



City of St. John NEWSLETTER

April 2022 ~ Vol. 94

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APRIL 5TH MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Here Are This Year's Candidates for Your City Council



Running for Mayor



Tom Halaska
9221 Central

Tom has been a St. John resident since 1977 and Mayor since 2013. He has been married to his wife Mary for 40+ years. They have two children and 6 grandchildren. He is an active member of Our Lady of the Presentation Parish and was a former member of St. Williams Parish.

He is a Retired Master Technician and has been a member of Machinists District 9, Local 777 for 43 years. He has been involved with the City of St. John since the early '90s and has served on many levels.

You can find Tom on Facebook at Tom Halaska, Mayor-City of St. John.

Running for Ward I Councilperson

Meghan lives at 8647 Ardelia Avenue with her fiancé Ryan, and their two miniature dachshunds, Maggie (13) and Ringo (16) and have owned this home since 2007. She has lived in the area her whole life and graduated from Ritenour High School.

She has an associate degree from St. Louis Community College and recently transferred to Webster University to study full-time, pursuing double majors in Cultural Anthropology and Religious Studies. She is a co-founder and President of a student club at Webster University called Global Culture Club. She works at CT Corporation, in corporate legal compliance, where she's worked since 2006. She currently serves as Deputy Chairperson for the Planning and Zoning Board of St. John.



Meghan O'Brien
8647 Ardelia

Running for Ward I Councilperson



Rachel Hayes
8638 Hume

Rachel has been a resident of St. John since 2002. She is employed as a Global Archive Operations Manager at Elsevier and has been with the company since 1998.

Rachel joined the Neighborhood Enhancement Team in 2015 and spends much of her free time doing volunteer work for various local non-profit organizations. She has been serving on the City Council for Ward 1 since being appointed to fill a vacant seat in December, 2015. She has since been elected for a full term. Rachel previously served on the Park Board, Personnel Board and currently serves on the Human Rights Commission, Tax Increment Financing Commission, Bid Review Committee, Budget Committee, and the Home Improvement Committee for St. John. Certificates of Achievement: FEMA/Homeland Security National Incident Management System and Incident Command System (IS-100.b and IS-700.a).

Continued on page 2

Running for Ward II Councilperson



Lee Taylor
8917 McNulty

Lee and his wife Bernadine, have resided at 8917 McNulty since 1976. They have two grown children and four grandchildren.

He attended Ritenour schools and is presently a contracted Building Inspector for the City of Woodson Terrace. He formerly owned and operated Taylor Building Inspection Service for twenty seven years. Before his inspection business he was a member of the Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 669 UA. He also served in the Missouri Army National Guard for six years.

He has served the City of St. John for over 30 years, first as a Ward II Councilman and then as Mayor for twelve years. He has been serving on the City Council for Ward II since being appointed to fill a vacant seat left by Bill Bales in December, 2015.

BE SURE TO VOTE ON APRIL 5, 2022 - EVERY VOTE COUNTS!!



GUIDELINES FOR POLITICAL SIGNS

Many people aren't aware of what the guidelines are in St. John for posting campaign signs. Political campaign signs are allowed without a permit in any zoning district subject to the following:

- a. Signs may announce the candidate seeking public office and other pertinent data or issues before the voters and other information pertinent thereto;
- b. Signs shall not exceed four (4) square feet in total area for any one (1) sign or five (5) feet in height;
- c. The maximum total sign area for all signs combined shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet total for each lot or each dwelling unit. Said signs shall only be placed on private property ten (10) feet or more from the street curb or curb line and only with the consent of the private property owner thereof;

d. Signs shall be removed within three (3) days after the election for which they were made.

Campaign signs may not be placed on someone else's property without their permission. This includes the public right-of-way. The City does not allow any political campaign signs on their property; even when it is used as a polling place. This includes the City Hall, Police Department and the Public Works Grounds.

The right-of-ways are controlled by the Missouri State Highway Department and they have informed us that they do not allow signs on the right-of-ways as well.

Too often we find political campaign signs placed along the Rock Road, or Woodson Road, or on other such public right-of-way areas. This is not allowed and such signs are removed and discarded.

HOURS
M-F 8-6
Sat. 8-4

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GUIDELINES FOR OPEN BURN PITS

Our Code Enforcement Officers have been reporting that they are seeing more and more open burn pits in St. John. In addition, residents have been calling with complaints of people burning everything from wood to trash in their backyard pits.

Please know that there are very strict standards for open burn pits and before you construct one you will need to obtain a permit from both the City and the Community Fire Protection District. The guidelines for construction of open burn pits can be obtained from the Fire Marshall's Office (call 314-428-1128). Here are some things to keep in mind with regard to open burn pits.

- Only seasonal wood is permitted for recreational fires. Yard waste, construction materials, treated lumber, rubber, plastics, or any other type of trash is prohibited.
- Fires must be in an approved container not less than 15 feet from any structure, the area must be free of any other combustibles, and they should be placed so that they are free of overhangs such as tree branches, utility lines and structures.
- A means of fire extinguishment shall be available at all times and fires shall not be allowed to cause smoke or odors which would constitute a public nuisance.
- Fires shall be supervised at all times by a person at least 18 years of age.
- And last, but certainly not least, a screen cover must be on the fire pit at all times a fire is burning.



There are approved fire pits that can be purchased at the local big box hardware stores that do not require a permit as long as they are used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the above listed guidelines. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact City Hall at (314) 427-8700, #3 on the greeting menu.




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UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



SENIOR CITIZEN UTILITY TAX REBATE FOR 2021 February 1, 2022 - April 30, 2022

Utility tax rebates for 2021 will be issued February 1, 2022-April 30, 2022. The rebate is \$30.00 per household.

In order to qualify for this rebate, residents must:

- 1) Have turned sixty-five (65) years of age or older at some point during the year 2021;
- 2) Currently reside in the City and have previously resided in the City for the entire calendar year of 2021;
- 3) Apply at the City for a rebate on 2021's taxes.

Qualified residents need to provide the following documentation to the City Hall in order to collect the rebate:

- 1) Picture identification;
- 2) Identification showing current address and date of birth;
- 3) One utility bill for January 2021 and one bill for December 2021 reflecting the address which they reside at and are requesting the rebate for.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 427-8700, ext. #3.

SPRING CLEAN UP April 18-22

This year the week of April 18 through the 22nd is designated Spring Clean-Up Week. Republic Service's drivers know, that in addition to the pick-up of your regular trash, they are to pick up the extra items you may want to set out on your regular pick up day. You do not have to call for the bulky items; you can just put them out. Here are the guidelines for the items you may set out during Spring Cleanup:

Items included in Spring Cleanup:

- Furniture - Couches, chairs, dressers, tables, bookshelves, desks, headboards, etc.
- Mattress sets
- Large carpets (cut into bundles no longer than 4 feet in length and not to exceed 50lbs. Must be tied with string/twine)
- Glass portions of doors, windows, etc. NOTE: These must be broken and placed into a small box marked "glass"



- All nails/staples or anything sharp that is exposed must be removed to prevent injury to you and the collector
- Items not included in Spring Cleanup:**
- Construction debris of any kind - Shingles, drywall, vinyl siding, molding/trim, fencing, kitchen cabinets, etc.
 - Loose trash
 - Concrete
 - Tires
 - Lead/oil-based paint, varnish
 - Batteries
 - Yard waste
 - Fluorescent light bulbs
 - Any other items not listed identified as hazardous waste
 - Electronic Waste -Televisions, computer monitors/ accessories, DVD/VCR players, etc. Contact customer service at (636) 947-5959 to schedule and prepay for an electronic waste removal or visit stlouisco.com for a list of e-waste drives and licensed electronic recyclers.
 - As always appliances are included with the Spring cleanup, however, you must schedule in advance of collection by contacting Customer Service at (636) 947-5959.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

CITY OF ST. JOHN & ROCK ROAD ANIMAL HOSPITAL 2022 RABIES CLINIC

Join us for the **2022 Annual Rabies Clinic!!** Rock Road Animal Hospital veterinarians will be offering vaccinations for dogs and cats at a reduced rate on **Saturday, April 23, 2022.**



Our Annual Rabies Clinic will be held on the lower level of the Public Works Garage, located at **8920 Bristol Avenue** (behind City Hall). Vaccinations will be administered from 1:00 – 2:30 pm. City of St. John Animal Licenses will be available at the clinic for \$2.00 each for spayed/neutered animals and \$20.00 for unaltered animals. As a reminder licenses are due by May 1st and must be renewed annually for all pets 6 months of age and older. Please watch our website and facebook pages in the coming weeks for pricing.

As a matter of public safety, all animals are required to be in a crate or on a very short leash to avoid contact with other individuals or animals. If your dog has a tendency to bite, be sure to muzzle them before entering the premises.

Please remember, bringing your pet to a strange place with a lot of other dogs, cats and people they do not know can be very stressful for them. Although your dog/cat may normally be very friendly, the stress of this type of situation can sometimes change that. So PLEASE keep your dog/cat on a very short leash/crated and a good distance from others while at the clinic. We want this to be a good experience for everyone.

LIMB CHIPPER April 25-26, 2022

On Monday April 25 and Tuesday April 26, the Street Department will run the limb chipper through the City one last time before putting it away for the summer. Please gather all your limbs and branches that are 3” diameter or smaller and set them out at the curb with the fat ends pointed toward the street. Remember not to block the sidewalk or set the limbs in the street. We will pick up all limbs on the east side of the City (Ward 1) on Monday, April 25th, and all the limbs on the west side (Ward 2) on Tuesday, April 26th. Once that work is completed, we will put the limb chipper away until the first week of November.



DRUG TAKE BACK INITIATIVE

Be Sure To Watch Our Website For The Upcoming April Drug Take Back Event Date. It Will Again Be Held In The St. John Municipal Center Lobby.

Just as a reminder, no needles can be accepted, nor can any liquids that are not sealed to prevent leakage. If you can't make it up to this event you can always bring your items into the Police Department during regular business hours. (M-F, 8am-5pm)

more upcoming events on next page!

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE May 2nd

On May 2, the Street Department will once again begin running the street sweeper through the City. Since Republic Services collects trash from a designated zone of the City every day of the week, we have configured our sweeping zones based on their trash pick-up schedule. The streets in each zone and the day of the week that zone will be swept are as follows:

Zone 1 Will Be Swept On Monday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 1 is comprised of: Hume, Hilleman (off of Hume), Walton, Ridgeway, Kincaid, Endicott, Renz, Melody, Betty Lee, Ramona, Connor, Outerbelt Ct. and Wood.

Zone 2 Will Be Swept On Tuesday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 2 is comprised of: Havenbrook, Belhaven, Belcrest, Hagner, Ardelia, Moran, Hilleman (between North & Ardelia), North Ave. (between McKibbon and Valleywood), Ginger, Loyd, Markdale, Valleywood, Norman, Debbie Ct., Engler, Hilleman (off of Engler), Thomas, Kitchell Ct., Chaney Ct., Rosalind, Madeline, and Engler Park Ct.

Zone 3 Will Be Swept On Wednesday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 3 is comprised of: St. Charles Ln., Eminence, Charlack, Roy, Lindscott, Janet Ct., St. Louis Ave., Rosemore, North Ave. (Brown Rd. to Boswell), Patrice, Pallardy, Patrick, Herbert, McNulty (Brown to dead end in cul-de-sac), Killarney Ct. and Bobb (from Brown to Boswell).

Zone 4 Will Be Swept On Thursday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 4 is comprised of: Bristol, Orlando, McKibbon, Crocus, David, Susan, Ezra, Mavis, Marvista, Maryknoll, Marshall, North Ave. (McKibbon to Brown), Winterowd, McNulty (Brown to Marshall), Williams Country Way, Bobb (Marshall to Brown), Harry's Ln., St. Charles Ln., Toddy, John Pl., North & South.

Zone 5 Will Be Swept On Friday Of The First Full Week Of Each Month.

Zone 5 is comprised of: Boswell, Ritenour Ct., Gordon, Jonell Ct., Francis Ct., Frannlynn Ct., Central, Leenora, North Ave. (Woodson to Edumndson), Bobb (Brown to west City limits), Marvin, Marvin Gardens, Calvert, Dix, Joel Ct., Edmundson, Burdella, Roslan, and Edmund.

Please look carefully at the above schedule and determine which zone you live in and on which day your street will be swept. We ask that you do not park your cars on the street on the day your street is scheduled to be swept. Also please remember that we are not a yard waste pick-up service, so please don't rake leaves or grass into the street. You could be cited for illegal dumping if you deposit yard waste in the street.

Finally, if the weather is rainy or otherwise inclement, and if your regular sweeping day falls on a holiday, we will not sweep your street that month.



THE ANNUAL CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES ARE BACK!

June 4 & 11 and June 18 & 25

The dates for this year's sales are:

- East of Brown Road (including homes on the East side of Brown Road) the first & second Saturdays in June (June 4th and 11th).
- West of Brown Road (including homes on the West side of Brown Road) the third and fourth Saturdays in June (June 18th and June 25th).

The following lists the standard information for the sale:

The sales will be held on their respective Saturday from 7am - 3pm. For these days only, no garage sale permits will be required unless:

- 1) You want to hold your sale earlier than 7am or later than 3pm on the sale date(s); or
- 2) You want to hold a sale on a date other than those already set for your respective side of town.

Then, you will need to obtain a permit from City Hall provided you have not already had three sales for the year. There is no charge for the permit.

Although COVID-19 is still with us, these are mostly outside events and we urge everyone to adhere to the social distancing guidelines and continue to wear your masks whenever you're around others.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS CONT.

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES CONT.

To sign up for this year's sale, you can come into City Hall, starting the week of May 1st, and sign up for your sale; you will also be able to pick up a sign for your yard while you're there. If you don't want a sign for your yard, you can just call City Hall and give them your name, address, phone number, date(s) of sale(s) and any specific items you want to list that might draw people to your sale. Please limit your "draw" items to just a few. This will be what is listed with your address on the printed sheets and website.

The participant lists for each sale will be cut off at 12:00 noon the Thursday prior to the sale. A printed list of all participants for that week's sale will be created and posted on the City's website on Friday for all to view/print. Printed copies of the lists will also be available at City Hall for anyone to pickup. Advertising for the sale will be done via the City's website, flyers at City Hall and the City's digital sign board.

Should you have ANY questions, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall at 427-8700, #3.

Watch Our
Website for...



OUR ANNUAL ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT

It will be held on
Saturday, June 18th, 2022
9 a.m. to 12 Noon
8920 BRISTOL AVENUE

(Behind The St. John Municipal Center)

Be Sure to Review the Route Map for
This Year's Event Before You Head Out

Saint Louis
COUNTY REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE
PUBLIC HEALTH **GO GREEN!**

2022 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR RESIDENTIAL TRASH ROUTES

NEW YEAR'S DAY – SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022

No residential routes will be affected

MEMORIAL DAY – MONDAY, MAY 30, 2022

Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday, May 31
Tuesday routes will be picked up on Wednesday, June 1
Wednesday routes will be picked up on Thursday, June 2
Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, June 3
Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday, June 4

INDEPENDENCE DAY – MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022

Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday, July 5
Tuesday routes will be picked up on Wednesday, July 6
Wednesday routes will be picked up on Thursday, July 7
Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, July 8
Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday, July 9

LABOR DAY – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday, September 6
Tuesday routes will be picked up on Wednesday, September 7
Wednesday routes will be picked up on Thursday, September 8
Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, September 9
Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday, September 10

THANKSGIVING DAY - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2022

Monday routes will not be affected
Tuesday routes will not be affected
Wednesday routes will not be affected
Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, November 25
Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday, November 26

CHRISTMAS DAY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022

No residential routes will be affected

NEW YEAR'S DAY – SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

No residential routes will be affected



We'll handle it from here.™

NEW TRASH RATES

APR. 1, 2022 - MAR. 31, 2023

Non Senior Monthly Rate: \$23.23/month (\$69.69/quarter)

Senior Monthly Rate: \$16.26/month (\$48.78/quarter)

FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT



LOCK IT OR LOOSE IT

The St. John Police Department wants to remind everyone to lock their vehicles while unattended. Thieves can take advantage of any small opportunity and take your car or valuables inside. Remember to lock that car when you get out of it and don't leave any valuables inside or in plain sight. Report any suspicious activity.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUPS

Young or old, at home, or away with work. You can help keep our neighborhoods safe and secure. Please contact Lieutenant Heimann for more information on getting started with crime prevention and the Neighborhood Watch Program. During the Covid19 pandemic, neighborhood watch groups will meet on-line via zoom.

You can call Lieutenant Heimann at the St. John Police Station, 314-427-8700. Or, email him at theimann@cityofstjohn.org

SECURITY CAMERAS



Security cameras have become more common and can be very resourceful for deterring crime. The St. John Police Department encourages residents to be vigilant and not hesitate to call in suspicious activity. If the activity is just occurring, call 911. Officers will respond. If after the fact, you find your camera has video of suspicious activity, this too can be very helpful. The most effective way to help deter crime in our neighborhoods is to simply email the video to the Neighborhood Watch and Crime Prevention Officers. This information will remain strictly private and confidential.

Contact Detective Muratori at: jmuratori@cityofstjohn.org

Often the video can be matched with other video shared to help solve or deter crime in the area. If you have any questions please contact Lieutenant Heimann or Detective Muratori at 314-427-8700, extension 5.



LAWN CLIPPINGS

As a reminder, lawn clippings should not to be pitched into the street. If you do happen to deposit lawn clippings in the street when you mow, please be sure to sweep them up right away. Grass, leaves, and other sorts of lawn debris left in the street will be washed down into the storm sewers and this contributes to the pollution of our streams and rivers. In addition, as it would be considered illegal dumping, you could be cited for leaving lawn clippings in the street. Also, remember that you must not allow your grass to grow any higher than 8". You could be cited for not properly maintaining your yard if you let it get too tall.

TOXIC HAZARDS IN YOUR HOME AND HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Your home should be a safe and healthy refuge for the entire family. While you may be diligent about minimizing your exposure to household chemicals, there may be other substances causing health threats throughout your home. To protect yourself and your loved ones, beware of the following home health hazards:



1. Radon

What is radon? Radon is a naturally occurring, radioactive gas that comes from the decay of uranium in the soil. Radon tends to enter buildings at its lowest point. It typically moves up into your home through cracks and

other holes in the foundation. It is then trapped inside where it can build up and become hazardous. About one in 15 homes have high levels of radon, with levels usually being the highest in basements and first-floor rooms that have contact with soil. Two adjacent homes, even two adjacent rooms, can differ significantly in their levels of radon. This helpful resource shows the areas of the U.S. with the highest natural levels.

Why is it dangerous? Known as the “silent killer,” radon is invisible, odorless, and tasteless, so you may have the toxin present in your home and not even know it. Exposure to radon for long periods of time increases your risk of developing lung cancer, especially if you smoke. How do I test for radon? There are no immediate signs or symptoms to alert you to the presence of radon. So if you have not checked for it in the past two years, or if you have done some remodeling, be sure to test your home. You can hire a professional tester or you can buy a test online or at a hardware store to do it yourself.

When should I call a professional? If your home has a radon level of four picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher, it has become a health hazard and you need to make changes immediately. However, there is technically no safe level of radon, so you may still want to take action if the level is between two and four (pCi/L). Lowering high radon levels requires technical knowledge and special skills. Therefore, the EPA recommends hiring a qualified radon mitigation contractor to assess and fix your home.



2. Carbon Monoxide

What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon Monoxide is a toxic gas found in the fumes of fuels that contain carbon, such as wood, coal, and gasoline. Household tools and appliances that can

produce the gas include grills, lanterns, generators, home features like your fireplace and furnace, and even your car or truck.

Why is it dangerous? This toxic gas causes the most nondrug poisoning deaths in the United States. Because CO is colorless, odorless, and tasteless, people can die from carbon monoxide poisoning while they are asleep without ever waking up. The problem occurs when carbon monoxide is produced but is not provided anywhere to exit the home, causing the toxin to build up and reach hazardous levels.

How do I prevent CO poisoning?

- Don't use a generator or gasoline/charcoal-burning device indoors, including garages or basements. Be sure to place them outside, at least 20 feet from windows or doors.
- Have all fuel-burning home heating systems inspected and serviced each year.
- Never run your car or truck inside of a garage and always leave the door open if you are doing so in a detached garage. Also, be sure to have your car or truck's exhaust system checked each year.

How do I test for carbon monoxide? Every home needs a carbon monoxide detector. If your home does not have working CO alarms installed, stop what you are doing and install them immediately. Be sure to have detectors on each level of the home and outside all bedrooms.

When should I call a professional? The initial symptoms of CO poisoning can be mistaken for flu symptoms. You should suspect CO poisoning if more than one member of the family is sick and if those who are sick feel better after being away from the home. You should also go to the hospital right away if you have been exposed to a source of CO, even if you do not show symptoms of CO poisoning. If you think CO is affecting you or if your detector

Continued on page 10

alerts you to an excess of CO in your home, go outside immediately and call 911. Do not reenter your home until the emergency responders say it is safe. Afterward, you will want to have your home inspected to determine the root cause of the issue so that you can call the appropriate technician to fix the problem.



3. Lead Paint

What is lead paint? Lead is a naturally occurring element found in small amounts in the earth's crust. The primary source of a lead poisoning is lead-based paint.

Poisoning occurs by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips that contain the hazardous substance. Found most frequently in homes built before 1978, lead paint creates toxic dust when it cracks or peels. This can occur on both the inside and outside of your home.

Why is it dangerous? Lead poisoning is a serious condition and at very high levels, it can be fatal. Lead is toxic to everyone, but children younger than six years are especially vulnerable. It can cause a range of adverse health effects, including behavioral disorders, learning disabilities, and other major health problems.

How do I test for lead? If your home was built before 1978, the EPA strongly recommends that either a certified lead inspector or a certified lead risk assessor do lead tests. You can test for lead yourself with an at-home kit. However, these DIY tests do not provide the details that an inspection or a risk assessment does.

How do I prevent lead poisoning? If your home tests positive for lead, take these measures to keep your family safe:

- Keep children away from peeling paint or chewable surfaces painted with lead-based paint.
- Wash your children's hands and toys regularly.
- Regularly clean floors, windowsills, and other surfaces using wet methods.
- Use doormats and remove shoes before entering so lead dust does not settle on floors and carpets.



4. Mold

What is Mold? Molds are various types of fungi. In small amounts, mold spores are usually harmless. However, once the spores are inside

and have a source of moisture to feed on, mold growth can spread like wildfire. Mold can enter your home through windows, vents, and doorways. It can also make its way inside by attaching itself to clothing or pets. If undetected for long enough, it can damage the structure of your house and harm the health of those living inside of it. If caught early, this can be an easy problem to fix.

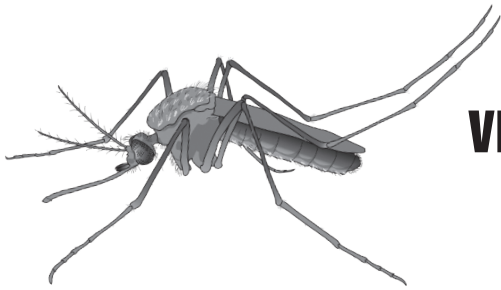
Why is it dangerous? Some of the more minor health effects from mold exposure are chronic cough and fatigue, eye irritation, headaches, and skin rashes. If left untreated, mold can cause a variety of more extreme health issues like asthma, vomiting, allergy development, circulatory damage, and compromised immunity, making one even more vulnerable to further risks.

How do I prevent mold from growing?

- Act quickly when water leaks or spills occur indoors.
- Remove or replace carpets that have been soaked and are not dried promptly. Consider not using carpet in rooms or areas like bathrooms or basements that may have a lot of moisture.
- Ventilate shower, laundry, and cooking areas.
- Wash shower curtains and bathroom tiles regularly with mold-killing products.
- Promptly fixing leaky roofs, windows, and pipes.
- Keep humidity levels as low as you can – no higher than 50% – all day long.

When should I call a professional? Combating mold can be an unpleasant fact for those who live in humid climates.

- In some situations, homeowners can remove mold themselves. However, it is best to call a professional if:
- Mold covers a large area (greater than three feet by three feet, according to the EPA).
 - You can smell mold, but you cannot find the problem.
 - Anyone in the home has a medical condition that mold exposure could worsen.
 - There is mold in your heating, ventilation, and/or air conditioning system.
 - Moisture has created structural problems.



VECTOR (AKA Mosquitoes) CONTROL

As many of you know, the City does not provide mosquito spraying itself but contracts out that service to the St. Louis County Health Department. St. Louis County provides a two-phase approach to mosquito control; adulticiding and larviciding. Earlier this year our Public Works Director and our Animal Control Officer had the opportunity to attend a meeting put on by the St. Louis County Health Department to learn more about their services and some changes to their vector control program.

We learned that there are over 50 species of mosquitoes but only a few transmit disease to humans, the Culex Pipens and the Aedes Albopictus. In order for St. Louis County to focus their efforts on these disease carrying mosquitoes they must first set traps to locate these two specific types. The traps are set at night and picked up in the morning. The mosquitoes are then sorted, counted, and tested. The results determines the frequency, location, and type of treatment to be used.

Larviciding is most effective form of mosquito control because it is focused on eliminating breeding sites and mosquito larva. Larviciding allows vector control chemicals, which can be effective up to 45 days, to be placed directly on standing water where mosquitos breed.

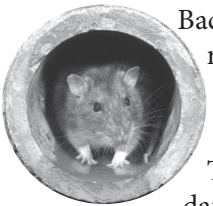
This greatly increases the chances of these chemicals coming into contact with and killing mosquito larva before they have the chance to mature in to the nuisance adults.

Adulticiding is the other form of mosquito control. This is done with the fogger most people are used to seeing. The chemicals used for adulticiding have to actually land on a mosquito to kill it. The chemicals also dissipate rather quickly making adulticiding the less effective form of mosquito control. Because it is less effective, it is not used as frequently as larviciding.

The final and most effective form of mosquito control is “source reduction”. Keep in mind that mosquitoes breed in standing water. Therefore it is critical that residents manage the standing water on their property. Do not let water stand in bird baths, tires, swimming pools, ponds, etc. Water in outdoor dog bowls should be changed daily. Keep gutters cleaned out so that water flows properly. Make sure pools and ponds have a properly functioning filter to keep water clean and moving.

Remember, spraying with the fogger is the least effective and most expensive way to manage the mosquito population, so don't expect to see it out very often. Please do your part to help control this bothersome nuisance and makes everyone's outdoor experience a little more enjoyable this summer.

RODENT CONTROL



Back in 2018, St. Louis County switched to an all or nothing structure for all of their municipal contracts for rodent and vector control. Previously, municipalities were able to choose which services they wanted to include in their contract. St. Louis County also raised prices and are started charging for rodent services. But there are things we can do to help reduce the rodent population.

The most common type of rodent we may run into in St. John is the Norway Rat. Rats can cause property damage and carry disease. So it is important to keep rat populations under control. Rats live in burrows underground and use sewers to travel. They will burrow along the foundation of a house, garage, shed, under a driveway, or under piles of debris or rubbish. They usually live within 150 feet of their food and water sources. Rats are scavengers and will eat any source of food available. This includes garbage, pet food, animal feces, and fruit or nuts which fall from fruit or nut bearing trees or plants.

St. Louis County can only treat rat infestations on public property. The most effective way knock down rodent populations and prevent infestations is to keep our properties maintained to eliminate all sources of food or harborage. Dispose of any junk or debris on the premises that could attract rats. Firewood should be stored 12” off the ground. Ensure all trash is picked up and deposited in an appropriate container with a lid. Promptly remove and dispose of pet waste and all fruits or nuts which fall from trees on your premises. Pet food should be stored in containers with tight fitting lids.

Let's work together to keep our City as rodent free as possible!

City of St. John
8944 Saint Charles Rock Road
Suite 100
St. John, MO 63114-4200

www.cityofstjohn.org

SAVE THE DATES!

Senior Utility Tax Rebates - Page 4

February 1st - April 30th

Spring Cleanup - Page 4

Week of April 18th on your normal trash day

Rabies Clinic - Page 5

April 23 - 1:00-2:30 pm

Drug Take Back Initiative - Page 5

Check Our Website as the date will be posted
as soon as DEA announces it.

Limb Chipping Ends - Page 5

East Side of Town - Last Day is April 25th
West Side of Town - Last Day is April 26th

Street Sweeping - Page 6

Starts May 2nd - See Article For Your Zone

City Wide Garage Sales - Page 6

June 4th & 11th - East Side of Town - 7 am - 3 pm
June 18th & 25th - West Side of Town - 7 am - 3 pm

Electronic Recycling/Shredding Event - Page 7

Saturday, June 18th, 9 am - Noon



City of St. John MO
City of St. John Police Department

GENERAL INFORMATION

City Council

Mayor, Tom Halaska
9221 Central • 427-8700 #106

Ward I

Pam Hollenberg
8401 Madeline • 429-5251
Rachel Hayes
8638 Hume • 637-7797
Beverly Bates
8428 Rosalind • 302-1040

Ward II

Jim Hess
3526 Boswell • 429-4574
Mary Halaska
9221 Central • 427-8700 #106
Lee Taylor
8917 McNulty • 423-9349

Administration

Robert Connell • 427-8700 #5
City Manager/Police Chief
Connie Poteet • 427-8700 #3
Asst. City Manager
Paul Anderson • 427-8700 #5
Police Captain
James Phillips • 427-8700 #3
Public Works Director
Julie Vetter • 427-8700 #3
Finance Officer
Linda Elder • 427-8700 #6
Court Administrator

Police Administrative Offices

427-8700, #5 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

Non-emergency Police Dispatcher

636-529-8210 (after office hours)

City Hall Administrative Offices

427-8700, #3 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

Municipal Court Offices*

427-8700, #6 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

Municipal Prosecutor's Office*

427-8700, #211 (Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm)

**Court is currently being held in-person at night.
Please see website for a list of court dates and times.**

*Regular council meetings held 1st and 3rd Mondays
at 7 pm via Zoom. Check city website for the meeting
link the Friday prior to the meeting.*

DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

Newsletter can be interpreted upon request.