

# CityScene



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www.independencemo.org  
City of Independence, MO

## Improving The Trip - Streets & Sidewalks Repair Programs

This summer the City of Independence will continue the street overlay program with 55 center line miles of streets scheduled to receive resurfacing. Street overlay not only produces a smoother ride for travelers, but also reduces street maintenance costs.

The Street Sales Tax approved by voters funds the overlay program. Each year the streets which have not yet received a new surface are evaluated. Those in the worst condition receive priority for that year.

Street surfaces are first "milled" to remove the top layer of asphalt, then a 2" thick new asphalt surface is applied. Some sidewalk ramps and pavement markings will accompany the street work.

Along with keeping the streets in good condition, Public Works also oversees construction projects to make improvements for pedestrians.

Not only our residents, but also the tourists visiting the Historic Independence Square will benefit from the recently completed Truman Road Streetscape. Federal highway funds paid a majority of the project cost. From Osage to Noland

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**24 Hwy. Sidewalks From Brookside to Overton**

Road, the sidewalks and curbs were completely redone, including the addition of pedestrian benches.

Sidewalks were also completed along 24 Highway from Brookside to Overton. About 80% of the City's cost of this project was paid by federal highway funds.

Among the upcoming projects in the Sidewalks to Schools Program is the Nativity School Sidewalk project, to add sidewalks on Blue Ridge, from 36th Terrace to Sterling. This project is currently being designed and will also utilize federal funds.

For information about street projects in Independence, contact the Public Works Department at (816) 325-7600.



**Truman Road Near The Square**



**Nativity School - Sidewalks Project Now Under Design**

## Councilmembers Sworn In April 18

Councilmembers representing each of the four Independence City Council districts were sworn in by the City Clerk during the Council meeting held Monday, April 18. Each will serve a four-year term.

Re-elected on April 5 by Independence voters were incumbents Curt Dougherty (District 2) and Scott Roberson (District 3). Incumbent Councilmember Tom VanCamp (District 4) was unopposed.

Council District 1 will now be represented by John Perkins, who previously served two terms on the Council. He replaces Marcie Gragg, who chose not to run for another term.

During the April 18 meeting, outgoing Councilmember Gragg was recognized for her career of public service, including eight years on the Planning Commission before winning a special election in 2006 to finish the District 1 representative term of the newly-elected Mayor Don Reimal. She was then re-elected to two full terms on the City Council as the District 1 representative.



**John Perkins for District 1**

**Curt Dougherty for District 2**



**Scott Roberson for District 3**

**Tom VanCamp for District 4**

## Tips: How to Buy An LED Light Bulb

All of us are familiar with the brightness of traditional wattage incandescent light bulbs. Wattage is an indicator of how much energy the bulb uses when it lights. We may use a 40-watt bulb in an accent lamp, but use one or two 100-watt bulbs in an overhead light fixture.

Manufacturers are now offering light bulbs for the home using LED technology. Although still more expensive than traditional bulbs, the difference in life expectancy and amount of energy used will more than make up for the initial purchase cost. Switch to LED bulbs for those hard-to-reach places, and change your most frequently used lights first.

While there is a correlation between wattage and brightness in traditional bulbs, LED bulbs use lumens (lm) as the indicator of brightness instead of wattage. It takes much less wattage to light an LED bulb. This can be confusing when buying LED bulbs to replace traditional bulbs.

When making the change to LED, first determine how much light you need.

A 60-watt traditional bulb is equivalent to an 800 lm LED bulb; a 100-watt bulb translates to a 1600 lm LED bulb.

The color of the light is determined by the Kelvin (K) scale. For a whiter light, look for LED bulbs with a color temperature of 3500-4100K; lower K numbers mean the light will appear more yellow. In general, most ENERGY STAR certified bulbs are made to match the color of traditional bulbs, at 2700-3000K.

For more information about selecting the right LED light bulb, go to <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/led-lighting> or <http://www.cnet.com/news/light-bulb-buying-guide/> or contact IPL by calling Jennifer Newbold at (816) 325-7485.



## EcoFest June 4 "It's All About Water!"

Join the City of Independence and its many local partners from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 4 at Waterfall Park, 4501 S. Bass Pro Drive, for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual EcoFest. There is no admission fee and events are planned for the whole family.

Independence EcoFest is an interactive education festival aimed at teaching children and families the importance of preserving and protecting our natural resources and the environment. "Protecting our water resources is crucial to the environment," said WPC Director Dick Champion. "We encourage everyone to come out for this award-winning event."

New this year will be an appearance by the StoneLion Puppet Theatre. Don't miss the returning and ever-popular edible ice cream aquifers interactive display by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and the stream table that demonstrates stream bank erosion by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Water-themed games and activities will be located throughout the park.



For more information, visit the City's Web site at [www.independencemo.org/wpc](http://www.independencemo.org/wpc) and [www.indepmo.org/ecofest](http://www.indepmo.org/ecofest) or call WPC at (816) 325-7711.

### LED Bulb Cost Comparison

#### Traditional Incandescent Bulb

Average cost: \$1 to \$10  
Average wattage: 40W to 150W  
Avg. life expectancy: 1,000–1,600 hrs.

#### LED Bulb

Average cost: \$5 to \$25  
Average wattage: 4W to 22W  
Avg. life expectancy: 35,000–50,000 hrs.

## Follow Garage & Yard Sale Guidelines

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.

- Discourage your customers from blocking your neighbors' driveways or encroaching on the sidewalks.

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.

## Swimming Pools Require Care

If your summer plans include a home swimming pool, follow these steps from Water Pollution Control (WPC) for the proper disposal of pool water discharge:

- ◊ *Dechlorinate the water and test the chlorine level before discharge*
- ◊ *Do not add chemicals for at least one week before draining*
- ◊ *Ensure the pH is between 6 and 9*
- ◊ *Remove or strain out algae, sediment, and debris and place into the garbage*
- ◊ *Discharge the water over a grassy area to slow it down and aerate it*
- ◊ *Discharge slow enough (over 24 hours is best) to avoid causing erosion*
- ◊ *Do not cause flooding or other nuisance conditions on adjacent properties*
- ◊ *Dispose of filter backwash into the sanitary sewer, not to the storm drain*

For more information call WPC at (816) 325-7711.

# Summer Sizzles All Around Town With June Events

Kick off a sizzling summer full of fun with the annual Strawberry Festival at the Vaile Mansion, 1500 N. Liberty, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on

**Saturday, June 4.** This annual celebration of all things strawberry features more than 600 lbs. of the delicious red fruit served up in a variety of



desserts including shortcake and ice cream. There will be more than 100 booths set up around the Mansion offering antiques, unique crafts, live performances and hands-on activities for kids.

Admission to the Strawberry Festival grounds is free; tours of the Vaile Mansion available for a fee. Park at William Chrisman High School at Noland and Hwy. 24, and ride the free shuttle bus to the Festival.

The classic Woody Allen play, *“Play It Again, Sam”* will be presented by the City Theatre of Independence in June. Enjoy the antics as an overanxious film critic sinks into depression after his wife leaves him. Inspired by Humphrey Bogart’s dark persona, he attempts to emulate him in flirting with women.

Performances at the Powerhouse Theatre inside the Sermon Center, 201 N. Dodgion (Noland and Truman Road) are at 8 p.m. **Thursday through Saturday, June 2, 3 and 4; Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11;** closing with a 2 p.m. matinee on **Sunday, June 12.** Call (816) 325-7367 for tickets. General admission tickets are \$12; adults 60+ \$11.

If you enjoy good wine and craft beers, don’t miss the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine & Brew Walk on **Friday, June 10.** From 6 to 9 p.m. you can swirl, sip and stroll in and out of various locations during this fundraising event for the preservation and beautification of the Historic Independence Square. Participants receive a souvenir wine glass to try samples from multiple wineries and breweries. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door (limited). For information or to purchase your tickets, call (816) 461-0065 or go to <http://theindependencesquare.com/event/wine-and-brew-walk/>.



Bring the kids to George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Road, for Nature Story Time every Thursday in June. Listen

to good stories, make a nature craft and explore the outdoors starting at 11 a.m. on **June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.**

Who will help Little Red Hen make a garden? Stone Lion Puppets presents “Little Red Hen’s Garden” at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on **Saturday, June 11.** Tickets are \$6 per person and available at the door, but seating is limited. Call the Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Road at (816) 833-9777 for reservations or more information.

Don’t miss the annual Kid’s Fishing Derby on **Saturday, June 11** at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Road. For ages 5-12; \$2 per participant. Register at 8:30 a.m.; join the walk at 9 a.m.; fishing derby runs from 10 to 11:45 a.m. with prizes awarded. Bring your own fishing pole and bait.



Not to be left out, the National Frontier Trails Museum at 318 W. Pacific presents Family Fun Day, also on **Saturday, June 11.** From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. families can explore the past with free outside activities including music, crafts, games, panning for “gold,” and watching a marionette performance. Visit the encampments of mountain men, pioneers and Civil War soldiers. Catch a free wagon ride to and from The Square. For more information call the Museum at (816) 325-7575.



The Children’s Performing Theatre will present *Summer Fantasy* in the Powerhouse Theatre, 201 N. Dodgion at 7 p.m. on **Friday, June 24.** The production is a compilation of reading, skits and monologues from the Children’s Theatre workshops held at the center. Open seating with tickets \$3 per person at the door. Call (816) 325-7367 for information.

It’s *Breakfast & Blooms* at the Bingham from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on **Saturday, June 25.** Arrive any time between 8 and 10 a.m. to enjoy the simple pleasure of a home-style breakfast with eggs, sausage, country potatoes and all the trimmings.



Homemade baked goods will be available at the Bake Sale. The Bingham grounds and gardens will kick off the Garden Tour, beginning at 10 a.m. Get inspired for your own garden on this tour, featuring local private gardens.

Tickets for *Breakfast & Blooms* are \$25, which includes breakfast, the garden tour and a tour of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate (Estate tour can be taken later). For tickets or information, call (816) 461-3491.

For more summer events and activities, see the Calendar of Events at [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org) or contact the Tourism Department at (816) 325-7111.

## Are You Ready? Emergency Preparedness Festival June 18

Are you ready if a disaster should strike? Learn how to protect yourself and your family at the Emergency Preparedness Festival being held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 18.

Come to the parking lot at 705 W. Walnut for this free and family-friendly event. Visit the many display booths to gather useful tips and information on emergency preparedness.



Sponsored by the Independence Fire Department, CERT, American Red Cross, and Independence Emergency Preparedness Division.

For more information contact Dante Gliniecki, Emergency Preparedness Manager, at (816) 325-7133.

## Important Safety Tip: House Numbers

Independence emergency responders remind you to make sure your house number is visible from the street. Not only are legible house numbers required by city code, it’s important for your safety.

In case of an emergency, whether you call the police or fire departments, or for emergency medical assistance, seconds count. Time spent trying to find the correct address could make all the difference.

Walk to the street and make sure your house numbers are easy to spot, whether it’s for emergency responders – or for a pizza delivery.

# Directory

CityScene is published monthly by the City Manager's Office, 111 East Maple Street, Independence, Missouri 64050. For information call 325-7170. 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 Utilities** 325-7727
- 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.

**Saturday, May 14**

**875 Vista Avenue**

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

- Trash:** Cars, \$11; Trucks, Vans, SUVs, or Trailers 8' or Under - \$16; Trailers Over 8' - \$26
- Brush:** Limbs, Firewood, Bushes, Stumps. No Leaves or Grass: All vehicles and trailers, \$11/load
- Major Appliances:** \$15 Each
- Batteries; Lawnmowers:** Free
- Tires:** Car, \$2; Mounted Car, \$4; Truck, \$5; Mounted Truck, \$11; Farm/Tractor, \$16

## Next Drop-Off Saturday, June 11

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

## 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!**



## The Mile Starts Here 2.0

Everyone is welcome. See you there!

**June 1 - 9 a.m. Mile Walk**  
Waterfall Park, 4501 S. Bass Pro Dr.  
Meet in the parking lot near the playground.

**June 9 - 8:30 p.m. Lazy River Walk\***  
Adventure Oasis 2100 S. Hub Dr.  
\*First 50 people are free; then \$2 per person. Wear a swimsuit and come early. Participation will be limited to 120.

**June 11 - 9 a.m. Family Walk**  
George Owens 1601 S. Speck Rd.  
Meet at the main pavilion near the parking lot at the Nature Center. Walk at 9 a.m. Kids Fishing Derby from 10 a.m. - Noon.

**June 28 - 9 a.m. Parents & Strollers**  
Little Blue Trail 20140 E. Jackson Dr.  
Meet at the trailhead near Coldstone Creamery.



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.

## 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 less than 27" and \$40 for larger TVs; wood console or rear projection TVs \$50. 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](http://www.independencemo.org/citycouncil)
- Councilmembers**
- John Perkins 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**  
John Pinch 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](http://www.City7.TV)  
\*Denotes live meeting, all others are rebroadcasts.