

# CityScene



May 2015  
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www.independencemo.org  
City of Independence, MO

## May is Electrical Safety Month

May is Electrical Safety Month, and Independence Power & Light reminds you to always follow safety guidelines both inside and outside your home.

Spring is a great time to give your home a safety checkup. It's also a good time to teach children about being safe around electricity.

Walk through the house and identify any potential electrical hazards. Are the outlets and light switches working right? Do any of them feel warm or have they become discolored?

Check cords and plugs. Did a pet chew on a cord and damage it? Is there an extension cord underneath a rug? Are you using the correct wattage light bulb in all your lamps and light fixtures? Are the hair dryer and other electric appliances kept away from the bathroom sink?

Correct any potentially dangerous conditions you find. Always unplug any lamp or appliance before working on it. Turn off the power to the electrical circuit at your main service panel before any work on a switch, light or outlet.

Never attempt a project beyond your comfort level. It is best to use a licensed electrician to safely perform home electrical work.

For spring cleanup projects outdoors, always plug electrical power tools into outlets with ground fault circuit interrupters to protect against shocks. Do not use an extension cord more than

100' long and never use power tools near live electrical wires or water pipes.

Use caution with electric hedge trimmers or edgers. Be careful not to cut into the cord, or into vegetation which could be hiding a power line. Always look up before extending a ladder, to avoid any potential contact with wires. If you have a pool, be especially cautious around electric motors and controls.

Thinking about adding a new tree or bushes this spring? Plan ahead! Dial

8-1-1 or 1-800-DIG-RITE (1-800-344-7483) first. This is a free service to mark the location of underground lines, which helps avoid accidental damage or injury.

Spring can also bring the possibility of high winds and severe storms. Wind can bring down a tree, and tree limbs can bring down power lines. If you see a wire on the ground, stay back. Be safe and **Do Not Touch** it.

Call IPL Dispatch immediately at (816) 325-7574 and report the wire or wires that are on the ground. IPL personnel are highly trained to work with and around power lines, and have special tools designed for that purpose.

For questions about electrical safety, call Independence Power and Light at (816) 325-7495 or visit the IPL website [www.independencemo.org/pl](http://www.independencemo.org/pl). To report a power outage, call the IPL automated hotline at (816) 325-7550.



The Independence Farmers' Market has moved! The new location is in the large parking lot at the north-west corner of Walnut and Liberty, just two blocks south of The Independence Square.

The Market opens for the season at 6 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, and will be open every Saturday through October. Beginning June 3, the market will also be open



at 6 a.m. every Wednesday.

Come early for the best selection of fresh fruits, vegetables and produce. Beans and Greens will be

returning this year, along with local craft vendors.

For information about becoming a vendor, contact Market Master Joe Antoine, on-site in the office building on market days, or by calling (816) 591-3953.

## EcoFest Returns Saturday, June 6

Are you looking for a free, fun-filled, eco-friendly family event to attend this summer? The 8th Annual Independence EcoFest – “It’s All About Water!” – will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 6 at Waterfall Park, 4501 S. Bass Pro Drive.

EcoFest is an interactive environmental education festival aimed at teaching children and families the importance of preserving and protecting our natural resources and the environment.

Visitors will collect stickers for their “Eco-Passports” by answering quiz questions as they visit various exhibit booths throughout the park. Each exhibitor will have a question associated with their booth’s theme. Completed Eco-Passports earn a free t-shirt, and there will be lots of giveaways throughout the festival.

Again at this year’s EcoFest is the City’s annual Arbor Day Proclamation and Ceremony. Independence Power and Light will raffle several larger trees while approximately 40 smaller trees will be given away. Smokey the Bear will be handing out Burr Oak acorns.

This year’s EcoFest will also feature your favorite eco-entertainers, including EcoElvis, the EcoStreet characters, Stan Slaughter “Eco Troubadour” and the Green Spirit Band. The Kansas City Kite Club will display colorful banners and kites throughout the park.

Interactive displays such as edible ice cream aquifers, a stream table that demonstrates stream bank erosion and water-themed games are located along the park trail so participants can learn about water and conservation topics.

There’s a lot of eco-friendly fun to be had at the 8th Annual EcoFest! For more information, visit the City’s website at [www.indepemo.org/wpc](http://www.indepemo.org/wpc) or [www.indepemo.org/ecofest](http://www.indepemo.org/ecofest) or call Water Pollution Control at (816) 325-7711.

## The Mile Starts Here Walking Program - 2015 Schedule

Make 2015 the year to join “The Mile Starts Here” free walking program! Everyone is welcome. Each week the route rotates between different Independence parks and trails. In the event of inclement weather, meet instead at Independence Center mall (18813 E. 39th Street). If you have any questions about the program, call the Health Department at (816) 325-7185.

1st Wednesday of the Month 9 a.m.	May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7	Waterfall Park: 4501 S. Bass Pro Drive
2nd Wednesday of the Month 9 a.m.	May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14	McCoy Park: 800 N. Bess Truman Pkwy.
3rd Wednesday of the Month 9 a.m.	May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21	Independence Athletic Complex: 17800 E. Salisbury Road
4th Wednesday of the Month 9 a.m.	May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28	Country Club Park: 2030 S. Norton Ave.
5th Wednesday of the Month 9 a.m.	July 29, September 30	Little Blue Route: 20210 E. Jackson Drive (July 29) Church Mile: 1001 W. Walnut St. (Sept. 30)

## Volunteers Needed for Vacancies on City Council Boards and Commissions

Would you like to apply to serve on an Independence City Board or Commission?

Interested citizens who have been Independence residents for at least one year may apply to serve on City boards and commissions. Different meeting schedules and responsibilities, and a variety of areas of focus offer many opportunities for participation.

The activities of these boards and commissions help shape and influence

public policy, and they provide diverse viewpoints which assist the City Council in the decision-making process.

To learn about current vacancies on boards and commissions, visit the city’s website at [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org), or call the City Clerk’s office at (816) 325-7010.

The City Clerk’s office is located on the ground floor of City Hall, 111 E. Maple, near the entrance to Municipal Court.

## What Is Coming To Independence?

The construction under way at The Falls at Crackerneck is the future home for Main Event Entertainment. The site, located just west of I-470 and north of 40 Highway, is adjacent to Slim Chickens and near the recently-opened Stoney Creek Inn.



**Future Home of The Main Event**

Main Event Entertainment will feature dining ranging from fast-casual to chef-inspired casual, along with bowling, multi-level laser tag, high ropes adventure courses, billiards and interactive and virtual video games. This

family-oriented venue will contain approximately 50,000 sq. ft. and is slated to open in late 2015 or early 2016.

The Independence Main Event development will be the first expansion into the Midwest. There are more than 20 Main Event locations throughout the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, Georgia and Illinois.

For questions about new construction projects in Independence, contact David Lehman in the Community Development Department at (816) 325-7403.

## GARAGE SALE

Planning a garage or yard sale? Please keep these regulations in mind as you make your plans:

- No permit is required to hold a sale, but you are limited to no more than two sales per calendar year.
- A sale may not be longer than three consecutive days.
- A garage or yard sale may not be used to sell items purchased for resale.
- No signs, flyers, directions, etc. may be placed in any street right-of-way or on any public property including street signs and posts, traffic signs, or on any public utility pole.
- Any sign properly placed on private property must be removed on or before the last day of the sale. The person conducting the sale is responsible for removing the signs.

The Fire Department recommends keeping streets clear for emergency vehicles, so if your neighborhood is planning a large garage sale event, call (816) 325-7123 to notify the Fire Department in advance.

# June Events Are Busting Out All Over Independence

The strawberries are back! The annual Strawberry Festival at the Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty St., will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on **Saturday, June 6**. Admission to the grounds is free, so stroll around and enjoy all kinds of strawberry treats, take a carriage ride, visit more than 100 craft and antique booths and listen to music. While there, be sure to tour the elegant Mansion. To learn more, visit [www.vailemansion.org](http://www.vailemansion.org) or call (816) 325-7430.



With the school year ending, there are plenty of activities planned around town to keep the kids entertained this summer.

Bring the kids ages 2-10 for Popsicles in the Park – an evening of free fun from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on eight Tuesdays this summer. Live music, puppet shows, art stations, prizes and free frozen treats! For information, call (816) 325-7843.

- ▶ **June 2** – Fairmount Park, 300 N. Home Ave.
- ▶ **June 9** – Glendale Park, 16010 E. Crackerneck Rd.
- ▶ **June 16** – Sycamore Hills Park, 3700 S. Haden Drive
- ▶ **June 23** – Beckett Park, 2701 S. Cherokee St.
- ▶ **June 30** – Santa Fe Park, 2731 S. Santa Fe Rd.

The City Theatre of Independence, 201 N. Dodgion, presents “*Seussical*,” a musical based on the books of Dr. Seuss.

The Cat in the Hat is the host and emcee in this romp through the Dr. Seuss classics. Performances are 8 p.m. **Thursdays through Saturdays, June 4-6 and June 11-13**; Matinees are 2 p.m. **Sundays, June 7 and 14**. Call (816) 325-7367 and reserve your seat to see these characters come to life!

Toddler Town on Tour is another popular free event for ages 2-8. Come out from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on these Wednesday mornings and enjoy summer fun while

exploring different playgrounds! Parks & Recreation staff will help with simple craft projects. Inclement weather will cancel. For information, call (816) 325-7843.

- ▶ **June 10** – Benton Park, 707 S. Crane
- ▶ **June 17** – St. Clair Park, 433 S. Farley Avenue
- ▶ **June 24** – Bundschu Park, 11400 E. 9th St. S.

Moonlight Movies on The Square returns **Thursday, June 11** at 9 p.m. A free movie will be shown every Thursday evening this summer in the Pharaoh Theater parking lot at 114 W. Maple.

On **Friday, June 12**, it’s the 5th Annual Wine & Brew Walk from 6 to 9 p.m. Swirl, sip and visit retailers on The Square during this fundraiser for preservation of the Historic Independence Square. Tickets available at [www.theindependencesquare.com](http://www.theindependencesquare.com).

On **Saturday, June 13**, return to The Square for Etsy at the Exchange! From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. this fun, free event features more than a dozen Etsy shops. Find great deals and special offers at 113 W. Lexington on the second Saturday each month.

The National Frontier Trails Museum at 318 W. Pacific is a great destination for learning activities for kids. Try Wagons HO! at 10 a.m. on **Wednesday, June 10**. This two-hour program includes learning how the pioneers packed a prairie schooner and a covered wagon tour. Tickets are \$10 adults; \$7.50 for kids 6-17. Advance reservations required at (816) 325-7575.

On **Saturday, June 13** come back for “Being History Explorers” Family Fun Day at the National Frontier Trails Museum. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., enjoy free outdoor activities, a Mountain Men Encampment, American Indian flute players, crafts, refreshments and wagon rides. Kids tour the museum for half price with a paid adult admission. Sponsored by Friends of the National Frontier Trails Museum.

Complete your pioneer adventures with the Evening Wagon Ride and Swales Walk at 6 p.m. on **Thursday, June 25** from the National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W. Pacific. Call for reservations (816) 325-7575. Tickets \$16 adults; \$10 kids 6-17.

On **Saturday, June 27**, it’s time for Breakfast & Blooms at the Bingham, 313 W. Pacific. From 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., enjoy a home-style breakfast with eggs, sausage, country potatoes and all the trimmings!

Hungry but no time for the garden tour?

Tickets are \$11 for breakfast only.

Garden tours will begin at 10 a.m., starting on the grounds of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, then traveling to local private gardens, a garden in south Kansas City, and a garden in Liberty with special water features. Your \$25 ticket also includes a tour of the Bingham-Waggoner mansion, which can be used any day through October 31, 2015. For tickets please call Shireen at (816) 461-3491. For more information, visit [www.bwestate.org](http://www.bwestate.org).

Visit the Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Road on **Saturday, June 27** for “Monkey’s Dream.”

Find out what monkeys dream of in this imaginative non-verbal Bunraku puppet show when a tiny monkey falls asleep dreaming and the moon decides to grant him a wish. Presented by the StoneLion Puppet Theater from Kansas City. Performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5, and include a tour of the museum.



View the calendar of events at [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org) or contact the Tourism Department at (816) 325-7111.

## Adventure Oasis opens with a splash Saturday, May 23!

**Hours:**  
**Noon - 8 p.m. Monday - Friday**  
**11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday/Sunday**  
**11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Holidays**

For ticket pricing, call (816) 325- 7843 or visit [www.independencemo.org/ParksAndRec/AdvenOasis](http://www.independencemo.org/ParksAndRec/AdvenOasis).

**\$1 OFF DAILY ADMISSION**



Present this coupon for \$1 off daily admission price to Adventure Oasis. Limit one (1) per customer. Not valid with any other offer.  
 2100 S. Hub Drive. Expires 08/09/15

**YOUR ADVENTURE AWAITS!**

# 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](http://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.

## The Mile Starts Here

Featuring:  
 Waterfall Park  
 The McCoy Mile  
 INDEPENDENCE ATHLETIC COMPLEX  
 Country Club Park

Little Blue Route

and Church Mile

Join us as we walk a mile, every Wednesday at 9 am, May-Oct. Find out where and when at: [BuildingAHealthierIndependence.org](http://BuildingAHealthierIndependence.org)



## Regional Animal Shelter

21001 E. Hwy. 78, Independence

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

Noon - 8 p.m. Tuesday-Friday  
 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Call (816) 621-7722

Always Spay or Neuter!



Become a fan of the City of Independence at [www.facebook.com](http://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](http://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.

## CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor**
- Eileen Weir 325-7027
- City Council Office** 325-7022
- [www.independencemo.org/citycouncil](http://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

## 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 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](http://www.City7.TV)

\*Denotes live meeting, all others are rebroadcasts.