

# Ladue Notes

News and Happenings

SPRING 2013

## Mayor's Desk

I would first like to say that it was an honor to be elected as the Mayor of Ladue in 2011, and I have felt privileged to serve on behalf of the residents for these past two years. Over this time I always welcomed and appreciated the many suggestions from these same residents. I would like to thank all those who serve on the city's various committees; the expertise, time, and dedication provided by these people all help make Ladue special. In addition, the members of our City Council also deserve special acknowledgement. They were all elected to make decisions for the city, some of which are not easy, but all of which are meant to better Ladue. I would also like to thank the many great employees of the city who strive to make Ladue a great city to live.

For the past two years, we have worked to make the city operate as efficiently as possible. While this is not an easy task, it is important because it will allow the city to better serve its residents. We formed a governance committee to study the structure of Ladue so that we can ensure the city is managed in a professional and businesslike manner. I am happy to say that not only has a recommendation been made, but it is being reviewed by the City Council at this time. In addition to the recommended structural changes at city hall, there are other issues that need to be addressed. These range in scope from some updates at the city hall building to updates in the processes and technology used for record keeping. Ladue has the resources, and we should strive to stay on par with the top communities in the country. This includes making the best use of the Business Corridor in downtown Ladue, a special and unique part of the city.

While the city saw the loss of some experienced personnel due to retirement, the newly hired public works director and fire chief are exciting additions to the management team. New firehouses are being designed. Road and sidewalk projects are on schedule, as are other general city beautification projects. The MICDS and Burroughs expansions are moving along and promise to be great additions to our community. These are all examples of the underlying excitement and energy in Ladue.

## Building Department



### Tree Removal

As spring arrives please be on the lookout for diseased, dead, or hazardous trees. These trees can pose a danger to your property or those around you during severe storms. Dead trees are required to be removed, and the removal of any live tree over 6" in caliper requires a permit.

### Required Permits

Did you know many outdoor projects require building permits? Fences, patios, retaining walls, and play-sets are just a few examples of small projects that require permits. A simple phone call in advance of your project can answer any questions you may have regarding zoning requirements and whether or not a permit will be required.

Inside your residence, the removal of plaster or drywall requires a permit. Obtaining permits will ensure your project is done right and help protect your investment.

Call 997-6308 today to discuss your spring project.

## Fire Department News

The Fire Department is proud to announce that John Bailot has been named as the new Fire Chief. Chief Bailot came to us from the City of Olivette where he had been the Fire Chief for the past four years, prior to that, he was the Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal for the City of Kirkwood. The new Chief's first day on the job was February 25<sup>th</sup>.

With the spring season and warmer weather just around the corner, now is a great time to remind our residents of several issues the Fire Department runs into during the warmer weather.

- If there is a fire hydrant located near your residence please remember that it needs to be visible. Please keep shrubs, tree limbs and plants trimmed so that the fire hydrants can be located in an emergency so we can access them without delay. Never stack limbs or yard waste in front of a fire hydrant.
- If you live down a long driveway, street, or lane, make sure the brush, trees and tree limbs are trimmed back to allow access for emergency vehicles. Remember, our fire trucks are wide and tall and require clear roads and lanes to prevent delays when responding to an emergency.
- Please remember to remind your landscapers and lawn care services that emergency vehicles need to be able to access the streets for emergencies. Many times we find their vehicles/trailers parked on the street in a manner that can delay the response of one of our emergency vehicles.

As the weather warms up our emergency personnel will be out inspecting all of the fire hydrants within the City. This is very important as it not only familiarizes our personnel with the various locations, but it also ensures that they are visible and in good working order. Our personnel always try to limit washing away mulched areas and new plantings; however water does need to be flushed from the hydrant to clean out rocks, dirt and debris. Every year the Fire Department finds fire hydrants that are in need of some sort of repair or need limbs trimmed back. Please remember that this benefits our residents so that we can be assured that the fire hydrants are ready when needed.

Our last reminder is that as we move our clocks forward, it is strongly recommended that you change the batteries in your smoke detectors. In addition to having one in each bedroom and hallway, there should be at least one smoke detector on each level of your residence, including your basement. Smoke detectors do save lives, and we want to see you and your family safe.

As always, please feel free to stop by either of YOUR fire stations to meet the professional Firefighters/Paramedics of Ladue. We are always happy to answer questions, give a tour or show any of the emergency equipment that we carry.

## Police Department News



In previous newsletters I have often included news related to crime in and around the City of Ladue. This newsletter is no different; recently, our police department as well as surrounding cities have seen a number of thefts of wallets from purses while visiting retail establishments, especially grocery stores, restaurants, book stores, and, yes, churches.

Most of these crimes have been in the category of wallets stolen from open purses in unattended shopping carts.

We have all seen it - a grocery cart with a purse - and no owner in sight! Or maybe the owner is reaching on a shelf with their back to the cart. Sometimes it's a purse hung over the back of a chair while the owner gets up to get something a short distance away.

Unattended purses or wallets are an open invitation to thieves. Whether inside of a shopping cart or hanging on the back of a chair in a public location, this practice is just advertising theft.

It's not a matter of IF, but a matter of WHEN. Be Smart!!!

- NEVER leave a purse in a grocery cart when going to another aisle.
- NEVER turn your back on the shopping cart with a purse inside while reaching for an item.
- NEVER leave a purse hanging on the back of a chair.
- ALWAYS keep your purse on your arm or crossed over to the front and keep it CLOSED!
- ALWAYS keep your purse next to you when at a restaurant or any public area where you are sitting.
- ALWAYS keep your wallet on you, preferably in a FRONT pocket.

Besides the obvious benefit of finding immediate cash, when a thief steals your wallet or purse, they gain immediate access to the information necessary to steal your identity. It may seem a low-tech method for obtaining your personal information, but the fact is, stealing your wallet or purse is still a major source of identity theft.



# Department of Public Works

## Leaf Mulch

Another breaking record year in the amount of leaves picked up in the City. We have collected over 19,432 square cubic yards of leaves, and we have an abundance of leaf mulch just waiting for the resident to use. Wood chips and leaf mulch are free to Ladue residents. Delivery charges are \$60 per dump truck and \$30 per pick-up truck. To order, call our office at 314-993-5665.

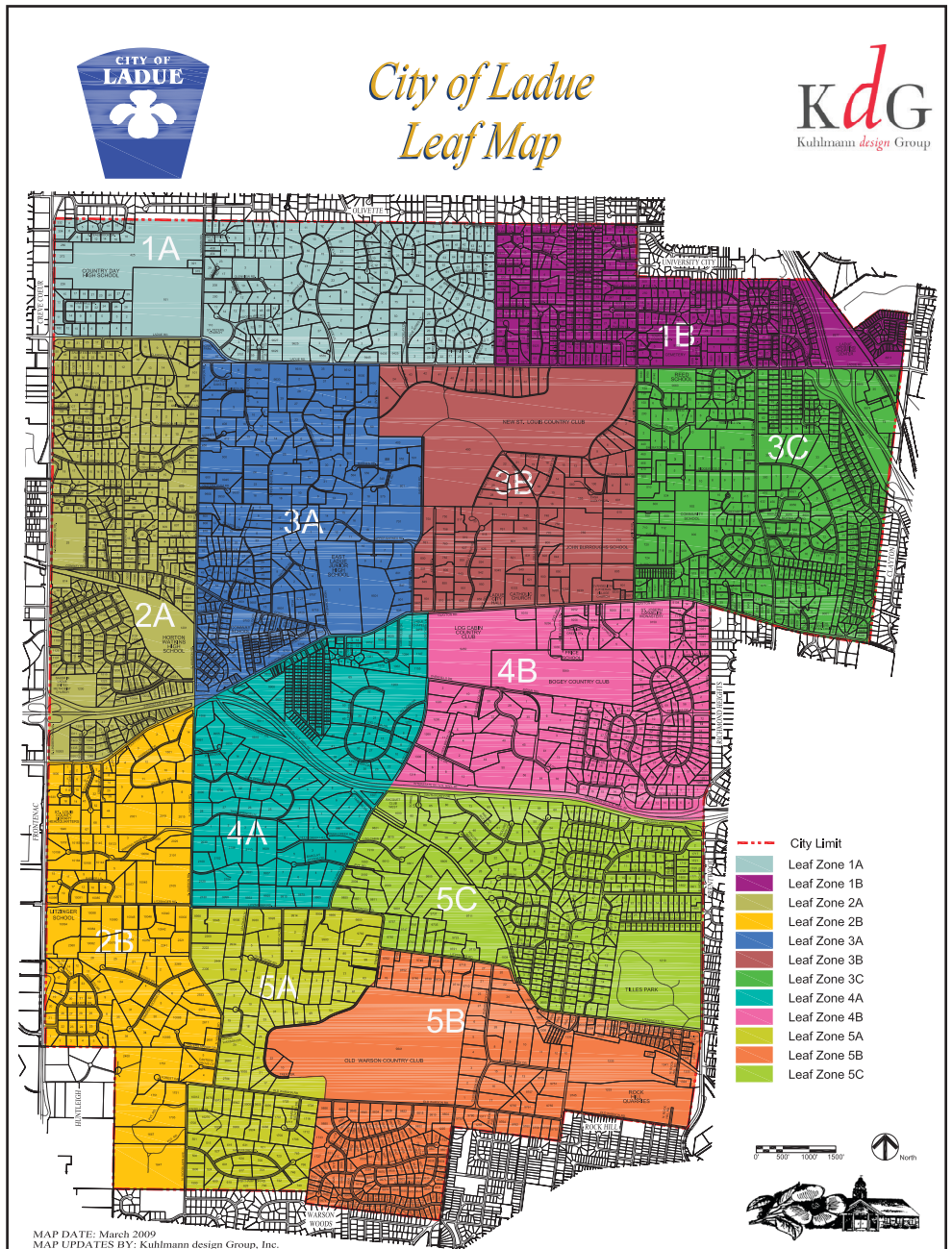


## Old Warson Drainage Improvements

Funding is allocated for 2013 to address a drainage problem on Old Warson Road near the 9800 block. There is a ground water condition which surfaces in this stretch, draining over the curb and onto the pavement. The proposed solution is for the installation of a French Drain behind the curb that feeds into an existing area inlet downstream.

## Ladue/Warson Road Sidewalks

This project is under construction with Gershenson Construction. Versa-lock block walls and sidewalk were installed along Ladue Road in January and February. Sidewalk placement on Warson will take place after the work on Ladue Road is complete. Although the project is under construction in the winter months, it is still anticipated to be completed by April.



## 2013 Spring Leaf Pick-up Schedule

### April only

#### Week of

01	Section 4B	1A	3A
08	Section 1B	4A	2A
15	Section 5B	3C	2B
22	Section 5A	3B	5C

Meetings

**City Council**            **4:00 PM**  
April 15    May 20    June 17

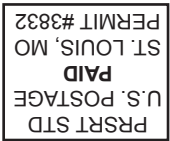
**Zoning & Planning**   **4:00 PM**  
April 24    May 22    June 26

NOTE – MEETING DATES AND TIMES ARE  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE CALL CITY HALL TO VERIFY MEETING.



City Directory

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	<a href="http://www.cityofladue-mo.gov">www.cityofladue-mo.gov</a>
E-MAIL	<a href="mailto:administration@cityofladue-mo.gov">administration@cityofladue-mo.gov</a>



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