



# THE DEN

News & Highlights from the City of St. Charles

July 2016

[www.stcharlesil.gov](http://www.stcharlesil.gov)

## Upcoming Meetings

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

- City Council**  
7.5.16.....7:00 pm
- Historic Preservation Commission**  
7.6.16.....7:00 pm
- Planning & Development**  
7.11.16.....7:00 pm
- Tree Commission**  
7.14.16.....7:00 pm
- Liquor Control Commission**  
7.18.16.....4:30 pm
- City Council**  
7.18.16.....7:00 pm
- Government Operations**  
7.18.16.....7:05 pm
- Plan Commission**  
7.19.16.....7:00 pm
- Historic Preservation Commission**  
7.20.16.....7:00 pm
- Government Services**  
7.25.16.....7:00 pm

## From the Mayor's Desk Hot Fun in the Summertime



Mayor Ray Rogina

Yes, St. Charles is a wonderful place to have fun in the summertime, rain or shine. Our open space, parks and trails provide opportunities for a variety of memorable activities.

As we approach the 4th of July, it is time for a 30,000-ft view of what is developing: the east side will welcome a new Potbelly, Noodles & Company and ATI Physical Therapy. We are anxiously awaiting the beginning of construction on Cooper's Hawk at The Quad, which will be joined by Starbucks. And before the summer is complete, Volkswagen is scheduled to open a dealership across from Pheasant Run.

Construction continues on First Street at building 1 (which will house ALE Solutions offices) and the beginning of construction on a new municipal parking lot. Numerous other small business owners have found St. Charles to their liking, and expansion and filling of empty space continues. With a City Council decision on a new police station site in the offing, opportunity for development along the river will become a reality.

In our industrial park, AJR Industries is in the midst of a huge expansion (visible from Kirk Road) and Doran Scales is finalizing a move to St. Charles.

Out west, it is my hope that serious conversation begets a plan to develop the Shodeen property at Randall Rd. and Rt. 38.

As my thoughts turn to America's birthday next week and the traditional celebrations, St. Charles and its rich heritage springs to mind. While we gawk at the fireworks in the sky and shout Happy Birthday to Uncle Sam, let us savor what we have here, whisper a thanks to those who have brought us here, and pray that those who guide us into the future show wisdom and understanding and a commitment to keeping St. Charles the Pride of the Fox. Happy 4th! See you around town.

## Fourth of July Fireworks



Join us this Fourth of July at the beautiful and serene Pottawatomie riverside park! There's fun for all as the party kicks off at 6pm, July 4th, when "Shout Out" takes the stage, playing anything from top 40 hits to those classic get-up and dance songs. They'll be playing in the historic pavilion til dusk. Then it's time for the amazing fireworks display to steal the show. For a whole day filled with enjoyment, take a few

swings at the Riverview Mini Golf course, or take a dip in the Swanson Pool! More at [www.stcparks.org](http://www.stcparks.org).

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



CITY OF ST. CHARLES

ILLINOIS • SINCE 1834

Heritage. Community. Service. Opportunity.

# City of St. Charles Mission: Heritage. Community. Service. Opportunity.

**Community.** It's another cornerstone of our Mission. When done right, Community can be a powerful thing. It can bring people and organizations together for a common cause to accomplish something that makes a positive impact for everyone. But what makes a great community?

## Recipe for a Great Community

1. Take a dynamic group of residents, business leaders, local organizations and dedicated City employees.

2. Mix them all together with award-winning educational, recreational opportunities and efficient services that matter.

3. Add a full slate of entertainment events and family-friendly festivals.

4. And top it off with a generous portion of active involvement and volunteerism.

There are so many examples of Community at work here in St. Charles. Recently, St. Charles East High School's "Government for a Day" program celebrated 25 years

of introducing students to the inner workings of local government. This program has all the ingredients of great Community.

Students attend City Council meetings throughout the semester and then conduct a mock City Council meeting in Council Chambers. They play the roles of public officials, developers and concerned citizens. Ideas are researched and presented for a vote.

At the program's 25th Anniversary celebration, you would expect Mayor Rogina, city staff, students and teachers to be there. But what was special was that former mayors Fred Norris and Sue Klinkhamer, and former City Administrator Larry Maholland were all there too. The Arcada Theatre's Ron Onesti also came out to hear the students' presentation of a business plan for the Arcada—and he was impressed. When an idea can grow to a 25-year tradition and captivate the interest and involvement of students, government officials and business leaders, that's the power of Community.



Heritage. Community. Service. Opportunity.



## Congrats!

Congrats to St. Charles businesses **ALE Solutions** and **Clarke**, who were nominated for a Kane County Sparkler Award in the Business Category.

## The Visitor's Cultural Commission Promotes Local Art in St. Charles

Local art and cultural activities have always been an important part of our community's personality. The Visitors Cultural Commission helps promote these artistic ventures by reviewing funding requests from local organizations and making funding allocation recommendations to the Government Operations Committee. These requests are paid for with money collected from the City's Hotel/Motel Tax.

To be eligible, an organization must demonstrate 501(c) (3) status, and must also answer several questions from board members about their business, including how they promote tourism and economic activity and cultural education within St. Charles. For fiscal year 2016-2017, the Commission had a budget of \$87,591. Eight cultural organizations made funding requests: Fineline Creative Arts Center, Fox Valley Concert Band, Preservation Partners of Fox Valley, St. Charles Art Council, Steel Beam Theater, Norris Cultural Arts Center, Sculpture in the Park and the St. Charles Singers.

On June 6, Finance Director Christopher Minick presented the Commission's funding allocation recommendations to the Government Operations Committee. The recommendations were approved at the June 20 City Council meeting. For more information, contact Chris Minick at 630.762.7002 or [finance@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:finance@stcharlesil.gov).

# BUSINESS REPORT

## The AJR Building is Shaping Up Nicely



You probably noticed the AJR Filtration Inc. building on S. Kirk Road, near the East Side Sports complex. The new 180,000-square foot building's outer shell is up, and work continues inside. AJR Filtration is a manufacturer of custom filters used in liquid processing, medical equipment, automotive and natural gas applications. They have been in St. Charles since 2001 at 3635 Swenson Ave. and have expanded into adjacent buildings. To accommodate even more growth, they launched the new construction project earlier this year. AJR remained in St. Charles thanks to the City's business retention efforts. That means their 250 employees will continue to live, work and shop here, and we will see an additional 150 new jobs there over the next three years.

## PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

### Please Follow Dog Safety Regulations

It's summer and we all want to get out and enjoy the nice weather. Man's best friend loves being a part of the summer days just as much as we do! But be sure to be a responsible pet owner and follow City ordinances regarding dogs and pets. Below are some rules and tips to remember when handling your pets:



- The City of St. Charles has a leash law. This means any time you take your dog off of owner property, the dog must be restrained by a proper leash or physical device as well as under the direct supervision of a competent person.
- Don't leave animals staked outside during extreme heat or in a manner in which the animal can go beyond the owner's lot or land.
- Make sure you clean up after your pets while on public property, within the city, or on any person's property other than that of the owner's.
- A dog that has consistent violations such as barking at or chasing moving vehicles or persons, as well as damaging any property or is found to emit excessive noise for uninterrupted periods of time, may be classified as a nuisance.
- If you have any concerns or animal related issues call 911 to dispatch an officer for assistance. To report a dog lost or found, call Kane County Animal Control at (630) 232-3555.

For more information on City ordinances regarding animals, visit our codebook here: <https://codebook.stcharlesil.gov/title-6>.

## Going On Vacation? Keep Your Home Safe

There are a few courtesy programs our St. Charles Police provide to protect your home while you are away on vacation. Stop by the Police Department front desk (211 N. Riverside Ave.) and fill out the appropriate forms. The front desk is open Monday through Friday, 6am to midnight, Saturdays 7am to 5pm, and closed on Sundays and holidays.

**Vacation House Watch** - A police officer will check on your home when you are away on vacation.

**Timer Lite-a-Nite** - Sign out two light timers on loan, to make your house appear that someone is home.

**Engraver, Operation I.D.** - Sign out an engraver on loan to mark personal property with an identification number that will aid police in returning lost/stolen property.

# PUBLIC WORKS NOTES

## New Refuse & Recycling Rates July 1

Beginning July 1, 2016, new residential refuse collection fees from Advanced Disposal will be in effect:

- Refuse Sticker \$3.25 ea.
- Yard Waste Sticker \$3.25 ea.
- Refuse Bag - No longer available
- Half-size Refuse Bag \$2.11 ea.
- 65-Gallon Yard Waste Toter \$28.53/mo.
- 35-Gallon Refuse Toter \$21.68/mo.
- 65-Gallon Refuse Toter \$22.82/mo.
- 95-Gallon Refuse Toter \$23.96/mo.

All stickers previously purchased prior to July 1 are still valid, so homeowners can use up their remaining supply.

Refuse containers that are not from Advanced Disposal can 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.

Refuse collection the week of July 4 will be pushed back one day due to the Independence Day holiday.

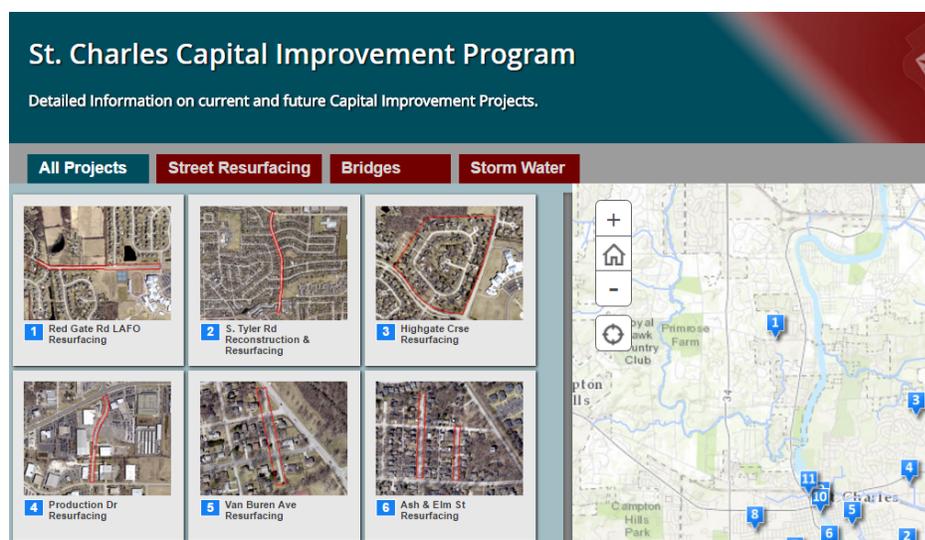
For more information, contact Advanced Disposal at 630.587.8282 or the Public Works Department at [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) or 630.377.4405.



## New Interactive Map Pinpoints Summer Street Projects

Maintaining our city streets is a large job and an essential service for our residents and businesses. Our 2016 Street Resurfacing Program is underway. Want to see exactly what projects are planned and where? Take a look at this [interactive map of projects](#) on our website to learn about street maintenance and more. You can look at multiple project categories, including Street Resurfacing, Bridges and Storm Water projects.

For more information, contact Karen Young at 630.377.4486 or [kryoung@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:kryoung@stcharlesil.gov).



If your kids have their own cell phone, computer or iPad, they also have a bunch of chargers! Even when they're not plugged into a device, chargers continue to sap electricity. So unplug them when not in use.

## Streetlight Out?

If you notice a streetlight (not traffic signal) is out, flickering or needs repair, notify us either through the St. Charles Connect mobile app, with the [online service form](#) or call us at 630.377.4407. Include your name and telephone number so we may contact you if more information is needed. Streetlights are generally repaired on Fridays. Thanks for your help!



# PUBLIC WORKS NOTES

## Flood Safety Reminders



*We have had some heavy rainfalls already this year. Please review these tips to keep you safe if flooding does occur.*

- Don't drive through flooded areas. More people drown in cars than anywhere else.
- Don't walk through flowing water. Six inches 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. Electrocutation is the second leading cause of death during floods.
- Beware of gas leaks and 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, 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 serious a health hazard.

Visit [www.stcharlesil.gov/flood](http://www.stcharlesil.gov/flood) for information and links to flood-related sites. Or contact the Public Works Engineering Division at 630.377.4486.

## Did You See the Water Quality Report?

*The City of St. Charles is committed to providing safe, reliable and economical water to its customers. Every year the Water Division distributes a report summarizing the quality of the City's drinking water.*



We are pleased to report once again 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.

Read the Water Quality Report at <http://go.usa.gov/chPt3>. You also can pick up a copy of the report at the Municipal building or 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 (2015) 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 Illinois EPA.

For more information, contact the Illinois EPA at 217.785.4787 or the St. Charles Public Works Department at 630-377-4405 or [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov).

## Don't Invite Mosquitos in Your Yard

*St. Charles has a robust program for combating mosquitos that 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 tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles, or any water holding containers outside.
2. Fill or drain low places in the yard.
3. Cover trash bins to keep rain out.
4. Repair leaky pipes & 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 using insect repellent, avoid being outdoors during dawn and dusk hours when mosquitoes are most active, and wearing long sleeves.

The City contracts with Clarke for its mosquito management program. Call Clarke at 1.800.942.2555 for mosquito annoyances, spray schedule, dead birds, etc. Visit [www.clarke.com](http://www.clarke.com) for more. For additional questions, contact the City's Public Works Department at 630.377.4405 or [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov).

# PUBLIC WORKS NOTES



## Help That Newly Planted Tree Thrive

Did you receive a new tree in the parkway in front of your home this spring? The City works to minimize transplant shock for new trees and promote healthy plantings.

- New trees are planted with the trunk flare (where the trunk expands at the base) a few inches above grade and should be partially visible after the tree has been planted. 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 for watering. We will fill the bag at the time of planting and again when the landscape is restored.
- Homeowners should take the initiative to fill the bag. Check our website for [instructions on how to add water to a gator bag](#). 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 at the base of the tree. It should empty on its own within 24-48 hours.
- The green twine around the base of newly planted trees is made of a biodegradable material. It is designed to disintegrate within a few months. It is OK to remove the twine about 3 months after planting.
- Mulch and landscape seed is provided at the time the landscape is restored around the tree. This may happen several days after a tree has been planted. The City takes care to add 2-4 inches of mulch several inches away from the trunk. Piling mulch right up against the trunk causes decay. Please avoid “volcano mulching” trees.

## Brush Collection Pick-Up for 2016

### EAST SIDE OF RIVER

- July 18
- August 15
- September 19
- October 17
- November 14

### WEST SIDE OF RIVER

- July 25
- August 22
- September 26
- October 24
- November 21

### YARD WASTE

Yard waste bags will be picked up on your weekly refuse pickup day.

## The City Wants to Share the Cost of Your New Parkway Tree

It's not fall yet, but you should plan now to take advantage of the City's "50/50 Parkway Tree Planting Program" for the fall. Residents can request a new parkway tree and the City will help pay half the cost of the tree and plant it for you.

**Please note:** Parkway must be reviewed and approved for planting by the Public Works Department before a tree order will be placed. To request a review of your parkway, contact the Public Works Department at 630.377.4405 or email [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov) by August 15, 2016. Once approved, you will receive a confirmation letter, order form and details on how to order your tree. Available tree species for fall of 2016 and your cost:



- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Allegheny Serviceberry \$150—Good under power lines | Yellow Buckeye \$175 |
| Cherry Dogwood \$115—Good under power lines         | Hybrid Elm \$150     |
| Japanese Zeikova \$185                              | Ginkgo \$200         |
| China Snow Lilac \$155—Good under power lines       | Bald Cypress \$170   |
| London Planetree \$165                              | Red Oak              |

Larger size trees are available at an additional cost of \$100 per ½ inch diameter upgrade. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works at 630.377.4405 or [pw@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:pw@stcharlesil.gov).

# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

## St. Charles Fire Department Honor Guard Pays Tribute Through Ceremonies



*Firefighter/Paramedic (FF/PM) Stephen Siwy, FF/PM Clifford Lo, FF/PM Michael Pyzyna, FF/PM Christian Thomas, Battalion Chief James Kurczek, Lt. Anthony Cavallo, FF/PM Chad Tinsley, FF/PM Patrick Lacey, FF/PM Steven Rehak*

Taking responsibility to serve and protect your city as a member of the Fire Department is already quite an honorable action. But 10 members of the St. Charles Fire Department committed to take it a step further and join the department's Honor Guard.

The Honor Guard was established in January 2015. "We saw a need to promote the traditions of the fire service and represent our department in proper fashion for fire department ceremonies," Firefighter Paramedic and Honor Guard Member Chad Tinsley explained. The Honor Guard provides dignified and honorable services for fallen members of the department at funeral and memorial services. Recently, the group has adapted a larger role by participating in firefighter retirements, the Veterans Day ceremony and marching in St. Charles parades.

The St. Charles Honor Guard is one of the largest and most recognized throughout the state. They have hosted regional

training for the State Honor Guard and have been called to assist other departments with their ceremonies.

"The dedication towards taking care of our own is similar to what I experienced in the Marine Corps," said Tinsley. "This sense of pride that was instilled in me when I became a St. Charles Firefighter is exactly what I felt when becoming a Marine. We as an Honor Guard want to ensure that this pride in our department is shown and the traditions of the St. Charles Fire Department never fade away."

## City Receives Community Service Award



The St. Charles Park District recognizes local organizations and businesses for their outstanding contributions to the advancement of parks and recreation with the annual Community Service Awards.

Recently, the St. Charles Park District presented the City with a Community Service Award, for longtime sponsorship of the July 4th Celebration and the Sculpture in the Park exhibit. Ward 2 Alderman Rita Anne Payleitner (right) accepted the award on behalf of the City from Park District Board Commissioner Jean Cabel.

## America in Bloom Judging is July 10-12



We're putting our best face forward this month. Two America in Bloom judges will visit our town July 10-12. 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, so be sure to tidy up your yard on judging days. Visit our [St. Charles in Bloom 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@sartoriusintec.com](mailto:Steve.amatangelo@sartoriusintec.com) or Diane

Cullen at [dianecullen@gmail.com](mailto:dianecullen@gmail.com) 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 window. It soon will showcase beautiful floral arrangements, compliments of the Eclectic Garden Florist and Gift Shop, 323 Walnut St.



### Come out to **Concerts in the Park**

Join us for some fun and music! Every Thursday at 7pm, the Lincoln Park Gazebo is the main stage for local bands. Now through August, you can enjoy live music right in Downtown St. Charles. So grab your friends and family for a summer night picnic with entertainment! Presented by the St. Charles Park District [www.steparks.org](http://www.steparks.org).



Get the details at  
[www.kanecountyfair.com](http://www.kanecountyfair.com)

City offices will be closed  
Monday, July 4 for the  
Independence Day holiday  
Refuse collection delayed  
one day all week



### Bob Leonard 5K River Run & 1K Color Run

Looking for a fun way to give back? Sign up to run in the Bob Leonard 5K River Run & 1K Color Run! On July 31st at 7:30am, the 5K through St. Charles will begin followed by a 1K Color Run at 9am. Choose to run one or both! Don't want to run? Sign up to work the event as a volunteer! The event is hosted by The River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles and the St. Charles Noon Kiwanis. More at [www.stcrivercorridor.org](http://www.stcrivercorridor.org).

### Kane County Electronics & Recycling Event for July 9 Cancelled

The event was cancelled due to the ongoing suspension of the county's electronics recycling program. For more, visit the [Kane County Recycles web page](#).

# COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Charles Chamber of Commerce, Batria Corporation  
& Fox Valley Buick GMC Presents

# St. Charles Cruise Nites

**Tuesday Nights 5–8pm**  
**July 19th–August 23rd**

- FREE ADMISSION•
- Goody Bags for Participants & Attendees•
- Raffle•Music•Trivia•Vendors•Entertainment•Food•

Details at [www.stcharleschamber.com](http://www.stcharleschamber.com)

## 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](#).

## Connect with Us



Connect with the city right from your mobile device. Download our St. Charles Connect app at from your device's app store.

## 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>TTY</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