



Household Hazardous Waste Collection April 4

Spring cleaning means it's time to get leftover paint, pesticides or disinfectants out of your home. Clean out your garage, cabinets, and basement and drop items off at the 18th Annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection. It's your home, make it safe!

From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, the drop-off will be held at the large parking lot bordered by Osage, Liberty, Walnut, and Kansas Streets, one block south of the Independence Square. This collection is **free** to residents with proof of residency. (Driver's license or city utility bill.)

What is hazardous waste? Many products used for cleaning, painting, beautifying, and disinfecting, such as garden and yard pesticides/herbicides, paint, automotive fluids, etc. are considered hazardous materials. Household products labeled as *flammable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive* are household hazardous wastes.

Check with neighbors and relatives and combine your efforts to properly dispose of unwanted hazardous products. Volunteers will be on hand to unload your vehicle.

Products accepted include: batteries; paint and paint products (aerosol cans, varnish, stripper, thinner, turpentine, etc.); fluorescent light

bulbs; garden and yard products (herbicides, pesticides, sprays, rat poison, and weed killers); all automotive fluids (antifreeze, used motor oil, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and gasoline); household cleaners (lye, drain, toilet and tub, oven, etc.); kerosene; mercury thermometers; unused and/or outdated medicines, etc. If you are uncertain about an item, call Water Pollution Control at (816) 325-7711.



Use sturdy tubs or boxes to pack your items and surround with newspaper. Keep chemicals away from children and pets while transporting; use the trunk of the car, rear of the station wagon or truck bed.

The following will NOT be accepted: electronics, appliances, trash, yard waste, medical waste (sharps, etc.), tires, asbestos, radioactive waste, pressurized gas cylinders or commercial waste.

The Independence Police Department will collect and dispose of old or unwanted ammunition, explosives, firearms, fireworks, etc. Call (816) 325-7997 if you have questions about this type of disposal.

Household hazardous waste may also be taken to the Kansas City, MO facility at 4707 Deramus for free disposal. No appointment is necessary. Normal days and hours for disposal are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Call (816) 513-8401 for information.

For more information about the City's HHW Disposal Program, including directions to the Kansas City facility or the upcoming mobile collection, please call Water Pollution Control at (816) 325-7711 or visit our website at www.independencemo.org/wpc.

Make sure all container lids are on tight and bring in the original containers if possible. Containers will most likely not be returned, so use one that is disposable to you. Don't mix different or unknown substances together. If containers are leaking, wrap in plastic and pack in larger containers or boxes with absorbent material, such as cat litter.

Cherry Blossom Festival



The Annual Japanese Sister City Cherry Blossom Festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 26 at the Sermon Community Center, 201 N. Dodgion.

Festival admission is \$2 per person for an afternoon of activities, food and fun. The event celebrates 36 years of the special relationship with Independence's Sister City - Higashimurayama, Japan.

Come spend the afternoon enjoying lunch and entertainment. A delicious Oriental lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The special Cherry Blossom Chicken, with rice, noodles and a dessert, will be a memorable treat.

There will be performances in the theater throughout the day, by different groups including the Glendale Elementary School Japan Club.

Shop for souvenirs in the main room from vendors selling a wide variety of old and new Japanese items. The Yoki Store will again be offering fun Japanese toys

and snacks for sale. The Independence Sister City Bazaar will feature many one of a kind, unique items.

You will have an opportunity to meet Independence's Student Ambassadors who will be going to visit Higashimurayama this summer, and learn how your student could go to Japan next year.

The annual festival is sponsored by the Japanese Sister City Commission.



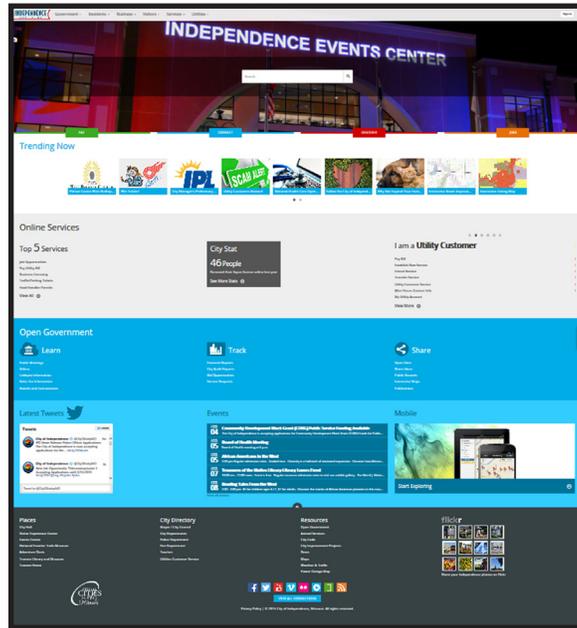
City Unveils Expanded Website With New Features

In February, the City of Independence unveiled a completely redesigned website: www.independencemo.org. This is the eighth major revision since the website first launched in 1996.

When the site was originally created, the prominent features of the website were information on the history of Independence, the names of City officials and local demographics. At that time the City encouraged citizens to visit public libraries to access the internet, if they did not have access at home.

Today, the website still offers the same information, but has expanded and now provides more than 50 different ways to interact with the City. Almost every citizen has access to the new website whether at home on a PC or on the go with a mobile device.

The new website uses a responsive



www.independencemo.org

design, meaning it works with everything from smartphones to tablets, to desktop computers. Creating a touch-friendly site was a major goal of this redesign, since statistics show about 40% of the City's website visitors each month are using a mobile device.

In addition to improving the overall look of the website, the navigation has also been improved. The homepage of the new site highlights open government, social media and the online services offered by the City. This new design will help fulfill the mission of the website: to serve as a government portal providing website visitors with access to the information and services needed in their daily lives.

If you need information about your City government, check out the new website. Discover ways to Pay, Connect, Discover and see Job information, right at your fingertips.

National Public Health Week April 6 - 12

April 6-12 is National Public Health Week (NPHW). Public Health has a goal to promote and protect the health of all people in communities across America.

Public Health has helped people to stop smoking, make work safer, make the food we eat safer, and control the spread of illness. This year the goal is to make the United States the "Healthiest Nation in One Generation by 2030."

During each day of National Public

Health Week, Public Health teaches people about how to live longer and have better health. It also teaches people that where they live, work, and play will play a role in their health.

The Independence Health Department wants to improve how people measure the value of Public Health and what we do. To find out about what we do in Independence - like *The Mile Starts Here* walking program, the Independence Park

Trot 5K, and farmers' markets - download the *Building a Healthier Independence App* from your Google Play or I-Tunes app store.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Follow the Independence Health Department on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest. The Health Department is located at 515 S. Liberty Street in the Barbara J. Potts Public Health Center.

Hickman Award Nominations Now Being Accepted

Do you know someone who has dedicated their time to working with local history? Know of a historic property which has recently been renovated? Do you have a favorite historic neighborhood you would like to see recognized? The City will accept nominations for the 2015 W.Z. Hickman Preservation Awards to do just that. The deadline for submission is Friday, March 27.

In 2001, the Heritage Commission developed an annual awards program to recognize the challenges and successes of preserving Independence's rich heritage. These awards are intended to recognize the efforts of individuals, organizations, and projects which display an exemplary

commitment to historic preservation in Independence.

In 2002, these awards were named **The W.Z. Hickman Awards for Historic Preservation**, to honor the pioneering efforts of one of Independence's first historic preservationists. In addition to being considered an authority on matters of local history, William Zere Hickman (1845-1921) also organized the "Old Plainsmen's Association" of 1909, which assisted the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution in marking the original path of the Santa Fe Trail.

In 1916, Hickman led a citywide movement to see the 1827 Log Courthouse preserved and restored in Independence.

In 1921 he authored the *History of Jackson County*, an invaluable chronicle of local history.

This year's awards will be presented during the Monday, May 4, 2015 City Council meeting to kick off the annual celebration of Historic Preservation Month. Preservation Month is a national celebration co-sponsored with the City of Independence by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Award nomination information is available at www.ci.independence.mo.us/comdev/HistoricPreservation. For more information contact the Historic Preservation Division at (816) 325-7419 or via email at wshay@indepmo.org.

A Sure Sign Spring Is Near: Independence Historic Sites Open



Spring is nearly here, bringing with it warmer weather, flowers and longer days. Get things started with a Full Moon Hike at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Road on **Friday, April 3**. Bring your binoculars and enjoy a peek at spring with this hike starting at 8 p.m. Each hike is limited to 12 participants, so reserve your place now. Call (816) 325-7115 by 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 2.

Get a jump on spring by visiting the Independence historic sites when they open for the 2015 season **Wednesday, April 1**. Sites include the 1827 Log Courthouse, 1859 Jail & Marshal's Home Museum, the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, the Chicago & Alton Depot, the Pioneer Spring Cabin and the Vaile Mansion. For full details on hours and ticket costs, call (816) 325-7111 or go to www.visitindependence.com.

A perfect story for spring is coming to City Theatre of Independence. *Enchanted April* is a sweet story of two British housewives who rent a castle in Italy after World War I. Performances are 8 p.m. **Thursday – Saturday, April 2, 3 and 4; Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11; 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, April 12**. There will be a Special Dinner Theatre at 6:30 p.m. before the show on Saturday, April 4; Reservations required one week prior by calling (816) 325-7367. The City Theatre is located inside the Sermon Center at 201 N. Dodgion.

Three groups helped shape our nation's character – the American Indians, trappers and traders. Bring your lunch at noon on **Friday, April 10** to the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific for a free brown bag lecture. Learn about the life and times of these groups, and how they worked together to achieve their goal of using fur to meet their needs.

It's time for the annual Girls Day Out on The Square. From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on **Saturday, April 11** enjoy some springtime retail therapy! Ladies, bring

your girlfriends and plan a day on The Square – food, fun and shopping. Register at www.theindependencesquare.com for your shopping passport, discounts and free gifts from participating merchants. For more information call (816) 461-0065.

It's Nature Story Time at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Road. At 11 a.m. on **Saturday, April 11**, come out to read, explore outside and make crafts. April's topic is "Finding the First Flower." Listen to good stories around the fire and play, even if it rains! It's free, and fun. Call (816) 325-7115 for details.



Later that day, come to the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, to prepare for your

epic six-month journey to Oregon. From 1 to 3 p.m. on **Saturday, April 11**, using a special trail guide, you will learn about your route, investigate art to discover something about the "jumping off towns," identify items in the General Store and finally pack your wagon!

April's free gardening workshop starts at 6 p.m. **Monday April 13** at the Health Department, 515 S. Liberty. The topic will be Tomatoes, Peppers & Sweet Potatoes. For more information contact Joanie Shover at (816) 325-7185.

Fairmount Park is one of the oldest parks in Independence, and shelters many of the earliest blooming wildflowers. Get out your sturdy boots for a hike off the trail to find the short-lived blossoms.

Be prepared to walk up and down hills in muddy conditions. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Fairmount Park playground, 300 N. Home, at the corner of N. Home and Norledge, on **Saturday, April 18** for this hour-long adventure.

The kids will love a two-ring circus! Complete with hand puppets, high flying marionettes, and amazing juggling, puppeteers Nancy Clark and Anitra Steele bring the fun to life at the Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Road. Performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on **Saturday, April 25**. Tickets are only \$5 each and include touring the museum.

It's a special event: Night at the Museum 3! In honor of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific, the Friends of the NFTM invite you to tour the museum and meet a variety of historical persons as they share their frontier adventures. Starting at 6:30 p.m. on **Saturday, April 25**, enjoy an appetizer buffet and period music as you stroll through the exhibit galleries. There will be a raffle with lots of prizes and all proceeds are dedicated to museum displays and programming. Advance reservations are required; call (816) 325-7575. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-17.

Spring evenings are made for a wagon ride! Learn about the Santa Fe Trail in this hour-long program starting at 6 p.m. on **Thursday, April 30**. Admission of \$16 per adult, \$10 children ages 6-17, includes a wagon tour to the swales created in the 1830s and a tour of the Santa Fe exhibit gallery at the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific. Advance reservations are required; call (816) 325-7575.

See the Calendar of Events at www.independencemo.org for more information or call Tourism at (816) 325-7111.

Correction

Close out March's preview of spring with the "Victorian Wedding Tea Party." Plan to visit the Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty, from **2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 28**. For event details, contact the Mansion at (816) 325-7430.

Directory

CityScene is published monthly by the City Manager's Office, 111 East Maple Street, Independence, Missouri 64050. For information call 325-7019. Web-site address is www.independencemo.org. Follow us at [Twitter.com/CityofIndepMO](https://twitter.com/CityofIndepMO).



Where To Call

The City of Independence has an automated voice-response telephone system. Call **325-7000** and say the name of the person or the department you wish to contact.



- Adopt-a-Street** 325-7602
- Barking Dogs** 325-7213
- Building Permits** 325-7401
- Business Licenses** 325-7079
- Crime Stoppers Tips** 474-8477
- Drop-Off Trash** 325-7623
- Drugs** 325-6272
- Graffiti** 257-7824
- Municipal Court** 325-7230
- Neighborhood Watch** 325-7643
- Park Vandalism** 325-7208
- Police Non-Emergency** 836-3600
- Fire Non-Emergency** 325-7123
- Potholes** 325-7624
- Report Power Outage** 325-7550
- Street Lights** 325-7535
- Storm Water Pollution** 325-7727
- Utilities**
- Customer Service** 325-7930
- Pay by Phone** 325-SERV
- Payment Assistance** 254-4100
- Weeds, Trash** 325-7193

City Drop-Off Depot

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Second Saturday Of Each Month
March through November!
875 Vista Avenue

From M-291, take Truman Road east approximately one mile, then north on Vista Avenue.

- Trash:** Cars, \$11; Vehicles Larger Than Car, \$16; Trailers 8 Feet or Longer, \$26
- Brush:** Limbs, Firewood, Bushes, Stumps. No Leaves or Grass: \$11/load
- Major Appliances:** \$15 Each
- Batteries & Lawnmowers:** Free
- Tires:** Car, \$2; Mounted Car, \$4; Truck, \$5; Mounted Truck, \$11; Farm/Tractor, \$16

Residential vehicles only, no commercial. No vehicles larger than a pick-up truck. Proof of residency required.

5K INDEPENDENCE RUN/WALK PARKTROT

FREE 5K
FREE KIDS' FUN RUN
SAT., MAY 2, 2015 • 8 a.m.

WATERFALL PARK



Registration open now at:
www.independencparktrot.com
 Online registration ends April 19

 Become a fan of the City of Independence at www.facebook.com.
 To follow the City on Twitter, go to <http://twitter.com/CityOfIndepMO> and click the follow button.



Watch City Meetings On Streaming Video

City Council meetings and study sessions are available as live and archived streaming video on the City's website, www.independencemo.org.

Each live City 7 TV broadcast is available online during the 6 p.m. Monday City Council meetings. An archive of the program is available on the site the next morning for viewing 24 hours a day. Archived videos are available for a few months following their posting. If you would like to purchase a copy of a Council meeting call 325-7762.

Regional Animal Shelter

21001 E. Hwy. 78, Independence

Help them find a forever home. Adopt a homeless pet.

Noon - 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Call (816) 621-7722

Always Spay or Neuter!



Recycling Centers

13600 E. 35th Street
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fridays
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays

875 Vista Avenue
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sundays
 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mondays

MRC operates the two City recycling centers. Items accepted include paper, cardboard, steel, aluminum, plastic, glass, electronics, appliances, computers, flat screen TVs, lawn and garden equipment and rechargeable batteries. A fee will be charged for non flat-screen TVs: \$20 for TVs 27" and smaller and \$40 for larger TVs. All other items are free of charge, including computer monitors.

CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor**
- Eileen Weir 325-7027
- City Council Office** 325-7022
- www.independencemo.org/citycouncil
- Councilmembers**
- Marcie Gragg District 1
- Curt Dougherty District 2
- Scott Roberson District 3
- Tom Van Camp District 4
- Karen DeLuccie At-Large
- Chris Whiting At-Large
- City Manager**
- Robert Heacock 325-7170



City of Independence

Government Access Television

CITY COUNCIL

- 6 p.m. Mondays*
- 10 a.m. Tuesdays
- 7 p.m. Wednesdays
- 2 p.m. Sundays

PLANNING COMMISSION

- 6 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays*
- 10 a.m. Wednesdays
- 7 p.m. Thursdays

For more information:
www.City7.TV

*Denotes live meeting, all others are rebroadcasts.