on October 8, starting several fires that day - in Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as in Chicago.

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8th, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

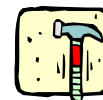
Historical accounts of the fire say that the blaze began when several railroad workers clearing land for tracks unintentionally started a brush fire. Before long, the fast-moving flames were whipping through the area 'like a tornado,' some survivors said. It was the small town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin that suffered the worst damage. Within an hour, the entire town had been destroyed.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday

through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

For more information go to: [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)


Saint Louis  
**COUNTY**  
**PLANNING**



#### **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

The Home Improvement Program (HIP) is a federally funded program to provide technical and financial assistance to qualified homeowners for a variety of home repairs. Funds for this calendar year are still available. The program is administered by St. Louis County's Department of Planning, Office of Community Development. **APPLICANTS ARE NEEDED.** Do not assume you are not eligible to participate. Contact Debby at the **St. Louis County Department of Planning, Office of Community Development** at 314-615-4025.

#### **NOTICE OF NEW RATES** **BEGINNING OCT. 1, 2016**

 Allied Waste Services (Republic Services) is Winchester's Solid Waste Collection Services Contractor. The contract provides the following basic services to every home in Winchester at a cost of \$18.54/month (\$16.69/month) for Senior Citizens, billed quarterly, **beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>**. NOTE - This is a decrease in price over Oct. 1, 2015. Trash, yard waste and recycle collection are all on Thursday.

#### **PARK & RECREATION NEWS**

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



## **PARTY IN THE PARK -**

Winchester’s annual “Party in the Park” was held Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> with an estimated attendance of 200 people. The weather cooperated and those attending, including Fredbird®, seemed to have a great time. “MadScience” , Clowns and Tekno Bubbles added to the festive atmosphere. Many thanks to the St. Louis County Police Department for everything they do. It’s always a joy to see the Police helicopter when it lands. The public was allowed to visit with the pilot and view the helicopter up close. Thanks also to Metro West Fire Protection District for their safety house and other equipment and West County EMS & Fire Protection District for their participation. Everyone’s participation adds to the enjoyment of the party. Already looking forward to next year!



## **REBER PARK PAVILION & GAZEBO RESERVATIONS**

Gazebo and Pavilion reservations are possible through the month of October. At the time of this newsletter, the month of October is open for both structures individually, or together, from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Consider reserving them for special functions, family reunions, barbeques, and birthday parties. *The cost to reserve the pavilion is \$45, the gazebo, \$30.* Residents and non-residents alike are eligible to reserve the facilities. October is, in general, a beautiful month in which to spend time outdoors and Reber Park is a great place to gather for celebrations and family fun. Call City Hall for reservations.



*The following information is presented from the library of MSD Project Clear, a municipal public education project.*

**Fat Free Sewers** - Your garbage disposal may be strong enough to handle a turkey carcass, but your drain may complain. Fats, oils and grease don’t just clog arteries, they clog sewers, too. Keeping fat, grease and oil out of the drain is one of the best ways to avoid a sewer backup in your home. Many backups result from accumulated grease buildup along the walls of your sewer line. Over time, grease buildup will block water flow in your pipes. Fats, oils and grease are found in many of the foods we eat every day - foods such as meat, fish, butter, cooking oil, gravy, sauces, mayonnaise, salad

dressing and cheese. Keep these items out the drain or garbage disposal. MSD reminds you of these steps to prevent grease buildup: wipe cooled pots and pans with a paper towel before washing; remove fatty foods from plates and the kitchen sink and place them in the trash, not down the drain; can it, cool it and trash it. Pour all cooled cooking fats that will harden into a container and throw it in the trash.

## **Fences...**



*No permit* shall be required for the erection, installation or alteration of any fence in the City of Winchester; *however*, fences must be in compliance with

- Municipal Code Section 405. Here are a few highlights as a reminder of Winchester policy regarding fences from that section of code (405.160A):
- a. Fences shall not exceed six (6) feet in height, with the exception of hedges and shrubs which do not have a height restriction unless they are located on a corner lot.
  - b. Fences or a landscaped screen on corner lots shall not be built or allowed to grow in a height to obstruct driver vision from passing automobiles. Fences cannot be erected in front of a building; however, on side and rear yards the fence may be constructed on the property lines. On a corner lot, the fence may not extend beyond the building line on either side of the yards adjacent to the two streets.
  - c. Any fence must be constructed in a workmanship-like manner so that ***the horizontal and vertical support posts are inside of the fence area, hidden from both the neighbor’s and general public’s view.***
  - d. All exposed steel/metal fences except galvanized metal fences shall have a colored finish coat applied to them and be preserved against rust and corrosion.
  - e. If a fence extending beyond the building lines is to abut the front yard of a residentially used property, said fence shall be decorative or ornamental and shall be restricted to four (4) feet in height and shall be at least fifty percent (50%) open. Chain link fences, wire fences, wire mesh fences, snow fences, or fences constructed in any part with such materials that ***shall not*** be considered decorative or ornamental.