



## Precautions Can Help Avoid Mosquito Problems

Summer is here, and that buzzing you hear may be a mosquito looking for a tasty meal.

Usually, a mosquito bite only results in a red bump and annoying itch. However, it can lead to more serious consequences. Mosquitoes are known for spreading dangerous diseases, such as malaria, dengue fever, the West Nile virus, and more recently, the Zika virus.

With a little planning and preparation, you can enjoy the beauty and fun of the outdoors without getting eaten alive. Remember the three Ds to help you protect yourself: Drain, Dress, and Defend.

**Drain** any standing water around where you live, which mosquitoes need to breed. To keep your house and yard free of mosquito pools:

- Unclog roof gutters.
- Change water in birdbaths and children's wading pools at least weekly.
- Get rid of old tires in your yard.
- Empty outdoor flower pots regularly

or store them upside down so they can't collect water.

- Drain your fire pit if it collects water.



**Dress** appropriately to prevent mosquitoes from getting to your skin. Weather permitting, wear items such as long sleeves, socks and closed-toe shoes, long pants - possibly tucked into the tops of your socks, light colors, and a hat which protects your ears and neck.

**Defend** against mosquitoes with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered topical insect repellent. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are

proven safe and effective. The most effective insect repellents in the United States include one of three active ingredients:

- DEET (N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide)
- Picaridin
- Oil of lemon eucalyptus (a plant-based compound)



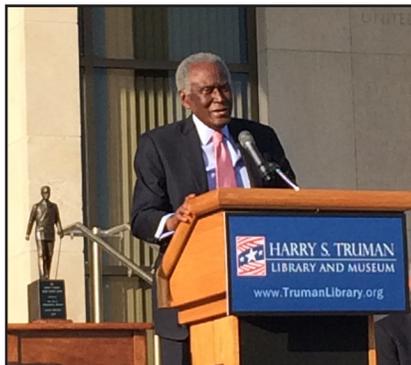
Avoid outdoor activities from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active and stay in places that are protected with window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.

Don't let the itch get to you this summer! For more information, contact the Independence Health Department at (816) 325-7185.

## Alvin Brooks Receives Truman Award in Ceremony May 6

The 2016 Harry S Truman Public Service Award was presented to Alvin Brooks in ceremonies held May 6 on the steps of the Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum, 500 W. U.S. Highway 24, following a public reception.

"The Harry S. Truman Award for Public Service is the highest honor bestowed by the City of Independence," said City of Independence Mayor Eileen Weir. "The Commission is excited to honor Alvin Brooks with this prestigious award for his tremendous leadership and character."



Alvin Brooks received the 2016 Truman Public Service Award.

The award is presented annually to an outstanding American citizen who best typifies and possesses the qualities of dedication, industry, ability, honesty and integrity that distinguished President Harry S. Truman.

Brooks is the 42nd recipient of this national honor and will join an elite list of honorees including former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford and Bill Clinton.

Throughout his life, Brooks has served as a volunteer, leader and consultant to numerous community groups, organizations and causes.

The Truman Award Commission also presented the 2016 Harry S Truman Special Recognition Award

to the Community Services League of Independence. The Community Services League, founded in 1916, was recognized in appreciation and acknowledgment of its dedication in providing aid and support to people in need. Currently it operates 11 service locations in eight Jackson County communities, and assisted more than 15,000 local residents in 2015.



Cliff Mohn (left) and Doug Cowan for the Community Services League.

## Celebrate Summer With July Events in Independence

Join in the festivities and celebrate America's birthday on **Monday, July 4!** Start the day in the traditional way, with the Children's Parade. Children of all ages will be dressed in their patriotic best, riding decorated bikes, wagons and scooters. The parade lineup starts at 9:30 a.m., then at 10 a.m. will head north from 23<sup>rd</sup> St. and Main, ending up on The Square.

Bring your blankets or lawn chairs to the pageant grounds behind The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 705 W. Walnut for a free outdoor concert from 7 to 9 p.m., featuring the Spirit of Independence Band, followed by the Hughes Brothers, from Branson, MO. After the sun goes down, watch the sky for the traditional fireworks display from the Mormon Visitors Center, 437 W. Walnut. Come early, as parking is limited.

It's time to laugh with the "Comedy Show with Mr. Puppet," performed by ventriloquist Bob Abdou. Showtimes will be at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on **Saturday, July 9** at the Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Road. Tickets are \$6 per person and reservations are requested, as seating is limited. To reserve your seats, call (816) 833-9777.



Would you love to browse for antiques and crafts in a beautiful outdoor setting? It's the 29th Annual Bingham-Waggoner Antique & Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on **Saturday, July 9**. More than 100 antique dealers and crafters will be on hand with outstanding collectibles and original crafts for sale on the Estate grounds at 313 W. Pacific. The Spirit of Independence Community Band will play at noon.

Don't miss the concession stands, offering tasty treats of Polish sausages, hot dogs and hamburgers as well as "Walking Tacos." Share a bag of kettle corn as you stroll, enjoy some icy lemonade and homemade cookies, or just sit and enjoy the shade from a nearby tree. There will be a door prize drawing every hour.

Fair admission is free; Mansion tours available 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for regular fee. For more information, call Shireen at (816) 461-3491.

Each **Thursday in June, July and August**, it's Nature Story Time at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Rd. With two opportunities each day, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., there are lots of chances for the younger kids to explore nature, hear great stories and make nature crafts. Upcoming topics include:

- July 7: Night Owls
- July 14: Going Batty
- July 21: Catch Dragonflies
- July 28: Catch Frogs and Toads



Summer is the perfect time to browse the historic Independence Square. From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, **July 14-16**, it's the Dog Days of Summer Sale! Merchants around The Square will be having a special sidewalk sale, offering discounts on selected items. After shopping, stop in one of the many cafés, taverns or restaurants and enjoy a delicious meal. Need more information? Visit [www.theindependencesquare.com](http://www.theindependencesquare.com).

It's a Patriots Day Celebration **Saturday, July 16** at the Englewood Arts District, located on Winner Road just west of Sterling. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. you can participate in a flag trivia contest and traditional games such as horseshoes, a bean bag toss, and fishing. The Englewood Business Association will host an "old-fashioned" ice cream social from 2 to 4 p.m.

Part of the celebration will include displays of patriotic artwork featuring the American flag. There will also be collection points throughout the District where you can drop off worn, tattered or damaged American flags for proper, respectful disposal by the Boy Scouts.

Don't miss Dragonfly Daze at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Rd. on **Saturday, July 23!** From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the kids can run around the lakes to catch dragonflies, and even make their own dragonfly to take home. Nature Park staff will supply nets, craft materials, and all kinds of dragonflies. Bring sunscreen, a refillable water bottle and insect repellent. Questions? Call (816) 325-7115.

For information about other events and activities in July, check the Calendar of Events on the City's website at [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org) or call the Tourism Department at (816) 325-7111.

## What is the Board of Adjustment?

The City of Independence has several boards and commissions made up of community volunteers who have a passion for their community. One of those boards is the Board of Adjustment.

The Board of Adjustment was created by Chapter 89 of the Missouri Revised Statutes and the Independence City Charter. It consists of five citizen volunteers and three alternate members, all of whom are appointed by the City Council. This Board interacts with the Community Development Department, neighborhoods and citizens as part of the process.

The Board of Adjustment has two main functions within the City: First, to hear and determine appeals relating to the enforcement of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO); and second, to con-

sider variances or permission to modify the regulations of UDO on a case-by-case basis.

The Board of Adjustment reviews and considers all of the information on the current case. As part of the process, members ask questions of both City staff and the applicant to gain further understanding on the case. At the conclusion of the case, the Board votes whether or not to approve the application.

The Board of Adjustment meets on the third Thursday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 E. Maple. If you are interested in being appointed to the Independence Board of Adjustment, please visit [http://www.ci.independence.mo.us/cityclerk/Application\\_Info](http://www.ci.independence.mo.us/cityclerk/Application_Info), or contact the City Clerk's office at (816) 325-7010.

## Annual Breakfast Honors Volunteers

Each year, the City of Independence honors the many volunteers who donate their time to assist both residents and visitors to Independence.

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast was held Saturday, April 16 at the Truman Memorial Building. Breakfast was served to 300 guests by City Council members and City department heads. During the meal, the attendees were entertained by several talented student vocalists with the Van Horn Concert Choir.

Following breakfast, Mayor Pro Tem Chris Whiting expressed thanks on behalf



of the City to the 175 volunteers attending, who were each presented with a canvas tote bag displaying the City's logo.

A framed print of the USS Harry S Truman was presented to the City by Judge Mauer on behalf of the USS Harry S Truman Foundation. The print will be displayed at the Truman Memorial Building.

Volunteers are always needed at the various historic properties, especially during the busy summer season. To volunteer with the City of Independence, visit the website at <http://www.ci.independence.mo.us/Volunteer> for more information.

## HHW Collection Nets 57,502 lbs.

The 19th annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event held April 2 brought 548 vehicles, representing 677 households, delivering 57,502 lbs. of waste products for proper disposal. That is an average of 104.93 lbs. per car.

The types of products dropped off in the largest quantities were paint, oil, pesticides/toxics, aerosol cans and car batteries.



Water Pollution Control Director Dick Champion said each year the Independence event is the largest single collection event sponsored by any city in the region.

The Independence Police Department was also on hand and collected ammunition, road flares and two firearms.

With your help, there are now 57,502 lbs. less waste in the landfills and sewers, helping to keep our environment healthy and happy.

## Popsicles in the Park Returns

On Tuesdays in June and July, it's time for Popsicles in the Park! The program will visit a different park each week, so bring everyone out for this free, fun family event. A variety of performers will be there from 6:30 to 8 p.m. to entertain while you enjoy free popsicles! Call (816) 325-7115 or (816) 325-7843 for more information.

- June 7 at Sycamore Hills Park, 3700 S. Haden Dr.
- June 14 at Fairmount Park, 300 N. Home Ave.
- June 21 at Glendale Park, 16010 E. Crackerneck Rd.
- June 28 at Beckett Park, 2701 S. Cherokee St.
- July 5 at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck Rd.
- July 12 at St. Clair Park, 433 S. Farley
- July 19 at Dickinson Park, 1700 Dickinson Road
- July 26 at Country Club Park, 2930 S. Norton Ave.

## Drug Take Back Collects 450 lbs.

The 2016 Drug Take Back event held April 30 included collection of 22 boxes of unused or expired medications or pills.

More than 450 lbs. were collected and transported to the DEA in Overland Park, KS for destruction by incineration.

## Independence Farmers Market Now Open

For the best in fresh fruits, vegetables and produce, stock up at the Independence Farmers' Market at Walnut and Liberty, just two blocks south of The Square.

The Market opens at 6 a.m. each **Wednesday and Saturday**, June through October. You can also find local craft and other vendors offering different and unique items for sale. Come early for the best selection!

**Offices of Emergency Preparedness**  
2016 Community Preparedness

Emergencies can strike at any time and without warning. What would you do? Does your family have a plan?

Join the Independence Emergency Preparedness staff for a free class on the third Saturday of each month at the FEMA Storm Shelter, behind Fire Station #1 at 950 N. Spring Street.

From 10 a.m. to noon, you will learn the basics about how to take care of yourself and your family in a disaster. Questions? Call (816) 325-7167.

2016 Class Schedule	
July 16:	Utility Safety
Aug. 20:	First Aid Basics
Sept. 17:	72-Hour Kits
Oct. 15:	Weather Safety
Nov. 19:	Pet Preparedness
Dec. 17	Food Storage

Request, comment, or complaint? try the **Action Center** on the City's website, [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org).

If you would like City staff to check into an issue, you may report it through the Action Center on the City's website, [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org).

### Can't Wait for CityScene?

CityScene is available on the City's website on the first day of each month. Go to [www.independencemo.org](http://www.independencemo.org) and click on "Newsroom." You will find both current and past issues.

# 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** 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.

**Saturday, June 11**

**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 Less than 8' - \$16;  
Trailers 8' or Longer - \$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, July 9**

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

Independence  
Farmers' and Crafters'  
Market  
**Accepting SNAP!**  
(EBT/Food Stamps)  
**Open for the Season!**

*Walnut St. & Liberty St.  
Independence, MO 64050*

*Sat: 6:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. (May-Oct.)  
Wed: 6:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. (June-Oct.)*



INDEPENDENCE  
**HEALTH**  
DEPARTMENT

 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 (816) 325-7762.

## 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!**



## 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 7 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.