

Keep up on the latest news

Over the last five years, the City of Independence has dramatically increased the ways our stakeholders can access information. From newsletters, to social media posts, to our website - you find the information you need, when you need it.

As we look at the many platforms we share information on, we have started to see opportunities to better serve our citizens. To more effectively use the mix of communications, we will be decreasing the number of the CityScene newsletters produced each year and transitioning to a quarterly publication. The quarterly CityScene will be four pages, include as many activities for the next three months as possible, and continue to contain important updates for our residents. But this isn't the only way we are sharing information.

You can now sign up to receive:

- The bi-weekly Independence Today newsletter with an overview of the latest Council meeting, upcoming events, and relevant news stories for the Independence community.
- The monthly Utilities Newsletter with tips and resources for our City of Independence Utilities customers.
- City press releases and notifications for the latest Burn Ban, cooling or warming site, and more.

Signing up is simple, just visit indep.us/stayintheknow to make sure we have your latest email address. If you would like to receive a print edition of the CityScene newsletter or Utilities Newsletter, please email City Communications Manager Meg Lewis at mlewis@indepmo.org to get on the list.

Finally, you can always find the latest press releases, CityScene, and Independence Today along with links to all of the City's social media accounts at indep.us/newsroom.

We are proud to share the stories of our community and thank you for wanting to stay informed and engaged about what is happening!

[Sign up for the latest info here](#)



If it's on the ground, it's in our water

During a rainfall or as snow melts, water runs across rooftops, down streets and across parking lots and yards, picking up substances along the way. This stormwater "runoff" often contains materials like chemical fertilizer, pet waste, litter, automotive fluids and yard waste such as leaves and grass clippings. Runoff then washes down storm drains, eventually reaching local rivers and streams where it can pose significant risks to people and wildlife. Water that enters storm drains is not cleaned at wastewater treatment plants before it flows directly into streams, rivers and lakes. While storm drains were designed to divert water from streets, they can transport harmful substances from lawns and streets. Chemicals and bacteria from materials like fertilizer and pet waste are directly deposited into our region's water, causing pollution and endangering public health.

[Learn more at cleanwaterkc.org](http://learnmoreatcleanwaterkc.org)



Upcoming events and programs

It may be cold in February but there are plenty of fun activities planned. Here are just a few:

- [World Wetland Day at George Owens Nature Park, 1601 S. Speck, on Feb. 2 beginning at 1 p.m. This event is free to the public](#)
- [Hobabaloo at the Independence Uptown Market, 211 W. Truman Rd. from 2-4 p.m. This is a free event celebrating National Hedgehog Day.](#)
- [Winter Market at Independence Uptown Market, 211 W. Truman Rd, on Saturday, Feb. 4, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.](#)
- [Come one, come all to the Power Palooza Carnival! Join us at the Roger T. Sermon Community Center on February 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for carnival games, concessions, learning opportunities, entertainment from the puppetry entertainment, jugglers and more! Game tickets are 3 for \\$1. For more information call \(816\) 325-7367.](#)

Thinking about updating your heating or cooling system?

The Independence Home Energy Loan Program can help!



Updating your HVAC system this year?

The Independence Home Energy Loan Program (HELP) is a partnership between the City of Independence Power & Light Department (IPL) and the City Credit Union to provide low-interest loans for eligible energy efficiency upgrades to your home. Loans can be up to \$15,000 and up to a 10 year term.

Owner-occupant residents in Independence can take advantage of the Home Energy Loan Program if they want to replace their current heating and cooling system, water heaters, add insulation to their home, replace windows and exterior doors that meet or exceed ENERGY STAR® specifications.

The process is simple:

1. The homeowner first submits a Home Energy Loan Application to Independence Power and Light.
2. Once approved by the City the homeowner will apply for the terms and conditions of the loan with the City Credit Union. The City Credit Union will notify the homeowner of approval.
3. The homeowner works with contractors from the approved contractor list. All contractors on the approved list are licensed and insured to work in the City of Independence and follow the Independence HELP requirements.
4. The contractor and homeowner schedule an installation date. Once the work is completed the homeowner notifies IPL to schedule for the Certificate of Completion to be completed.
5. The homeowner takes the Certificate of Completion to the Credit Union for proceeds to be issued to the contractor.

For more information please visit our website at indep.us/iplhelp or call Jennifer Newbold at (816) 325-7485.



Upcoming City Council Meetings



Where do you think funds should be focused?

Complete a quick survey to show where you think the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year budget should focus at indep.us/budgetsurvey2324



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

111 E. Maple Ave | Independence, MO 64050 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.