

2nd Quarter Issue
April, May, June, 2010
St. Charles, Illinois

FROM THE DEN



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TAKE NOTE

April 16-17
Community Garage Sale. April 17 Anything on Wheels Sale
www.st-charlesparks.org

April 23-25
Sister's Weekend Hotel Baker, www.dtown.org

April 30 Arbor Day
Celebration at Lincoln Park 4:00 p.m.

May 1-2
Kane County Flea Market, Kane County Fairgrounds
630-377-2252

May 1- Sept 20
Sculpture in the Park, Mt. St. Mary Park from Dawn to Dusk

May 29-30
St. Charles Fine Arts Show, First Avenue between Rt. 64 & Illinois Ave. St. Charles www.dtown.org

May 31
Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony, Monday, 10:00 a.m. Freedom Walk 630-587-6444 for more information
Foot Mechanics Memorial Day Mainstreet Mile 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

June 3- August 19
Concerts in the Park, Lincoln Park, 7:00 p.m.

June 11-13
Pride of the Fox Riverfest, www.prideofthefox.com

June 24-27
Bloomington Gold Corvettes, Pheasant Run Resort,
www.bloomingtongold.com

City Blood Drive on Tuesday, April 6

The City of St. Charles will host a blood drive on Tuesday, April 6, 2 to 6 p.m., at the Municipal Building, 2 E. Main Street. Heartland Blood Center's mobile unit will be in the parking lot on the corner of 1st Ave and Main for the donations. Appointments may be scheduled online at www.heartlandbc.org (use Sponsor Acct. #SPON100933). Walk-ins are also welcome, and a photo ID will be required. Donors must be 17 or older. Visit www.heartlandbc.org for donation guidelines and information. Contact the Human Resources Department at 630-377-4446 with questions or for more information about the April 6 blood drive.

City Hall Office Hours:
Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
City Web Site: www.stcharlesil.gov

Community Web Site: www.st-charles.il.us

Note: Utility Billing and Building and Code Enforcement open Monday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

Summer Street Work for 2010

Again this year, the City will undertake an annual project aimed at maintaining current infrastructure and roadways within the community. Work will be completed by a general contractor, along with city crews, and is expected to begin in May.

The proposed street rehabilitation and underground utility repair locations are:

#	Street Name	From	To
1	Ronzheimer	S Tyler Rd	Mildred Ave
2	Horne Street	Pine Street	Geneva Road
3	Horne Street	Ash Street	Pine Street
4	N Tyler Road	Northern CDS	Allen Lane
5	S. 10th Ave	Adams Ave	South Ave

The scope of the project includes repairs to the existing storm and sanitary sewer systems, and water main appurtenances in addition to the proposed street rehabilitation work. This project has been divided into three phases, with as little disruption to residents as is possible. The completion of all three phases of this contract is expected to be completed by September 15, 2010.

The City appreciates your continued cooperation and patience during this large-scale project. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Bernahl (630) 443-3709 or via email: jbernahl@stcharlesil.gov.

I have a concern about..... How do I use the Customer Service Request System?

The City's website www.stcharlesil.gov is available *around the clock* to address concerns of residents, businesses, visitors and city employees. The Customer Service Request System allows you to search for and submit a concern. This application should NOT be used for emergencies.

To use the Customer Service Request application, you will be asked to do a search or select a general category of the concern. These categories range from "Animals and Birds" to "Utilities". Once a search or category is selected, you will be presented with several topics that may immediately address your concern. If you do not see a topic or suggestion that answers your concern, you can submit a request to the City by clicking on a topic. You will be asked for some information about yourself and your question or concern.

Based upon the topic selected, the request will be automatically routed to the City department most likely able to answer your concern. You will receive an email confirming your request. The email will contain a service request tracking number that you can use to track the status of your request. As a quality control follow up, when the request is closed, you will be asked to complete a short survey on your satisfaction with the service request process.

Flood Insurance

Because the City of St Charles is a participating member of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), anyone can purchase flood insurance through his or her local insurance agent via the NFIP. There is a 30-day waiting period for flood insurance coverage to begin.

A home located WITHIN a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) has a 26% chance of being damaged by a flood over the life of a 30-year mortgage, and your homeowner's insurance WILL NOT cover flood damage. This is why flood insurance is mandatory for all federally backed mortgages. Your home doesn't have to be in a flood zone to get flooded.

Flood insurance is available at a reduced rate for these properties. Also, the City of St Charles currently has a FEMA "Community Rating System" number of 8, which helps to further reduce flood insurance premiums.

2010 Brush Collection

East Side	West Side
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April 19	April 26
May 17	May 24
June 21	June 28

As an alternative to the brush pickup program, place twigs, trimmings and leaves in paper yardwaste bags (purchase bags with City logo on them or use generic bags and place one refuse sticker on each bag) and leave for collection on the normal refuse pickup day.

When available, free mulch is offered at the City's facility on Rte. 38/ Lincoln Hwy., west of Peck Road. Hours are Mon.- Fri., 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Please bring a shovel and containers. The City does not deliver or load mulch.

Welcome New Businesses to St. Charles!

Remember to shop local and visit www.stcharlesil.gov/edd for a complete, searchable listing of local businesses.

Business Name	Street	Phone #
New Businesses		
Baja California Fresh	902 S. Randall Road	630-443-3080
Domino's Pizza	1450 W. Main St. #E	630-215-4555
Massey Chiropractic	2435 Dean St. #2D	630-444-1599
Midwest Gold Buyers	1315 W. Main St.	630-233-0330
Northern Border American Grill	902 S. Randall Road	630-443-3080
Signature Auto Service	720 N. 17 St #3	630-945-3973
St. Charles Modern Dental	855 Randall Rd.	630-587-2700
Techpro, Inc.	2325 Dean St. #900	630-938-5300
Thatcher Medical	2320 Dean St. #210	630-377-4048
Anna Johanna's	217 Main St.	630-377-0997
B-Shique Brow Boutique	56 Indiana St.	630-347-7900
Krimson Hair Studios	50 Indiana St.	630-880-0777
Isacco Kitchen	210 Cedar St.	630-444-0202
Rx Cafe	113 W. Main St.	630-549-0491
The Sassy Fox	323 Walnut St.	630-945-3728
Perfect Pup	2400 W. Main St. #113	630-670-5000
New Business Relocations		
Beth Fowler School of Dance	2400 E. Main St. #107B	630-549-0198
Colonial Cafe	546 S. Randall Rd.	630-443-8338
House of Tokyo	2762 E. Main St.	630-762-8500
JBM Detail Center & Wash	3540 Stern Ave. #107	630-377-2333
La Vince Hair Salon & Spa	2728 E. Main St.	630-377-7411

Hydrant Flushing: April & May 2010 Schedule

The Water Division will begin flushing the water main distribution system by quadrant as follows: North/South dividing line is Main Street (Route 64), and East/West dividing line is the Fox River

Northwest Quadrant	Start - Monday, 4-19-10 thru 4-23-10 at 7:00 a.m. - all week
Southwest Quadrant	Start - Sunday, 4-25-10 thru 4-30-10 at 10:00 p.m. - all week
Northeast Quadrant	Start - Sunday, 5-2-10 thru 5-7-10 at 10:00 p.m. - all week
Southeast Quadrant	Start - Monday, 5-10-10 thru 5-14-10 at 7:00 a.m. - all week



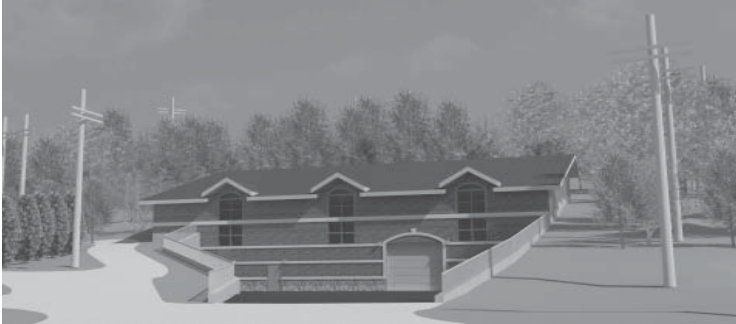
Please check the City's website: www.stcharlesil.gov for the approximate dates in your neighborhood. The flushing will begin on the above referenced dates and continue through that week. The flushing will remove accumulations of insoluble iron from the inside of the water mains. Residents may experience rusty colored water. When flushing has subsided, run cold water until it runs clear. Although the water is safe, it may stain laundered clothing. If this occurs, keep clothes wet and treat them with a cleaning product for removing stains (free at Public Works, 1405 S. 7th Ave.; City Hall Reception Desk, 2 E. Main St.). If you have any questions, call Public Works at 630-377-4405.

New Water and Treatment Process Building Scheduled for 2010

Improving the City of St. Charles Water Process & Quality

The City of St. Charles City Council recently awarded a contract for construction of a new water treatment process and building. The new building will be located at the north end of First Avenue near the Police department. The building is located within the historical district and the final architectural design was approved by the Historic Preservation Committee.

The purpose of the treatment is to reduce the radium level of raw water from two deep wells in the immediate area. These wells draw from an aquifer that has naturally occurring radium. The raw water from the deep wells is over the radium limit of 5.0 picocuries / liter. Currently the raw water is blended with shallow well water to reduce the radium level and achieve compliance with the limit in the treated finished water. This blending occurs in a reservoir at the end of First Avenue.



An artist rendering of the new water treatment process building scheduled for spring 2010

The project will also increase efficiency of the water system. Currently the two wells cannot be run at capacity due to radium levels and having to be blended. Also, since shallow well water is used to blend it decreases the amount of shallow water that would otherwise be pumped into the system. The new facility has the ability to increase water production by 750,000 to 1,000,000 gallons. Radium is removed through

two different processes, ion exchange and HMO (hydrous manganese oxide) filtration. The ion exchange process is similar to a home water softener where the radium ions are exchanged for sodium and potassium. The HMO process involves injecting slurry into the raw water. The radium particles adhere to the slurry and are then removed by filtration. It's common to utilize both processes at the same time. As a result, water hardness levels are reduced but not completely softened. The City currently uses an identical system on the east side of town at another deep well site.

The building site and plans involve several green measures and best management practices for storm water runoff from the site. These include; permeable pavers in the drive area, planting of native vegetation in a swale area and installation of a storm water inlet pollution prevention device. These measures will enhance the water quality of the runoff from the site to the Fox River.

The City anticipates funding the project with a low interest loan from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Revolving Loan Program. The interest rate of the loan could be as low as 1.5 percent; an alternative-funding option is to issue bonds for the project. A starting construction date on the project is contingent on the release of an IEPA loan, but is projected to be late May or early June of this year.



Historic District Properties

“Certificate of Appropriateness” required before a building permit

Do you own property in a designated Historic District or a landmark site? Are you considering making improvements to the exterior of your property this year? Before the City can issue a building permit for exterior changes to buildings within a Historic District or landmark site, the Zoning Ordinance requires the Historic Preservation Commission to review the proposed work and issue a “Certificate of Appropriateness” (also known as a “COA”).

A building permit and COA approval are required for both big construction projects (new buildings, demolition, building or porch additions) and smaller renovation projects (re-roofing, siding, window or door replacement, installation of signs or fences). Painting or other maintenance work that does not require a building permit does not require a COA approval. Property owners and contractors are advised to apply for a building permit and COA in advance of starting any work or ordering any construction materials. Building permits that require a COA review cannot be issued “over the counter” at the time of application.

The Historic Preservation Commission uses specific ordinance criteria to assess the effect of each project on the historic character of a specific building or site. The Zoning Ordinance directs the Commission to follow the “Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation”, a list of guiding principles developed by the federal government to be interpreted and applied locally by the Commission. Property owners are encouraged to consult with the Historic Preservation Commission early in the design process to receive informal feedback and technical assistance. The Commission can direct you to resources that may save you time and money.

The Historic Preservation Commission meets the first and third Wednesday of every month, at 7:00 pm in the Council Committee Room at the Municipal Center. If you would like to have your project reviewed informally by the Commission, or if you have other questions on the requirements for a Certificate of Appropriateness, contact the Community Development Department at (630) 377-4406. For more information and to view the Historic District map, please visit www.stcharlesil.gov/historicpreservation.



St. Charles Single- Family Rehabilitation Program

On March 1, 2010 the City Council approved a new Single-Family Rehabilitation Program. This is the first program created by the City that will utilize Housing Trust Funds to assist St. Charles residents with home repairs.

The focus of the program is to preserve St. Charles’ existing affordable housing stock. Loans offered to qualified homeowners will be used to pay for specific eligible improvements. This program will partner with an existing Kane County program that is currently available to St. Charles residents. Kane County offers up to \$20,000 for these repairs. Our program will provide up to \$10,000 of additional funding, if needed, to rehabilitate the home. The City will lend this money to the homeowner as a 0% interest deferred payment loan. This means that the money borrowed by the homeowner will be paid back to the City upon the sale of the house, ensuring that the City can continue to assist additional homeowners in the future.

To be eligible for the program, the home has to be located within the corporate limits of St. Charles, and the homeowner cannot earn more than 80% of the Area Median Income, as defined by the State of Illinois. The City has entered into an agreement with Community Contacts, Inc. to administer the program. If you know of anyone who can benefit from the program have them contact Community Contacts, Inc. for application information at 847-697-8800. For general information regarding the program contact the Planning Division in the Community Development Department at 630-377-4443 or morourke@stcharlesil.gov.

Fishing Along the Fox

Let's go down to the 'ole fishing hole! All anglers – expert to amateur – enjoy fishing along the Fox River and in park ponds. Try your luck at Boy Scout Island, East Side Sports Complex, Delnor Woods Park, Pottawatomie Park, Dunham Pond, Mt. St. Mary Park or Riverside Park. Fishing pole rentals are available at Pottawatomie Community Center. State fishing regulations and licensing apply in all park district waterways. For more information, call 630-513-6200.

St. Charles Fine Arts Show May 29-30

The 12th Annual St. Charles Fine Art Show will present nearly 100 of the best artists from across the country, alongside the east side of the Fox River on First Avenue, between Main Street and Illinois Avenue. This award-winning juried show featuring a variety of media including watercolor, oil, glass, wood, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry and photography. Entrance and parking are free. Rain or shine. www.stcharlesfineartshow.com

Tee Time!

Get your family together for an outing to play the most challenging course in the Fox River Valley! The Park District's award-winning 18-hole River View Miniature Golf Course opens for weekends beginning May 1 from 11am to 7pm. On May 15, the course will be open daily at 11am. For more information, please call 630-584-1028. Enjoy naturally landscaped greens and a multitude of obstacles. The Victorian-style gazebo provides a resting area with a spectacular view of the Fox River. Remember to indulge in America's favorite summer-time snacks at the concession stand. Moms get in free on Sunday, May 9 in recognition of Mother's Day. Check out our website at www.stcparks.org for a variety of daily specials all summer long. Once you try us, you may never want to putt anywhere else!



Officer Tynan addresses members of the CPA

Arbor Day- April 30,2010

A SURE SIGN OF SPRING! Join the City Tree Commission for the annual Arbor Day celebration. Activities include a tree climbing demonstration, musical entertainment, and a raffle for a free tree suitable for planting in your yard. Fun begins at 4:00 p.m., Friday April 30 in Lincoln Park.

Sisters Weekend April 23-25, 2010

Bring your sisters, mom, aunts and girlfriends to downtown St. Charles for the 7th annual Sisters Weekend. Treat yourself and your "sisters of all sorts" to an indulgent weekend filled with pampering, shopping, relaxing and reconnecting. Registration for the weekend getaway includes a wine-tasting reception, pajama party with entertainment and spa treatments, continental breakfast Saturday morning, yoga and dance sessions, personal enrichment sessions on Saturday and Sunday, Saturday night concert at the Arcada Theatre, giveaways, prizes and more! For information, visit: www.sistersweekend.com

St. Charles Citizen Police Academy

The 2010 Citizen Police Academy started on March 2nd with 18 citizens enrolled in the program. Topics covered thus far include traffic stops (how, when, and why an officer stops a vehicle for a traffic violation) and arrest procedures. Other topics covered include the department's field training program (for new officers), hostage negotiation, and sex offender registration. Upcoming topics include accident investigation, the court system (Hon. Judge Clint Hull will be the presenter), and defensive tactics.

The C.P.A. is held annually starting the first Tuesday in March and continuing for eight weeks. The class is open to all residents and anyone who works in St. Charles. For more information visit the department website or contact Crime Prevention Officer Tim Beam at 630 443-3730.



St. Charles Public Library
One S. 6th Ave.
St. Charles, IL 60174
Phone 630-584-0076
Fax 630-584-3448

Web Site:
www.stcharleslibrary.org

Home Deliv. Ext. 219
Study Rooms Ext. 210

Email:
scplref@linc.lib.il.us

Meeting Rms. Ext. 230
Youth Svcs. 630-584-9390

Special Events

Meet author Jim Kokoris at the Library: Kokoris writes with wit, warmth, and wisdom about some of society's more hapless, but thoroughly lovable, individuals in his award-winning and highly acclaimed novels: *The Rich Part of Life*; *Sister North*; and his most recent, *The Pursuit of Other Interests*. A resident of the Chicago area, Jim will be speaking about the writing life and reading from his latest novel at a program sponsored by the St. Charles Public Library Foundation on Thursday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. Attend a dessert reception at 6:30 p.m. by purchasing a \$10 ticket prior to the event date in the Business Office.

The St. Charles Public Library and School District #303 are cosponsoring the **St. Charles Literature Festival** from April 19-24. Community members will have opportunities to become acquainted with authors, illustrators, and storytellers. Special events include a Storytelling Concert at the Arcada Theatre as well as a Poetry Slam and a book sale and Author Autographing event at the Library.

Heritage Center Events

April 8, 7:00 pm **Thursday Evening Lecture**. The I&M Canal and its people. St. Charles Public Library. Free Event.

May 4, 7:00 pm **Heritage Center Book Club**. The Fifth Floor held at the St. Charles Public Library. Free Event

May 5, 12:30-2:00 **Joe K. Anderson Roundtable**. Pottawatomie Community Center. Free Event.

June 26, **St. Charles Heritage Center Bingo/Ice Cream Social Fundraiser**. Doors open at 6:30. Bingo begins at 7:00. There will be a break for ice cream during the evening. Cash Prizes! This event is being held at the **Baker Community Center**. For more details please call the Heritage Center at 630-584-6967.

Summer Book Clubs, that encourage and promote the joy of reading, will be offered for all ages this summer. Registration for the Youth Services and Young Adult programs begins on Wednesday, May 26. Adults are invited to pick up a book log at the Readers Services desk beginning the same day.

Amazing Birds: Monday, May 17 at 7 p.m. Hear amazing facts and stories about birds. Presented by local residents Kathy and Bob Andrini.

Friends of the St. Charles Public Library will hold a **Used Book Sale** on Friday, April 9 from 2:30-7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 10 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Sunday, April 11 from noon-2 p.m. Lots of bargains.



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update

Since the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation was first found in the City of St. Charles in June 2008, the Public Works Department has been collecting information, inspecting trees and evaluating options for treatment, removals and replacements. The city has over 18,000 public and private ash trees of which EAB has been confirmed in every quadrant of the city.

Currently, in public right-of-ways (parkways), ash trees that are confirmed with EAB are marked with a Purple Dot. If the confirmed EAB tree is selected for removal and replacement, it will be marked with a Pink Dot and removed soon after. Homeowners adjacent to the parkways will be notified as their trees are confirmed and/or scheduled for removal. Considering the evolving nature of this infestation, we encourage citizens to visit the City's website for the most current and accurate EAB information. Visit: www.stcharlesil.gov/pw.



St. Charles Municipal Center
 2 E. Main Street, St. Charles, IL 60174
 (630) 377-4400

- Billing - Electric/Water/Sewer**
 Turn Ons & Turn Offs 377-4426
 Building & Code Enforcement 377-4406
 City Admin./Clerk 377-4422
 Electric Division 377-4407
Electric/Water/Sewer
 after 5 p.m./weekends 443-3681
Emergency 911
 Engineering Division 377-4486
 Emergency Management Agency 377-4416
 Flood Protection Assistance and Map Eng. 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./Invest./Crime Prev. 377-4435
 Public Works-Water/Sewer/Street 377-4405
 Community Development 377-4443
 Economic Development 443-4093
 Refuse Pickup Info. (Veolia) 587-8282
 TDD 800-526-0844

Community Numbers

- Animal Control 232-3555
 Chamber of Commerce 584-8384
 Heritage Center 584-6967
 Visitors Bureau 377-6161
 Downtown St. Charles Partnership 513-5386

MEETING SCHEDULE			
Meeting	April	May	June
CITY COUNCIL	5 & 19	3 & 17	7 & 21
PLAN COMMISSION review & hold public hearings for rezoning, special use & new developments	6 & 20	4 & 18	8 & 22
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT zoning, annexation, boundary lines, downtown, comprehensive plan, code enforcement	12	10	14
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS** budget, personnel, insurance, economic development, administration	5 & 19	3 & 17	7 & 21
GOVERNMENT SERVICES utilities, city property, streets, sidewalks, sewers, water, parking lots, stormwater	26	24	28
HISTORIC PRESERVATION review facade impr. & bldg. permits for exterior work within historic dist.	7 & 21	5 & 19	2 & 16
TREE COMMISSION ++ manage city owned trees (trimming, Tree City USA, disease & pestilence, etc.)	14	12	
YOUTH COMMISSION* direct services & grants to support the welfare of the City's youth	5	3	7
CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION aesthetic improvements to City's corridors	7	5	2
HOUSING COMMISSION & preserve affordable homes, address housing issues/needs, promote awareness	15	20	17
<i>All meetings start at 7 p.m. unless noted: ++Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. ** Starts at 7:05 p.m. or right after the City Council meeting. * Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Please call the Mayor's Office at (630) 377-4445 to confirm a meeting, or visit www.stcharlesil.gov/meetings.</i>			

RESOURCES

Let an Electric Lawnmower Power your Yard

As you prepare for another season of yard work, are you in the market for a new walk-behind lawnmower? Consider purchasing an electric lawnmower! In just the past few years, many homeowners have discovered an alternative on the lawn-care market: the electric lawnmower. Available in cordless and corded models, electric mowers have a number of advantages over traditional gasoline powered push mowers. Homeowners that have used electric lawnmowers have discovered that they are easy to start, quieter, and cost only a few dollars annually to operate.

Maintenance is simple, too –no spark plugs, oil, gas, or tune-ups are necessary. Electric lawnmowers make about half the noise of conventional mowers, and start with the touch of a button. Cordless, rechargeable mowers have enough power to mow up to half an acre on a single charge. That means that 75% of all yards mowed with walk-behind gas mowers could be mowed with a cordless electric model instead.

Electric lawnmowers are available at many hardware stores. We are your St. Charles Electric Utility, powering your life.



Summer Means those Pesky Mosquitos!

The city has again entered into a contract with Clarke Mosquito Management, Inc., for the abatement program. The objective of the City's control (abatement) program is to control nuisance mosquitos, reduce the potential of mosquito-borne disease transmission, and provide a comfortable and healthy atmosphere for residents. For information regarding mosquito annoyances, treatments and scheduling residents may call Clark Mosquito Management at 800-942-2555.