



# THE DEN

News & Highlights from the City of St. Charles

July 2015  
www.stcharlesil.gov

## Upcoming Meetings

To see a complete list of meetings go to [www.stcharlesil.gov/meetings](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/meetings)

- Corridor Improvement Commission**  
7.1.15.....7:00 pm
- Historic Preservation Commission**  
7.1.15.....7:00 pm
- Youth Commission**  
7.6.15.....6:00 pm
- City Council**  
7.6.15.....7:00 pm
- Government Operations**  
7.6.15.....7:05 pm
- Plan Commission**  
7.7.15.....7:00 pm
- Tree Commission**  
7.9.15.....7:00 pm
- Planning & Development**  
7.13.15.....7:00 pm
- Historic Preservation Commission**  
7.15.15.....7:00 pm
- Housing Commission**  
7.16.15.....7:00 pm
- Liquor Control Commission**  
7.20.15.....4:30 pm
- City Council**  
7.20.15.....7:00 pm
- Government Operations**  
7.20.15.....7:05 pm
- Plan Commission**  
7.21.15.....7:00 pm
- City Council/Park District/Active River**  
7.23.15.....7:00 pm
- Government Services**  
7.27.15.....7:00 pm

## July 4th Celebration at Pottawatomie Park

*Fun & Entertainment for the Whole Family*

**Have Fun All Day**  
Picnic • Swim • Mini-Golf  
Enjoy Music 'Til Dark

**"Hello Dave"**  
6:30 p.m. to Dark  
Historic Pavilion

**Fox Valley Concert Band**  
4-5:30 p.m. Amphitheater

**Fireworks at Dark**  
Best viewed from Pottawatomie  
Park or Ferson Creek Park



More at [www.stcparks.org](http://www.stcparks.org)

**Please Note:** For everyone's safety, leave fireworks to the experts. Non-professional use of exploding-type fireworks is not allowed in St. Charles.

City offices will be closed Friday, July 3 for the Independence Day holiday weekend

## America in Bloom Judging is July 12-14



We're putting our best face forward this month. The America in Bloom competition kicks off July 12-14, as two program judges visit our town. They will be taken on a guided tour around St. Charles to review floral displays and landscaped areas, along with our heritage preservation, urban forestry and environmental efforts. They also will be paying attention to the overall impression our community conveys.

Visit our [St. Charles in Bloom](http://St.Charles.inBloom) web page to find out more. There, you can take a virtual tour of the judging route and page through our program entry.

There's still time to get involved with last-minute preparations. Contact Steve Amatangelo at [Steve.amatangelo@sartorius-intec.com](mailto:Steve.amatangelo@sartorius-intec.com); Diane Cullen at [dianecullen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianecullen@sbcglobal.net); or Maureen Lewis at [mlewis@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:mlewis@stcharlesil.gov); to see how you can help.

And while you are strolling around our beautiful downtown, be sure to take a look at the Municipal Building display windows. They soon will showcase beautiful floral arrangements, compliments of the Eclectic Garden Florist and Gift Shop, 323 Walnut St.



CITY OF  
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**#1 City for Families**  
St. Charles named by FamilyCircle 2011

## The City Sponsors Business Incentives

The City of St. Charles is motivated to help preserve downtown building stock, fill vacancies, and attract new businesses. To assist with these efforts, the City Council has created the Downtown Business Economic Incentive Program. It is designed to help both new businesses locating to St. Charles and existing businesses interested in expansion or relocation. The program offers 50/50 matching awards for structural, plumbing, electrical, and life safety upgrades (fire sprinklers, alarms, etc.) on the first floor of commercial buildings in the downtown SSA-1B district.

The available award can be as much as \$25,000, subject to City Council approval.

For more information and program requirements, visit the [Downtown Business Economic Incentive Program page](#) of the city website. Or, contact Matt O'Rourke, Economic Development Division Manager, at [morourke@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:morourke@stcharlesil.gov) or 630.443.4093.

## Look for Police and Fire Chairs in the Chair-ty Event



The firefighters at Station 2 used their creativity to rescue this chair from being ordinary.

Police Officer Troy Peacock created this Harley-Davidson chair. Just hop on, sit back and enjoy the view.



## Thanks for Supporting Cop on a Rooftop!

Thanks to all who helped make this year's Cop on a Rooftop fundraiser at the 1711 W. Main St. Dunkin Donuts such a success. Your generosity helped the Police Department raise \$2700 for Illinois Special Olympics! As a bonus, Dunkin Donuts customers were treated to a live performance from the band 1Sam10, featuring our own Deputy Chief Steve Huffman and Sergeant Roger Anderson.



# FEMA

Curious about how often weather disasters strike in your area or elsewhere around the country? FEMA has an interactive resource on their website that can tell you. Check it out [here](#).

## Christmas In July Helps Pet Rescues



Your eyes aren't deceiving you...those are holiday trees in the Municipal Center Building and the Public Works and Police departments. The City's Wellness Team again is accepting donations to help our furry friends at Rover Rescue and H.E.L.P.

- Rover Rescue - [www.roverrescue.org](http://www.roverrescue.org)
- H.E.L.P. - [www.helpinganimals.org](http://www.helpinganimals.org)

Simply pick a tag from a tree and purchase the item listed. Then attach the tag to the unwrapped item(s) and place under the tree by July 24. Or, we will be happy to make purchases on your behalf if you prefer to donate money, which may be left with the City receptionist.

All donations are appreciated, both large and small. Contact the Human Resources Department at [hr@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:hr@stcharlesil.gov) or **630.377.4446** for more information.

### Public Works Fact:

15,352 water quality tests were conducted in 2014.

## Cruise Nites are Back!

*St. Charles Chamber of Commerce & Baltria Corporation present St. Charles Cruise Nites, where classic cars are on display every Tuesday, from 5-8 pm, throughout July and August.*

Car collectors enjoy sharing their cars and car stories with other enthusiasts during Cruise Nites.

If you own a classic car, bring your pride and joy down to Riverside Avenue between Main Street and Illinois Avenue. Please enter on Walnut and South Second avenues, on the east side of the Fox River.

If you do not own one of these beauties, we invite you to head down, bring the family out to see some cruisin' classics. Cruise Nites offers spectators the opportunity to mingle and learn about classic car culture and historical automotive heritage.

There's plenty of fun for the whole family.

**Enjoy Free Admission • Music • Entertainment • Food • Vendors**

Visit the Chamber of Commerce website for more, [www.stcharleschamber.com](http://www.stcharleschamber.com).



## Making Sure Newly Planted Trees Thrive

*Did you receive a new tree in the parkway in front of your home this spring? To minimize transplant shock for new trees and promote healthy plantings:*

- New trees are planted with the trunk flare a few inches above grade. The trunk flare is where the trunk expands at the base of the tree. If the tree is planted too deep, new roots will have difficulty developing because of a lack of oxygen.
- Most newly planted trees will receive a gator bag to supply the tree with water. The City will fill the bag at the time of planting and again when the surrounding landscape is restored.



- To keep the tree watered properly, fill the bag when it is empty. For instructions on how to add water to a gator bag, visit our website [here](#). Please note that watering a new tree should be done no more than twice per month during normal weather conditions. Gator bags are designed to slowly release water. It should empty on its own within 24-48 hours.

- The green twine around the base of newly planted trees is made of a bio-degradable material that will disintegrate within a few months. It is OK to remove the twine about 3 months after planting.
- Mulch is provided at the time the landscape is restored around the tree. This may be several days after a tree has been planted. The City adds 2-4 inches of mulch several inches away from the tree trunk. Piling mulch right up against the trunk--"volcano mulching"--causes decay.

## Scarecrow Fest Turns 30 this Year!

*30 sure looks good on you Scarecrow Fest!*

Did you know Scarecrow Fest was named one of “America’s 15 Best Small-Town Festivals” by Fodor Travel? What a perfect birthday gift for our traditional festival! It’s never too soon to start planning your Scarecrow Fest display. Visit [www.scarecrowfest.com](http://www.scarecrowfest.com) for more information.



## Be Sure to Review the 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 again this year that your tap water met all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water health standards. The water is tested in accordance with strict EPA regulations, so you can be assured your drinking water is safe and meets or exceeds all water quality standards as listed in the Safe Drinking Act.

**The Water Quality Report is available on the City website [here](#).**

You can also get a copy of the report at the Municipal Building or the Public Works facility.

### *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 constituents that were detected in the water either over the preceding calendar year (2014) or the last sampling event. The testing frequency of the constituents varies, not all are tested annually. The frequency of testing is mandated by the EPA.

For more information, contact the EPA at **800.426.4791** or the St. Charles Public Works Department at **630.377.4405** or [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov).

## St. Charles Public Library 2015 Summer Reading Program

The St. Charles Public Library Read to the Rhythm! Summer Reading Program runs now through Wednesday, August 5. The Summer Reading Program is a library annual tradition with more than 2,500 kids, teens and adults joining in the excitement each year. In 2014, a total of 3,131 books were logged.

Adults and young adults can register at the Readers Services or the Adult Reference Desk. Sign-in with your book log at least once between June 10 and August 5 for a chance to win great prizes. Readers finishing grades 6-12 may register in Adult or Youth Services. Those registered who read or listen to books, will receive coupons, a t-shirt and can enter weekly drawings.

Infants, preschool children and elementary students can select from one of five exciting age-appropriate reading clubs in Youth Services at the Book Club Desk. These programs encourage children, youth, and families to read and maintain reading skills during the summer months.

Thirty-five local businesses are sponsoring the program with a variety of food and/or entertainment reward coupons for each level. The library is located at 1 S. Sixth Ave. More information, including a calendar of summer events, can be found at [www.stcharleslibrary.org](http://www.stcharleslibrary.org) or call **630.584.0076**.



## Order a Parkway Tree and the City will Share the Cost

The City again is offering the “50/50 Parkway Tree Planting Program.” Contact the Public Works Department to request a review of your parkway if you are interested. Parkway must be reviewed and approved for planting before an order will be placed. Please do not send payment now. Once approved, you will receive a confirmation letter, order form, and details on how to order.

### *Available Trees for Fall 2015*

Prairie Fire Crabapple \$135 Good under power lines

Red Jewel Crabapple \$135 Good under power lines

Japanese Tree Lilac \$175 Good under power lines

Accolade Elm \$175

Redmond Linden \$175

Skyline Honey Locust \$175

London Planetree \$180

Hackberry \$195

More information on tree species is available on the [50/50 Parkway Tree page](#) of our website. Larger size trees are available for an extra \$100 per ½-inch diameter upgrade. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) or **630.377.4405**.



## Congratulations Officer Mahan



Congratulations to Officer Erik Mahan for completing the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University, in Evanston, Ill. Officer Mahan completed courses in Organizational Behavior, Strategic Planning and Management, Principles and Practices of Leadership, Human Resource Management and Workplace Relations.

The Center for Public Safety was established at Northwestern University in 1936 with the goal of expanding university-based education and training for

the Law Enforcement Community.

## Stay Safe from Lightning Strikes

*A rainy day can quickly become dangerous when thunder and lightning are present. Be prepared by checking the weather forecast so you know when a storm is approaching.*



Keep in mind that there is no safe place from lightning when you are outside. The best way to stay safe from lightning is to stay inside a fully enclosed building or in a fully enclosed metal-topped vehicle. Open vehicles, such as convertibles or motorcycles are not safe; open structures, such as porches or baseball dugouts, are not safe either. Do not lie on concrete floors and avoid leaning on concrete walls. Lightning can travel through any metal wires or bars in concrete.

After a storm, wait 30 minutes after the last lightning strike or thunder rumble before returning outside. Lightning can strike up to 10 miles from the area in which it is raining.

If someone is struck by lightning, call 911 immediately. You are not in danger of being shocked or electrocuted by the victim.

*Source: Safe Electricity*

## Dangerous Effects of Extreme Heat

While we have only had a few days of high temperatures and humidity so far this year, it's only a matter of time before we hit a stretch of scorching weather. Please review these tips for dealing with extreme heat.

- Never leave children or pets alone in a closed vehicle—even for a minute.
- Slow down, avoid strenuous activity.
- Stay in air-conditioning.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothes.
- Drink water regularly and avoid alcohol or caffeine.

### Signs of Heat Exhaustion

- Cool, moist, skin; heavy sweating
- Headache; nausea, vomiting; dizziness; exhaustion
- Normal body temperature

### Actions

- Loosen tight clothes; apply cool, wet cloths.
- Drink cool water.

### Signs of Heat Stroke

- Hot, red skin
- Changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; rapid, shallow breathing.
- High body temperature (105° F); no sweating

### Actions

- Call 911 immediately.
- Quickly cool the body by immersing in a cool bath or wrapping in wet sheets and fanning.

## Flood Safety Reminders

*Recent storms have cast a light on the importance of practicing flood safety. While it's best to stay indoors during heavy rains, if you must travel, proceed with caution and be patient.*

### Flood Safety Tips

- Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in cars than anywhere else.
- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive. Six inches of flowing water can knock you off your feet.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires, and turn off your power before it floods. Electrical current can travel through water. Electrocution is the second leading cause of death during floods.
- Beware of gas leaks. Turn off the gas to your house before it floods. If you smell gas, report it to the gas company, and do not use candles, lanterns or open flames.
- Keep children away from the flood waters, ditches, culverts and storm drains. Flood waters can carry dangerous items and may suck smaller people into culverts or drains.
- Clean everything that has been wet. Flood water may be contaminated with sewage and other chemicals.
- Look out for animals, especially snakes.
- Do not use gas engines, such as generators, or charcoal fires indoors during power outages. Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose a serious health hazard.

### Reporting Flooding Information

Please remember always call 911 for any emergencies. To report flooding in a particular area, contact our Public Works Department at [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) or **630.377.4405**. You also could report non-emergency flooding and send pictures with the St. Charles Connect app on your mobile device. Helpful information and links to more resources is available on our website at [www.stcharlesil.gov/flood](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/flood).



Citizens, please help out by keeping storm grates clear so the water can get in the inlets faster. Also, if you live by a creek, clear any brush away from the creek so it won't create a clog and inhibit water flow.

## Don't Invite Those Pesky Mosquitos in Your Yard

*St. Charles has an effective program for combating mosquito outbreaks, which includes surveillance and monitoring, larval control and adult control. The objective is to reduce the potential of mosquito-borne disease transmission.*

### What you can do:

1. Discard old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, 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 and store indoors when not in use.
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 wear long sleeves.

Clarke conducts the City's the mosquito control program. For more information about mosquitos, treatments and schedules, call Clarke Mosquito Management at **800.942.2555**. Information also is available on the [Mosquito Abatement page](#) of the City website. Or, contact Public Works at [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) or **630.377.4405**.

## So What's New with The Quad?

The Krausz Company, which purchased the site 18 months ago, continues to work on the redevelopment of the former Charlestowne Mall Site. Krausz has been actively marketing the project and working with prospective and interested tenants for both the enclosed mall and the outlots planned for the site. Recently, they attended the International Council of Shopping Centers convention and also increased the leasing team for the site.

Initial grading, curbs and utility site work have been completed and the fences have come down. Krausz has indicated there is a very strong interest in the outlots and has authorized KA, Inc., the project's architecture firm, to proceed with a design plan.

More information to come as plans are finalized and negotiations with potential tenants are completed. For questions, contact Rita Tungare, Director of Community and Economic Development for the City at **630.443.4093** or [rtungare@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:rtungare@stcharlesil.gov); or Nicole Kneeland-Woods, Director of Business Development for The Quad, at [nicole@thequadstcharles.com](mailto:nicole@thequadstcharles.com).

## Refuse and Recycling Services Update

*Starting July 1, 2015, the following fees are in effect. Please contact Advanced Disposal at 630.587.8282 for questions on totter services.*

<b>Refuse Sticker</b>	<b>\$3.11 ea.</b>
<b>Yard Waste Sticker</b>	<b>\$3.11 ea.</b>
<b>Half-size Refuse Bag</b>	<b>\$2.02 ea.</b>
<b>35 Gallon Refuse Toter</b>	<b>\$20.75/mo.</b>
<b>65 Gallon Refuse Toter</b>	<b>\$21.84/mo.</b>
<b>95 Gallon Refuse Toter</b>	<b>\$22.93/mo.</b>
<b>65 Gallon Yard Waste Toter</b>	<b>\$27.03 ea.</b>

### Service Notes

- Refuse containers other than Advanced Disposal toters must be no larger than 32 gallons and weigh no more than 50 lbs.
- Refuse and recycling containers should be at the curb by 6:00 a.m. Even though pick-up times are fairly consistent from week-to-week, please consider that pick-up time can vary.
- For more information, contact Advanced Disposal at **630.587.8282** or the Public Works Department at [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) or **630.377.4405**.

### Know about the Electric Outage Hotline?

If you are a St. Charles Electric Utility customer, then be sure to register your phone number with the automated telephone notification system. You can report an outage and get updates.

Register up to three phone numbers by calling the Utility Billing office at **630.377.4426** or registering online [here](#).

## Got Ideas for the Fox River?



Share your ideas for the best use of the Fox River at the Active River Project Open House July 7, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Hickory Knolls Discovery Center, 3795 Campton Hills Road, St. Charles.

Come and meet the Hitchcock Design Group team and members of the Active River Task Force to discuss the preliminary riverfront improvement strategy, review design concepts, and provide input before recommendations are finalized in August.

The Active River Task Force was formed to develop ways to capitalize on the Fox River as a natural and economic asset.

To learn more about the project, visit [www.stcrivercorridor.org](http://www.stcrivercorridor.org), or contact John Rabchuk, Active River Task Force chairman, at [johnrabchuk@gmail.com](mailto:johnrabchuk@gmail.com).

## Brush Pick-Up Schedule

EAST SIDE	WEST SIDE
July 20	July 27
Aug 17	Aug 24
Sept 21	Sept 28
Oct 19	Oct 26
November: No Pick Up	

**Please note:** Only City of St. Charles residents who pay a monthly fee on their utility bill are eligible. To find out if you are eligible for the program, review your City utility bill for the fee, input your address in [My Neighborhood](#) on the City website, or call Utility Billing at **630.377.4426** for verification.

Brush must be placed on the parkway in front of the house or along the frontage where refuse/recycling is collected, before 7 a.m. on Monday (or Tuesday if Monday is a holiday). It may take 3 to 4 days to get to your neighborhood. This schedule and pick up requirements are available on the city website at [www.stcharlesil.gov/services/brush](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/services/brush).

Also, new rates are in effect for brush and leaf pick up. Fees for year are \$4.13/month, an increase of 8 cents/month.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) or **630.377.4405**.

### Subscribe

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### Connect with Us

Connect with the city right from your mobile device. Download our St. Charles Connect app at [www.stcharlesil.gov/connect](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/connect)

## City of St. Charles Directory

<i>Building &amp; Code Enforcement</i> . . . . .	377.4406	<i>Fire Administration</i> . . . . .	377.4458
<i>City Administrator Mark Koenen</i> . . . . .	377.4422	<i>Fire Prevention Bureau</i> . . . . .	377.4457
<i>Community Development</i> . . . . .	377.4443	<i>Human Resources</i> . . . . .	377.4446
<i>Development Engineering</i> . . . . .	443.3677	<i>Mayor Raymond P. Rogina</i> . . . . .	377.4444
<i>Economic Development</i> . . . . .	443.4093	<i>Police Administration/Investigation/ Crime Prevention</i> . . . . .	377.4435
<i>Electric Division</i> . . . . .	377.4407	<i>Public Works: Water/Sewer/Street</i> . . . . .	377.4405
<i>Engineering Division</i> . . . . .	377.4486	<i>Refuse Pickup Information</i> . . . . .	587.8282
<i>Emergency Management Agency</i> . . . . .	377.4416	<i>TDD</i> . . . . .	800.526.0844
<i>Flood Protection Assistance</i> . . . . .	377.4486	<i>Utility Billing: Electric/Water/Sewer</i> . . . . .	377.4426
<i>Finance/Accounting</i> . . . . .	762.7002	<i>Electric Outage Hotline</i> . . . . .	866.444.0016