

NEWSLETTER

W I N T E R 2 0 1 4

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope everyone enjoyed time with family and friends over the holidays and welcomed the year 2015 with a sense of joy and optimism. Here at City Hall we are approaching the year with excitement for the many opportunities to continue providing the high quality services our residents and businesses appreciate and expect.

The City of Ladue's outlook for 2015 is a positive one. Our revenues provide us with sufficient resources and our reserves are healthy. The budget in its entirety is available for view on the City website. I would like to thank our Finance Committee, under the wise leadership of Jim Schiele, for their efforts with regard to the budgeting process. We are lucky to have such dedicated professionals to lend the City their expertise and advice.

So, what's new for 2015?

For the first time in recent memory, the City of Ladue will address storm water concerns in an organized manner. Our first step will be to conduct a city-wide storm water study. The oversight for this important project lies in the capable hands of our Public Works Director, Anne Lamitola. Anne issued requests for

proposals for this study and is currently reviewing qualified submittals from a number of firms. The storm water study will give every resident an opportunity to describe water issues that affect them. Once the issues are identified and categorized, priorities will be identified and solutions will be sought.

The architectural design process will begin this year for Firehouse Number One with a goal of breaking ground in 2016. Our Firehouse Oversight Construction Committee is led by Councilman John Fox and the Chair of our Fire and Police Commissioners, Bill Francis. John and Bill, along with the committee, were invaluable to us during the design and construction of Firehouse Two and I am looking forward to working with them on the next house.

Our Building Department has a new clerk, Vicki Gant. Vicki has been with the City as our accounts receivable clerk and is transitioning to her new position. I know that you will find her to be helpful and efficient. Ladue holds its residents to high standards when it comes

to improving our homes. This is an appropriate time to thank our Architectural Review Board for their time and dedication. They give generously of their time and expertise.

The McKnight Road project will be completed in 2015. We are all looking forward to a beautiful new road with sidewalks. The Price Road project will begin in 2015 and will include a new road bed and the replacement and addition of sidewalks along the road. Each of these projects are 80% federally funded through the gasoline tax you pay at the pump. Ladue contributes the remaining 20%. We continue to improve the walkability and connectivity of our community as we improve roads and add or upgrade sidewalks.

As the economy improves, the City will continue to support local businesses. Many of our shops and restaurants are owned by Ladue residents and they provide a level of personal service unequaled in St. Louis. Whether you are shopping, eating, or looking for a service, think and shop Ladue first!

As always, I encourage you to give me a call, drop me an email or stop by City Hall. I welcome your thoughts and opinions.

Mayor Nancy Spewak



City of Ladue Public Works Update

As the New Year has been rung in, the Public Works Department has just wrapped up another successful leaf collection season! Staff at the Ladue Compost Facility is busy processing the leaves into mulch which will be ready in late February or early March. Currently, crews are picking up Christmas trees curbside. The 2015 Brush Collection will begin in March and will continue monthly through September. Leaves will be collected again in April.

For more information about leaf mulch availability or to report a curbside Christmas tree that needs to be collected, please call the Public Works Office at (314) 993-5665. To view the monthly brush or April leaf collection schedule, please visit the Public Works Department page of the City's website at: www.cityofladue-mo.gov

In other news, the McKnight Road improvement project spanning from Clayton Road to Ladue Road began on September 2, 2014. The north bridge near Robin Hill was replaced and reopened on November 17, 2014. Crews will continue to work as weather permits on storm sewer and sidewalk installation over the winter. The south bridge will be replaced over a 60 day period beginning sometime in February, depending on weather conditions. Asphalt paving work will take place at the end of the project in Spring 2015. Additional information about the project is available on the City's website: www.cityofladue-mo.gov The Public Works Department wants to thank all of the residents along McKnight and the various subdivisions off McKnight for your patience during the construction process!

Price Road improvements are scheduled to begin in late Spring 2015 after the completion of McKnight. The project will consist of sidewalk and curb replacement on the west side of Price as well as storm sewer improvements and pavement rehabilitation.

Please call the Public Works Department for further questions or comments at (314) 993-5665.

Best regards,
Anne C. Lamitola, P.E.
Director of Public Works

Keep litter and leaves out of storm drains

Many residents do not realize the environmental impact of their daily habits. Take yard waste for example.

- ❑ In Ladue, the sanitary and storm systems are separate. If yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings, and small twigs are disposed of in a storm drain, they will make their way to a natural body of water where they threaten aquatic life and degrade water quality.

Yard waste can clog inlets, leading to street and yard flooding.



What is a Storm Drain or Inlet?

Storm drains or inlets prevent flooding by draining rainwater and melted snow off of streets and other paved surfaces. They can be found on urban and suburban streets, often at corners and on the sides of curbs. Area inlets can be located along streets or on private properties in drainage easements. Drains or inlets on the street itself are grated to prevent debris from entering. In much of the St. Louis area, stormwater does not go to the wastewater treatment plant. Instead, it is released into the environment along with any pollutants picked up along the way.

You can help!

Remember - if it is on the ground, it is in our water.

- ❑ Never allow yard waste to be washed down or put into storm drains.
- ❑ Sweep driveways and sidewalks clean. Remove debris and residue that could end up in a storm drain from concrete and paved areas around your house.
- ❑ Do not sweep or blow grass clippings along the street or into a storm drain.

The City of Ladue thanks all our residents that help to clear these stormwater drains of debris.

New Fire Station #2

For the past year, I have been reporting the progress of the re-construction of fire station #2 at 9911 Clayton Road. I am pleased to announce that the replacement fire station opened on October 25th after the dedication ceremony hosted by Mayor Spewak and City Council Members. The new fire house replaced the previous fire station, built on the same lot in 1950. If you missed the dedication and open house and want a tour of the building, stop in or call 314-993-1258 and speak with the on-duty Captain. The firefighters are always more than happy to show our residents the new building. And, as usual, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 314-993-0181.

John Bailot, Fire Chief



LADUE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE MORE ACTIVE THAN EVER!

The City of Ladue Archives is more busy and active than ever collecting vintage and historical Ladue memorabilia for current and future generations of Ladue residents to enjoy. Terrific items continue to be donated to the City by long time residents and their families. If you, or someone you know, is interested in donating an item to the City of Ladue, please contact Committee Chair Charlie Hiemenz at 991-9176 or achiemenz@aol.com.

The Archives Committee continues to seek historical Ladue items such as:

- Old letters
- Old maps of the area
- Vintage photographs
- Newspaper articles/periodicals
- Subdivision documents and records
- Artwork related to the Ladue area

LADUE TRIVIA: The dogwood flower was adopted as the official emblem for the City of Ladue by the Ladue City Council in 1951 and was displayed on all City issued automobile stickers. Today this official emblem appears on City vehicles, the City flag, City road entrance signs, signs identifying Ladue creeks, and in many other areas around and in the City of Ladue.



Did you know that fires in the home occur more in the winter than in any other season?

Half of all home heating fires occur in the months of December, January and February. Heating equipment is involved in 1 in every 6 reported home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths. Here are some tips to help keep you safe in this cold winter season:

1. Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source such as a fireplace, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.
2. Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year. Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside AT LEAST 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.
3. Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build fires in the fireplace. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.
4. Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. Never close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
5. Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time. Only use extension cords which have the necessary rating to carry an amp load.
6. It is important that you have your furnace inspected to ensure that it is in good working condition. Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition. Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists.
7. Frozen water pipes? NEVER try to thaw them with a blow torch or other open flame, otherwise the pipe could conduct the heat and ignite the wall structure inside the wall space. Use hot water or a laboratory tested device such as a hand held dryer for thawing.

If the Fire Department can ever be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact us on our non-emergency number at 314-993-0181 or feel free to stop by either of our fire stations:

☐ Station #1: 9213 Clayton Road

☐ Station #2: 9911 Clayton Road

Stay safe and please remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors!

Sources: www.nfpa.org and www.usfa.dhs.gov

Fire Department News

Recently, the fire department responded on an incident in which a carbon monoxide detector activated and the cause was not determined initially. When the gas company came out to investigate further it was determined that the alarm was set off due to the overcharging of a golf cart battery. There is an article in Firehouse Magazine titled "The Unexpected Golf Cart Hazard" that I was able to locate.

In the article, a fire department from central Florida was dispatched on a carbon monoxide detector that had alarmed. After ventilating the structure the apparent carbon monoxide levels dropped to zero. The electric golf cart was unplugged and the residents felt fine and declined any treatment. The fire department units returned in service but decided to do some additional research. It was noted that there were similar carbon monoxide detector activations involving golf carts that were being charged.

It was determined that lead batteries do not emit carbon monoxide. They do, however, emit hydrogen. It was also noted that carbon monoxide detectors will activate when exposed to high amounts of hydrogen. Hydrogen gas like carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas.

The dangers of hydrogen can include asphyxiation, fire and explosion. For a fire and/or explosion to occur there would need to be:

1. Accumulation of hydrogen gas
2. Failure to detect the hydrogen
3. Source of ignition

Little data is available indicating the health effects of long-term exposure to the gases given off during a battery charging process. The quantity required to cause death is very substantial. Many occupants have complained of headaches, nausea, difficulty breathing and vertigo. This is believed to be caused by the oxygen displacement in a well-sealed home rather than the hydrogen gas itself.

Newer golf carts and chargers do allow for the automatic shutoff of the charging system when the cycle is completed. Some of the older golf cart models and after-market charging systems do allow for the continuous charging and as a result can produce continuous production of hydrogen gas.

If you own an electric golf cart or an after-market charging system for the cart it is recommended that you check with the manufacturer to find out if your system allows for the automatic shutoff when the charging cycle is completed.

Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Jeff Johnson

Shop Ladue

AND SUPPORT OUR LOCAL MERCHANTS

If you are seeking that special gift, card or service, Ladue is the place to shop. From Schneithorst's Village and the Schnucks Plaza at Lindbergh and Clayton, through The Market Place on Clayton Road and Clayprice Center at Price and Clayton to Ladue Crossing and Colonial Marketplace at Ladue and Gay, you will find shops teeming with beautiful and unique gifts for others and, of course, yourself!

Take the time to stop in our many boutiques, take advantage of luxury services in salons and exercise studios, or pick up a bouquet of flowers for your table. You will find that many of your friends and neighbors are the owners and that each of our shops will go the extra mile! Customer service is always first and services like gift wrapping are cheerfully presented.

Our businesses support our City services with tax dollars, so the next time you indulge or just need to stop at the hardware store or the grocery, SHOP LADUE! It is an experience sure to please.



Municipal Public Education Calendar

February: Correctly Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste

Correctly dispose of household hazardous waste

Ah, springtime is coming. Time for spring cleaning. And what happens when we clean the basement, in the garage and under the sink? We often come across things like paint, motor oil, and cleaners. Can they go in the trash or are they considered household hazardous waste (HHW)?

Products around the home that contain chemicals which are toxic, flammable, corrosive, or reactive are hazardous household products. These products are safe when used and stored following label direction. However, when the products become unusable and are no longer wanted, they become household hazardous waste.

Until recently, the best option for disposing of household hazardous waste in our area was to wait for collection days organized by various government entities and non-profits. In 2013, through a partnership with the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility opened at 291 E. Hoffmeister, St. Louis, MO 63125 on the grounds of the Lemay Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Residents of Jefferson County, St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis are encouraged to take advantage of this facility. Additional locations are anticipated to open in the coming years.

For more information including what you can drop off, visit: <http://www.hhwstl.com>. While on the site, make sure to learn about ways to reduce and reuse household hazardous waste materials so you don't have to make the trip too often.



With spring in mind our dedicated committee of residents and Ladue staff, chaired by Susan Gausnell, has been working diligently to plan a community day of celebration and fun.

Join the Grand Marshall, John Mozeliak, General Manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, who will lead the parade from Ladue High School, down Clayton Road, to the Ladue Middle School grounds. We are honored to have his participation this year. There will be antique and collectible cars, musical groups, business and subdivision parade floats along with many school age participants from our public and private schools. If you are not a parade participant, plan to bring a chair and stake out a spot along the parade route!

As the parade winds down, we'll gather on the Ladue Middle School grounds for the Festival. You'll be able to sample fare from our local restaurants, take a look inside our state of the art ambulance and our fire trucks, and participate in games and activities. There will be lots of music and friendly faces.



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

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City Council Members

WARD 1 A. CHARLES HIEMENZ 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

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nspewak@cityofladue-mo.gov