



NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES
More at www.stcharlesil.gov

July

City Council and Committee Meetings

City Council 7 p.m.	2
Government Operations 7:05 p.m.	2
City Council 7 p.m.	16
Government Operations 7:05 p.m.	16
Government Services 7:00 p.m.	23

A complete list of meetings, including Commission, Board & Task Force meetings is @ www.stcharlesil.gov/meetings

The City of St. Charles offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4 in observance of the Independence Day Holiday

Sustainability Initiative Generates \$3 Million

In May 2010, the City initiated the St. Charles Sustainability Initiative to balance the budget and maintain strong financial footing during very difficult economic conditions. The initiative supports a main objective of the strategic plan: to maintain an optimal service delivery framework that balances resources with needs.

The City solicited suggestions from staff and community stakeholders. After reviewing and evaluating more than 130 ideas received, the Mayor and City Council approved implementation of 54 ideas in these five areas:

1. Capital Projects & Assets
2. City Services & Programs
3. Employee Compensation/Benefits
4. Support for External Agencies/Groups
5. Taxes and Fees

To date, 34 ideas have been implemented, resulting in more than \$3 million in either cost savings or revenue generation. Four large-scale ideas implemented (and their values) include:

- Voluntary separation incentive program for city employees, resulting in reductions in the workforce (\$900,000)
- Changes to the employee health insurance program (\$400,000)
- Reduction in front-line engine companies related to the termination of the relationship with fire protection district (\$750,000)
- Elimination of low-use vehicles in the city's fleet, or extension of the replacement schedule (\$800,000)

The outcomes have been extremely positive, and more is to come. Thirteen additional ideas are in the process of being implemented. We would like to thank everyone who participated in this collaborative process. For more information about the Sustainability Initiative, visit www.stcharlesil.gov.

July 4th Celebration

Pottawatomie Park is the Place to be on the 4th!

Bring your family and friends to Pottawatomie Park for some food, fun, entertainment and an amazing fireworks display at the annual St. Charles July 4th Celebration Wednesday, July 4. There are plenty of family-friendly activities all day long--picnic in the park, splash in Swanson Pool, enjoy a round at River View Miniature Golf.

The Fox Valley Concert Band performs in the amphitheater from 4-5:30 p.m. Local favorite, Red Woody, rocks the stage in the historic pavilion from 6 p.m. to dark. Fireworks begin at dark and are best viewed from either Pottawatomie Park or Ferson Creek Park.

For more information, call 630-513-6200 or visit www.stcparks.org.



It's Hot Out There! Please Remember Parkway Trees When Watering

Unusually hot, dry conditions are leaving many trees thirsty. Watering is one of the most important things you can do to care for your trees. And for newly planted trees, regular watering is essential.

Every new parkway tree the City plants receives a "gator bag" slow release watering bag. Normally, the City waters new trees about once a month from June through September. We have accelerated that schedule due to the excessively dry conditions. But if your parkway tree appears thirsty in between these waterings, you may want to refill the bag. The life of the tree may depend on it! Simply lift the white "Tregator" tag to expose the hole in the bag, insert the hose and fill the bag with water. If you have questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 630-377-4405.



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International Cycling Competition Rolls in to Downtown St. Charles

Breakaway from the Summertime blahs at Sammy's St. Charles Prairie State Criterium Race Sunday, July 29. Downtown St. Charles will host local and international cyclers as they compete on a nearly one-mile course along the Fox River, through 1st St., Illinois St., Prairie St., and Riverside Avenue. The event is the first of the Prairie State Cycling Series and is brought to you by Sammy's Cycling Club.



Eight separate races of various competitive levels will be going on throughout the day, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The races are open to professionals and amateurs alike, with cash prizes awarded to adult race winners. Also, there will be a youth race sponsored by the St. Charles Park District. For more information and to register for the competition, please visit www.prairiestatecyclingseries.com. The advance registration deadline is July 25.

While at the races, be sure to visit the Fox Island

Square Block Party. Sponsored by Arcedium Coffeehouse, Bistro One West, Blue Goose Market, Bull & Bear Tobacco Shop, Kimmer's Ice Cream and the Wine Exchange, there will be food, fun and giveaways. When you stop in

all six stores, you're eligible to win free gift cards—no purchases necessary.

Please be aware that streets around the race course will be closed. Also, the

Blue Goose parking lot and public lot at the southwest corner of 1st Street and Illinois Street are open only to customers of the businesses mentioned above. General parking is available at the public parking deck on 1st Street and is accessible from 2nd Street.

For more information, visit the Sammy's Cycling Club website at www.sammyscyclingclub.org or contact the Economic Development Department at EconDev@stcharlesil.gov.

Take Extra Care with Outdoor Fireplaces & Fire Pits

The St. Charles Fire Department would like to remind everyone of the guidelines for using outdoor fireplaces and fire pits. These regulations are especially important with the hot, dry weather we have been experiencing this summer. The City’s Fire Prevention Code, Title 15, Chapter 15.28, allows these uses of outdoor fireplaces:

- The unit should be at least 15 ft. from any structure (house/garage/deck) and in an open lawn area. Recreational fires not contained in an outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or fire pit, should be 25 ft. from any structure or combustible material.
- Use only clean, well-seasoned wood—no leaves, compost, brush, waste materials of any kind or holiday decorations/trees.
- The fire should not burn for more than 2 hours and must be constantly attended until extinguished. The fire must be properly extinguished prior to leaving unattended.
- Some type of fire extinguisher must be available for immediate use (ex. garden hose).
- The fire must be 3 ft. or less in diameter and 2 ft. or less high or according to manufacturer’s instructions.
- Open burning is prohibited when weather conditions or local circumstances make it hazardous. Be alert to wind speed/direction and courteous to neighbors.
- The City Fire Code Official may order any open burning be extinguished if it creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.



The City recommends following a “good neighbor” policy to minimize complaints. This allows the Fire Department to be available for emergencies. For more information, contact the Fire Department at 630-377-4458.

Brush Pick Up Schedule

East Side	West Side
July 16	July 23
Aug. 20	Aug. 27
Sept. 17	Sept. 24
Oct. 15	Oct. 22
Nov. 19	Nov. 26

Brush (branches at least 3 ft. in length and less than 12” in diameter) must be placed on the parkway, cut ends facing the street before 7 a.m.

Do not tie bundles of brush with rope or wire. Brush must not be piled higher than 4 ft. and never piled in the street.

Brush also can be placed in paper yard waste bags for pick-up with regular refuse. Either bags with the City logo or generic bags can be used. Generic bags require one refuse sticker on each bag.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 630-377-4405, or visit www.stcharlesil.gov.



According to the Environmental Defense Fund, idling for 10 seconds or longer burns more gas than restarting the engine.



BID Designation Considered for East Main Street Corridor

The City of St. Charles currently is studying the potential for creating a Business Improvement District (BID) along the Main Street commercial corridor on the east side, from 6th Avenue to the city's eastern border.

Communities in Illinois are permitted to designate a BID to revitalize, redevelop and remove blight from a particular area. By exploring a Business Improvement District designation, the City is taking a proactive approach to creating economic development opportunities to address underdeveloped, underutilized and/or declining commercial areas of the city.

According to state statute governing BID designation, communities are allowed to enact a sales tax and/or hotel tax of no less than 0.25%, and no greater than 1.0% in support of the district. All revenues generated from these taxes must be used only for activities that materially benefit properties located within the district boundaries, such as economic incentives, redevelopment programs and infrastructure.

An eligibility study was completed which determined the area does qualify as a BID. At its June 18 meeting, the City Council approved moving forward in preparing a District Redevelopment Plan, a prerequisite in considering formal BID designation.

For more information, contact the Economic Development Department at 630-443-4093 or EconDev@stcharlesil.gov.

Welcome New Businesses!

WEST GATEWAY

2 Brothers Gyros & Beef

1850 Lincoln Hwy., 630-513-1590

Ernie's Scrap Metal, Inc.

1041 Porter Ct. #1, 630-930-3245

Evolve Salon

2075 Prairie St., 630-465-1436

Flannery School of Irish Dance

1400 Foundry St., 312-344-0957

Home Plate Batting & Pitching

1500 Foundry St., 630-513-9999

Tryad Solutions, Inc. Promotional Products

2015 Dean St. #6A, 630-549-0079

U Spa

615 S. Randall Rd. #100, 630-672-8886

DOWNTOWN

Circa Vintage Gallery Arts & Crafts

17 N. 2nd Ave., 630-660-8160

Kyrias Art Studio & Classical Atelier

116 Cedar Ave., 707-467-9651

Riverside Insurance Associates

10 S. Riverside Ave., Suite A, 630-797-3700

EAST GATEWAY

Altus Nota, LLC Financial Planning

1750 E. Main St. #120, 630-444-1700

Evans Counseling

103 N. 11th Ave. #101, 630-733-1559

O'Brien, Murray & Lovette Insurance Agency

700 E. Main St., Suite A, 630-762-0852

SSParxx Photography

1020 Cedar Ave. #129, 630-776-3934

EAST GATEWAY - INDUSTRIAL

Alps Wire Rope Corporation

2530 Production Dr., 630-893-3888

GJY Top Tire Shop & Services

1830 Wallace Ave. #216, 630-290-0165



Comprehensive Plan Workshops Scheduled

Mark your calendars for:

July 31 - Downtown and West Gateway Focus Area Plans Open House

Aug. 9 - Charlestowne Mall Visioning Workshop

For more information, visit city website at www.stcharlesil.gov and click on the "Comprehensive Plan" badge at the bottom of the page.



EAB Update

Since the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation was first detected in St. Charles, the Public Works Department has been actively inspecting the City's ash trees. Any ash trees in the public right-of-way (parkway) that have been confirmed with EAB are marked with a purple dot. If the confirmed EAB tree is selected for removal and replacement due to the severity of the infestation, it will be marked with a pink dot.



Homeowners adjacent to parkways will receive a letter notifying them if the parkway tree is confirmed with EAB. If it is determined that the tree must be removed, you will receive information about removal, along with a form outlining replacement options. It is important to return the form indicating your choice of a replacement tree within two weeks. If the form is not received, a selection will be made for you, consistent with the character of your neighborhood.

It may take more than a month before a tree marked for removal is taken out. After removal, the stump will be ground and the land restored, weather permitting.

Replacement trees will be planted either in the fall (October/November) or spring (April/May/June), depending on when the tree is removed and the species of replacement tree chosen. Information regarding the care of your newly planted tree will be left on your door. It is also available on the City's website at www.stcharlesil.gov.

Considering the evolving nature of this infestation, we encourage citizens to visit the City's website for the most current and accurate EAB information. You also may call the EAB hotline at 630-584-5353, or the Public Works Department at 630-377-4405.

Electric Outage Reporting System

Residents, Register Your Phone Number Today

If you are a St. Charles Electric Utility customer, then be sure to register your phone number with the automated telephone notification system.

Based on caller I.D. technology, the system links customers' phone numbers to their accounts so the location of the outage can be identified automatically when they call to report an issue. It also allows customers to receive updates regarding the outage and a return call to confirm power restoration.

The system can handle heavy call volumes and quickly relays outage information, reducing crew response times.

Residents can register up to three phone numbers by calling the Utility Billing office at 630-377-4426 or registering online at www.stcharlesil.gov.

Combating Pesky Mosquitoes

St. Charles has a robust program for combating mosquito outbreaks, which includes surveillance and monitoring, and larval and adult control. But you can help too. Here's how:

1. Discard buckets, bottles, or any water holding containers sitting outside.
2. Fill in or drain any low places in the yard.
3. Cover trash containers to keep out rainwater.
4. Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.
5. Empty plastic wading pools at least once each week.
6. Make sure your backyard pool is properly cared for while on vacation.
7. Change the water in birdbaths and planters frequently.
8. Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well-trimmed around the house.
9. To prevent bites, the Illinois Department of Public Health encourages residents to use insect repellent, avoid being outdoors during dawn and dusk hours when mosquitoes are most active, and to wear long sleeves.

Residents may call Clarke Mosquito Management directly at 1-800-942-2555 regarding mosquito annoyances, treatments, spraying schedule, dead birds, standing water, etc. You also may visit their website, www.clarke.com or the City website, www.stcharlesil.gov. For other questions, contact the Public Works Department at 630-377-4405.

Important Phone Numbers

City of St. Charles Electric
Utility Outage Hotline
866-444-0016

ComEd Customer Service
800-334-7661

City of St. Charles Public
Works Emergency Phone Line
(for water, sewer, street and other
public works-related emergencies)
630-443-3681

Did You See Your Annual Water Quality Report?

The City of St. Charles is committed to providing a continuous supply of safe, reliable and economical water to its customers. Every year, the Water Division distributes a report that summarizes the quality of the City's drinking water. We are pleased to report that again this year, your tap water met all EPA drinking water health standards. The water is tested daily in accordance with strict EPA regulations, so you can be assured that your drinking water is safe and meets or exceeds all water quality standards as listed in the Safe Drinking Act.

This year's report recently was mailed to all customers and is available on the City website, www.stcharlesil.gov.

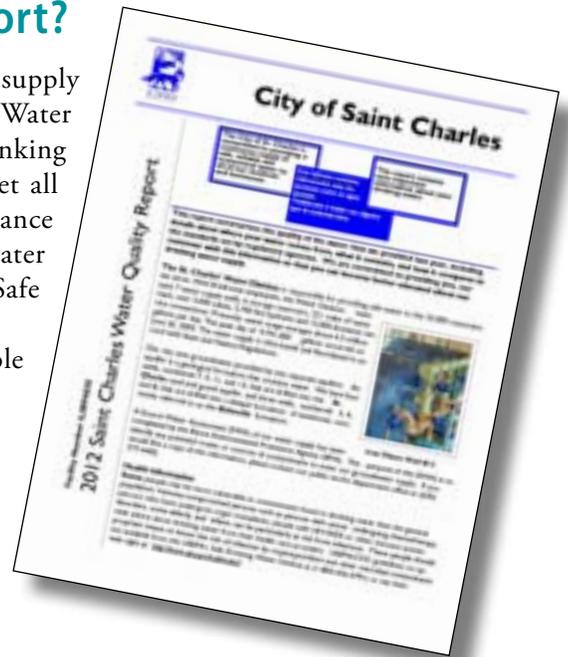
What Is a Water Quality Report?

A water quality report, also called a Consumer Confidence Report, lets you know what contaminants, if any, are in your drinking water and how they may affect your health. It lists all the regulated toxicants that were detected in your water over the preceding calendar year (2011).

What Does a Water Quality Report Tell You?

- The source of the drinking water--river, lake, aquifer, etc.
- EPA regulations and health goals for drinking water contaminants.
- A list of all detected contaminants and their levels.
- Potential health effects of any contaminant detected at a level that violates EPA's health standard.
- Information about cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants for people with weakened immune systems.

For more information, contact the EPA at 800-426-4791 or the St. Charles Public Works Department at 630-377-4405.



New Lawn Watering Permits

A permit is required for watering newly installed sod or seeded lawns. The permit can be obtained at the Utility Billing Office at City Hall or the Public Works Facility at 200 Devereaux Way for \$10. This permit allows a resident to water a new lawn with a sprinkling device(s) for up to eight hours on the first day. The next consecutive nine days, watering is permitted between 12:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., and between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Following this 10-day period, the resident must comply with the water conservation schedule.



Local Flood Hazard Awareness

The summer has been overly dry so far. And while St. Charles generally has not experienced wide spread damage due to flooding, there are local flood hazard areas throughout Kane County. Flooding from the Fox River, Ferson Creek, State Street Creek, 7th Avenue Creek, and Norton Creek usually can be forecast in advance. However flash flooding along these rivers and the numerous tributaries to these waterways may occur suddenly and unexpectedly.

Visit the City's website, www.stcharlesil.gov/flood for additional information and links to various flood-related sites. You also can find out if your property is in the 100-year floodplain and access maps and other flood-related information at the Public Works Engineering Division, 200 Devereaux Way. Elevation Certificates for new development dating back to the early 1990s also are available. Contact the Public Works Engineering Division at 630-377-4486 for further assistance.

Scenes from the Red Gate Bridge Construction



Mayor Donald DeWitte and members of the City Council, along with staff and project engineers, toured the Red Gate Bridge site June 25 to take a look at the progress. So far things are moving along on time and under budget. The bridge is slated to open in December.

The new Red Gate Bridge will extend Red Gate Road across the Fox River to Route 25. The bridge will feature a two-lane car deck and pedestrian walkway that will connect to existing trails on either side of the river. For more information and to see more photos, visit www.redgatebridge.org.



(Photo courtesy of Sandy Bressner – sbressner@shawmedia.com)

The View from Up Here

St. Charles Police Take the Top Spot in Kane County

St. Charles police officers took to the rooftop of the Dunkin' Donuts at 1711 W. Main St. in St. Charles as part of the annual "Cop on Top" campaign June 1. Police departments from across the state participate each year in the event, which raises awareness and donations for Special Olympics Illinois. Our own team, led by Police Chief Jim Lamkin, was the top fundraiser in Kane County, bringing in \$3,425 in donations. Thanks to all who contributed.



Special Olympiad Dusty (center) is pictured with his mom and Officer Marty Sheets.



Deputy Chief Dave Kintz (left) and Chief Jim Lamkin settle in their perch atop the Dunkin' Donuts store.

Christmas in July is Here Event Benefits our Furry Friends

The City's Wellness Team will be hosting a "Christmas in July" event throughout July to benefit these local animal rescue organizations:



- **Rover Rescue** - www.roverrescue.org
- **H.E.L.P.** - www.helpinganimals.org
- **Fox Valley Wildlife Association** - www.foxvalleywildlife.org

Holiday trees are on display at City Hall, Public Works, and the Police Department through July 31. Simply select a tag from the tree (red tags for Rover Rescue, blue tags for H.E.L.P, or white tags for Fox Valley Wildlife) and purchase the item listed on the tag. Then attach the ornament to the unwrapped item(s) and place it under the tree. If you prefer to donate money, please leave your donation with one of our receptionists, and our Wellness Team will be happy to make purchases on your behalf.

Contact the Human Resources office at 630-377-4446 with questions or for more information.

City of St. Charles Directory

Building & Code Enforcement.....	377-4406
City Administrator.....	377-4422
Community Development.....	377-4443
Development Engineering.....	443-3677
Economic Development.....	443-4093
Electric Division.....	377-4407
Engineering Division.....	377-4486
Emergency Management Agency.....	377-4416
Flood Protection Assistance.....	377-4486
Finance/Accounting.....	762-7002
Fire Administration.....	377-4458
Fire Prevention Bureau.....	377-4457
Human Resources.....	377-4446
Mayor Donald P. DeWitte.....	377-4444
Police Admin./Investigation/Crime Prevention.....	377-4435
Public Works-Water/Sewer/Street.....	377-4405
Refuse Pickup Info. (Veolia).....	587-8282
TDD.....	800-526-0844
Utility Billing - Electric/Water/Sewer.....	377-4426
Electric Outage Hotline.....	866-444-0016

Out of sight shouldn't mean out of mind.



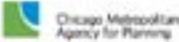
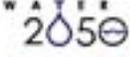
Groundwater is not an endless supply. Help use our resource efficiently.

Did you know...
it can take centuries for rain to replenish a groundwater aquifer so that we may use it again? That's why we must conserve our current groundwater supply.

You can help by...
using a WaterSense-labeled showerhead or toilet.

Thank you for doing your part to help ensure that our community and neighboring communities have a clean and reliable water source now and for future generations!

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/WaterSense



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