

NEWSLETTER

W I N T E R 2 0 1 9

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Fall is always a busy time in and around our town. Our road crews are finishing up routine maintenance and repairs on our roads and sidewalks in preparation for winter, the first leaf pick up is upon us and our retail businesses are looking forward to a busy holiday season.

There are several large public utility projects occurring throughout the City of Ladue. The largest being the MSD Sanitary Sewer Replacement DC-02/DC-03 Project. MSD has hired the construction management firm, Black and Veatch. Should you have concerns or issues with the project, please contact Kevin Nelson at 314-802-7039. Ameren is working on a reliability improvement project which should help with power outages. And, Laclede Gas is updating some of their main lines.

Your City officials and City staff work cooperatively with all public utilities and we will always advocate on your behalf, however, it is important to remember that each utility owns their infrastructure and is responsible for its maintenance. We appreciate any maintenance and upgrades but they can be disruptive at times. We are here to help you.

The City's Comprehensive Plan Review is underway. A Comprehensive Plan Review is a significant opportunity to examine our City vision and to shape our future. Many thanks to the Zoning and Planning Commission, Citizen Advisory Committee, and the City Council for their willingness to participate in this process. There will be many opportunities for citizen engagement and I look forward to hearing your thoughts, ideas and opinions.

Our Annual Trustee Meeting was well attended. I always enjoy meeting new trustees and connecting with residents at this meeting. Your lane trustees are a conduit for information so I encourage you to know your representatives and to communicate with them as well. We reach out to lane trustees with pertinent information and rely on them as one avenue to inform you. Many City improvements began with lane trustees giving feedback which we gratefully appreciate.

The City of Ladue has launched a social media program with a new Facebook page and Instagram.

Please "like" our page (City of Ladue) and follow us on Instagram for important news and fun facts! You may also sign up for email alerts on our website. We continue to add content to the website and hope it is a valuable resource for the community.

Please remember to remove valuables, and your garage door opener, from your vehicles and to lock the doors! We have police officers on continuous patrols 24 hours a day and we believe we have been effective in reducing the number of incidents. Our officers have made some arrests, but there are several groups operating and dozens of suspects throughout the St. Louis region. It is very important to call 911 if you see or hear anything suspicious. We will always respond.

As always, support your local businesses and shop Ladue. I hope to see you out and about over the next few months and I am always available at City Hall.

Best,

Nancy

Mayor Nancy Spewak



Public Works Update

Best Management Practices for Stream Maintenance

Did you know that you are responsible for maintenance of any stream that flows through or along side your property? Neither the City nor MSD is responsible for creeks that are located on private property. MSD will investigate blocked creek complaints. However, MSD will only remove debris that is deemed a flooding threat. MSD will not be responsible to remove typical debris or branches that are not considered a flooding hazard.

A healthy stream can be a wonderful asset to any property. It has aesthetic value that can add real value to your property. A healthy stream can provide habitat and greenways for animals to travel through. While it does provide storm water relief, it can also recharge groundwater.

On the other hand, an unhealthy stream can lower property values. The goal of this article is to give streamside landowners some guidelines on activities that adversely affect a stream and provide some best management practices (BMPs) for healthy streams.

Although you can play a key role in stream care, a stream's health is also affected by activities far beyond the boundary of your property. Urban runoff almost always carries debris and pollutants that pose significant problems for streams. While you may have little control over the entire watershed, your diligence and cooperation with other streamside neighbors can prevent and reduce activities that harm your stream.

Some BMPs include:

- Never dump gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze, battery acid, or other automotive fluids into a stream or storm drain.
- Dispose of unusable paints and paint products at your local household hazardous waste facility.
- Avoid washing your car on a paved driveway or street that drains to a stream. Use a commercial car wash.
- The best way to drain your swimming pool is to let the chlorine dissipate by allowing the water to sit for up to two weeks and then drain onto landscaping.
- If your downspouts are piped to a stream, consider re-directing the flow onto a grassed area to allow infiltration.
- Never dump grass, leaves or tree limbs on the banks of the stream or into the stream. Please utilize the City's leaf and brush collection programs.
- Do not overfertilize your lawn, so chemicals do not runoff into the stream.



Fall 2019 Leaf Collection Schedule	
Sections	5A, 3B, 5C
Week of:	October 21, November 4, December 9
Sections	4B, 1A, 3A
Week of:	October 21, November 11, December 16
Sections	1B, 4A, 2A
Week of:	October 28, November 18, December 23
Sections	5B, 3C, 2B
Week of:	October 28, December 2, January 6

The riparian corridor is the area of vegetation that extends from the stream channel up the banks and into the surrounding landscape. Landowners should devote as much yard as possible to the riparian corridor to promote a healthy stream. Tree roots stabilize streambanks while branches shade the stream, cooling the water temperature. Cooler temperatures allow water to hold more oxygen and therefore support more life.

When landscaping for a healthy stream, there are two main goals that you want to achieve. The first is to reduce runoff from your land to the stream by increasing deep infiltration of water. The second is to reduce the pollutant load off your land into the stream by using stream friendly land management practices in your landscape. The turf management practice that is healthiest for your stream is to minimize the amount of lawn in your landscape. Turf lawn has a short root system of 3 inches or less compared to the root system of native plants, which can reach up to 10 feet or more. One way to reduce turf areas is to create planting beds of perennial plants and shrubs, preferably native plants that are drought tolerant and suited to your site conditions. Once established, native plants will not need additional water, fertilizer, or pest control.

One landowner can make a difference on his or her own property. However, the problems seen in the stream are most often symptoms of changes or actions taking place elsewhere in the watershed. To bring about real change, and to protect your property from further erosion, you will need to become active on a watershed basis. Information on the Deer Creek Watershed Alliance can be found at <https://www.deercreekalliance.org/>.

Information for this article was taken from Stream Care Guide: An Owner's Manual Designed for Streamside Landowners published by the Soil and Water Conservation District of St. Louis County, Missouri. The manual can be found at <https://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub1192.pdf>.

Please help us welcome new businesses that opened in Ladue during 2019.

CASSIE'S
8837 Ladue Road
<https://cassiesscents.com/>

AMAZING LASH STUDIO
1556 S. Lindbergh
<https://www.amazinglashstudio.com/studios/mo/st-louis/ladue>

THE NOOK
9794 Clayton Road
<https://www.thenookstl.org/>

OSTEOSTRONG
9733 Clayton Road
<https://centers.osteoststrong.me/osteoststrong-ladue-missouri/>

— • *Save The Date* • —

LADUE

HOLIDAY WALK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

Enjoy Christmas carolers and a special visit from Santa Claus, Frosty the Snowman, and Louie, the St. Louis Blues beloved mascot! Your favorite Ladue merchants will be offering raffle prizes, special discounts, holiday treats and more!



Police Department News

Community policing is a collaboration between law enforcement and the community they serve. This includes an expanded outlook on crime prevention, as citizens work together with law enforcement to help enhance the safety and overall quality of the community. An example of this partnership, which continues to evolve, is the utilization of home security systems.

The world of home surveillance technology has seen unprecedented growth throughout the past decade and the abundance of affordable options has made it easier for everyone to invest in some form of home surveillance equipment. Two types of home surveillance systems that offer the best protection for your home include:

- **Monitored Security Systems:** Detects movement, glass breakage, open doors, smoke in the home, and contacts home owners via telephone if an alarm is activated, as well as notifies police and fire for response.
- **Security Camera System:** Provides interior and ex-

terior video of your property, can be programmed to alert the owner via cell phone if movement is detected, and can be used in conjunction with a monitored security system.

While these systems assist law enforcement during investigations, they may more importantly help prevent crimes from occurring. The placement of surveillance cameras on the exterior of one's home, in addition to signage alerting suspects that the home is monitored by a security system, may be enough to scare off potential thieves. Additional reasons to consider investing in a home surveillance system include:

- **Provides Your Family Peace of Mind:** Know your home is protected from a variety of alarming scenarios, including medical emergencies. Home security systems not only monitor all areas of the home, but they also dispatch authorities when needed.
- **Protects Your Home from Intruders and Protects Your Valuables:** In addition to signaling authorities that there may be an intruder and increasing the chances that intruders will be caught, the cameras installed will provide visual documentation, which assists in investigations and the prosecution of crimes.
- **Protects Your Home from Fires and Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:** Many home security systems not only warn occupants of the presence of smoke in the home, but they also warn of sources of unusual heat and contact authorities. Having carbon monoxide detectors installed along with the home security system provides emergency service dispatch to help prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

Strong community relationships are vital for crime prevention and effective policing. Through creative collaborations, law enforcement and citizens can significantly impact crime, as well as the fear of crime, while improving the quality of life and creating safer neighborhoods. In the next Ladue Newsletter, we will continue discussing community policing and various efforts being made to positively impact our community.

Sincerely,

Ken Andreski, Jr.
Chief of Police

Fire Safety for People With Disabilities



Millions of Americans live with physical and mental disabilities. It is important to know your risk and build your fire prevention plans around your abilities.

- ✓ Have smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Interconnect your alarms, so when one sounds, they all sound.
- ✓ If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use smoke alarms with a vibrating pad, flashing light or strobe light. These accessories start when your alarm sounds.
- ✓ Test your alarms every month.



Plan your escape around your abilities.

- ✓ Know two ways out of every room.
- ✓ If possible, live near an exit.
- ✓ You'll be safest on the ground floor if you live in an apartment building.
- ✓ If you live in a multistory home, sleep on the first floor.
- ✓ Being on the ground floor and near an exit will make your escape easier.

For more information and free resources, visit

www.usfa.fema.gov



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add image.





Outdoor Fire Pit Safety - Be Responsible

Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal

Jeff Johnson

jjohnson@cityofladue-mo.gov

Residents of Ladue,

As the Fall season and cooler weather approaches, I would like to share some safety tips for using recreational outdoor fire pits.

- Note the wind and weather conditions. Wind can carry hot embers to nearby combustible materials.
- Always locate the fire pit away from combustible walls and materials.
- Start with a small fire. Never overload the fire pit.
- Never use gasoline to start the fire. Use kindling in conjunction with seasoned hardwoods such as oak and hickory. Soft woods such as pine and cedar will pop and produce embers.
- If your fire pit has a screen... USE IT. They are designed to help control embers.
- Always keep a hose, water supply, sand bucket or fire extinguisher in proximity.
- When adding fire wood wear gloves to protect your hands.
- Be attentive and do not allow children to get too close.
- When you are done for the night, do not just throw water on the fire and call it a night. Make sure the fire is out. Saturate any remaining fire wood/ashes with water.
- Never dispose of ashes into a regular trash can. Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Ashes should be placed in a metal ash bucket and then located away from combustible materials.
- Ashes can smolder for several hours to days but look like they are out therefore, don't ever bring ashes into the house, garage or portico.

If the Fire Department can ever be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. Stay safe and please remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks.

Ladue Garden Club

Announcing Ladue Garden Club's New Website

Ladue Garden Club has launched a new website, laduegardenclub.org, available to the Ladue community. You will find information on topics such as native Missouri plants and trees, inspirational floral design ideas, and how a new committee is working to name Ladue a Tree City. Educational articles like composting and recycling will also be available later this fall. And, check out the grant recipients from the past 10 years! A link to the Ladue Garden Club website can also be found on the City of Ladue website on the Conservation Conversation page.

Oak Wilt

Sean Seed, Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector

Oak wilt is a disease affecting oak trees caused by a fungus called *Ceratocystis fagacearum*. Vascular tissue of a tree, called the xylem, transports water and dissolved nutrients (sap) upward from the root. The fungus infiltrates the xylem and disrupts the transportation of sap to the leaves. The disease can be transmitted by root grafts that join vascular systems of differing trees together up to 50 feet apart, and by sap-feeding beetles that spread the spores from diseased trees to healthy ones. Black, pin, red, and scarlet oaks, from the black oak group, are more susceptible to oak wilt than bur, chinkapin, swamp, and white oaks, from the white oak group. Symptoms of oak wilt include; a dull-green appearance of wilted leaves leading to wilted leaves that curl and turn tan or bronze. The base of

the leaf and the main vein will remain green for some time. Peeled bark or a cut branch from an infected tree may show brown or black discoloration in the outer sapwood ring. A laboratory test is required for positive diagnosis. Unfortunately, there is no cure for oak wilt, but options to prevent the spread of oak wilt include; severing root grafts, ensuring your oaks are healthy, avoid pruning oaks between mid-March and late June while sap-feeding beetles are most active. The best time for pruning is in the winter prior to mid-March. It is also advantageous to plant more oaks from the white oak group, and when planting oaks from the black oak group ensure that they are planted more than 50 feet apart to prevent root grafts.

Recycle Responsibly – NO WISHCYCLING!

Wish-cycling is the practice of tossing questionable items in the recycling bin, hoping they can somehow be recycled. Acting on those good intentions can do a lot of harm. The best case scenario is that the items are separated then landfilled, which costs time and money. The worst case scenario is that items contaminate other recyclables, rendering the entire batch useless. Wishcycling can also damage processing equipment, like when plastic bags end up tangled in sorting screens and conveyor belts. Wish-cycling is one of the biggest issues facing recycling today.

When unsure if an item is recyclable, follow these simple rules:

- If it is a household bottle or container and it is metal, glass, or plastic, it is recyclable. Containers need to be empty and dry. Keep lids ON.
- Recycle your paper* and cardboard.
- Recycle your empty and dry cartons (i.e. orange juice, milk, broth etc.).

If it doesn't fall under these categories, throw it away, or check www.stlcityrecycles.com/database to see if it's recyclable elsewhere.

**Paper towels, toilet paper, tissue paper are not recyclable.*



BOSTA Update

Your BOSTA (Beautification, Open Space, and Tree Advisory) Committee had a busy first year, after being established by Ladue ordinance in mid-2018.

Our **Tree City USA** application was completed and we await word that we've been approved for designation as a Tree City USA.

The first annual **Arbor Day Celebration** was held in the Spring. A beautiful dogwood tree was planted at Ladue's municipal campus and art work from Ladue Schools third graders was displayed.

The first **Annual Honeysuckle Hack** was held last Fall. A group of resident volunteers removed invasive honeysuckle throughout Rodes Park.

A **Municipal Parks Planning Grant** was awarded to the city to explore developing **Edie's Mulch Site** into a passive park with trails that eventually would connect to the Clayton Rd business district and surrounding areas. City Council recently approved a Master Plan for the property so we will now fine tune the plan and apply for a Municipal Parks Grant to implement the project beginning as early as 2021. The City will coordinate with MSD's Deer Creek sanitary sewer replacement project that traverses the property.

The Mary Stacey Memorial Tree Project was funded by the Ladue Garden Club and a resolution to create the project was approved by City Council. This survey will document all trees on city right-of-ways and public property and will help us develop a plan for tree maintenance and future plantings.

The committee met recently and discussed items for focus in our second year such as:

- **Improvements to Rodes Park**, incorporating native plants and trees to the landscape.
- **Reviewing and adding to the city's lists of suggested trees, shrubs**, etc with an emphasis on using indigenous/native plantings when landscaping city properties and right of ways.
- Researching development of a **legacy tree planting plan**.
- Planning our second **Annual Honeysuckle Hack** for Saturday, November 17, 8-10am.
- Continue the planning process for **converting Edie's Mulch Site** into a passive trail park as mentioned above. Please let the BOSTA Committee know if you have questions or comments. Contact: publicworks@cityofladue-mo.gov

Say "YES" to native plants!

Fall is a good time to plant trees, especially native trees that are attractive to butterflies and bees and provide seasonal interest. Native trees reduce maintenance because once they are established, (usually two growing seasons), they require little or no watering outside of what nature provides. They also require little fertilizer or pesticides which makes your yard a healthier place for you, your family, and your pets. The following native trees are less than 30' tall and fit any landscape, but especially good for small to medium size yards.

Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)
Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*)
Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)
Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)
Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
Green Hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*)
Witchhazel (*Hammamelis virginiana*)
Wild Plum (*Prunus americana*)

If you are thinking ahead to spring and trying to figure out plants that can withstand frequent heavy rains and help with soil erosion, then look for plants that are self sowing, have deep fibrous root systems, or spread by suckering. The following native plants will help hold soil in place and reduce stormwater runoff:

Virginia Sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)
Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)
Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)
Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)
Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
Northern Sea Oats (*Chasmanthium latifolia*)
Palm Sedge (*Carex muskingumensis*)
Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)
Fragrant Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*) and cultivar (*Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low')
Ostrich Ferns (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*)

City of Ladue
9345 Clayton Road
St. Louis County, MO 63124

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City Council Members

WARD 1 STACEY KAMPS AND JOHN HOWELL

WARD 2 JOHN FOX AND PATRICK HENSLEY

WARD 3 HAL BURROUGHS AND BILL BRENNAN

(CONTACT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE CITY
WEBSITE, www.cityofladue-mo.gov)



City Directory

MAYOR	314-993-3439 ext. 245
ADMINISTRATION	314-993-3439
BUILDING	314-997-6308
MUNICIPAL COURT	314-993-3919
PUBLIC WORKS	314-993-5665
PUBLIC WORKS – FAX	314-994-3195
POLICE (non-emergency)	314-993-1214
FIRE (non-emergency)	314-993-0181
FIRE – FAX	314-993-0412
FAX (all other departments)	314-993-5652
Website	www.cityofladue-mo.gov
E-MAIL	lrider@cityofladue-mo.gov nspewak@cityofladue-mo.gov