Second Year of 319 Grant Nets Greener Stormwater Runoff Solution at City’s Law Enforcement Center and More

It’s been more than a year since Wentzville was awarded a Section 319 Nonpoint Source (NPS) Grant for $748,015 through Missouri’s Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from the U.S. EPA Region VII under the Clean Water Act. The Grant is helping Wentzville reduce contaminants flowing into creeks and Nonpoint Source (NPS) pollution from fertilizers, trash, oil, and other contaminants that rainwater picks up along its route to drainage ways. Because NPS pollution comes from a variety of sources rather than from a pipe or easily identifiable location, preventing it is particularly challenging. The 319 Grant combines with a City match of $500,000 to cover the total $1,248,015 project costs for the Dry Branch Watershed: Clear Stormwater and Green Parks Project.

The first year of this four-year project included retrofitting the detention basin at the City’s Law Enforcement Center (LEC) to integrate a more “green” infrastructure that better mimics nature. Changes at the LEC included a biofilter structure that better mimics nature.

The first year of this four-year project included retrofitting the detention basin at the City’s Law Enforcement Center (LEC) to integrate a more “green” infrastructure that better mimics nature. Changes at the LEC included a biofilter structure that better mimics nature.

The retrofitted detention basin at the LEC is now complete, and as you can see from the adjacent picture, native plants can provide a beautiful solution to treat NPS pollution. A tour was held in July to gather and educate stakeholders on the success of the retrofit and the lessons the City has learned through its construction.

Another accomplishment of the Dry Branch Watershed Project was the development of a nine-element Watershed Management Plan that identified NPS pollution, their sources, and prioritized solutions. To oversee the development and implementation of the Plan, a Dry Branch Watershed Management Plan Planning Team was created and met twice over the summer. By the end of those two meetings, the team had developed two important components for the plan: 1) issues and opportunities for the watershed and 2) approved prioritization criteria to rank future projects within the watershed.

Over the next two years there will be three more retrofits—two commercial and one residential. Exact locations will be determined after the City reviews the Watershed Management Plan’s priorities for areas of water-quality concern.

The planning team’s next meeting will be at 2:30 p.m., on September 18, at

Board Approves Financial Incentives for GM Expansion, But Ties Them to Job Creation

In June the Board of Aldermen approved an ordinance authorizing the City to provide financial incentives to help General Motors (GM) construct a 500,000-square-foot expansion of its Wentzville Assembly Plant, but the final total of the incentives GM will receive depends on the number of jobs the auto manufacturer adds at the Wentzville plant. The planned expansion will include a new production line for the Chevrolet Colorado mid-size pickup, and could add

Time Running Out for Water-Quality Champion Nominations

If you know any individuals, businesses, developments or organizations that have helped improve water quality, prevented water pollution, or worked to control stormwater runoff in our community, be sure to nominate them for Wentzville’s 2012 Water Quality Champion Award right away. To be considered for the 2012 Award, nomination forms and their accompanying one-page project abstracts must be received by the City no later than September 14. The awards will be for Outstanding Development, Outstanding Business or Institution, and for Outstanding Individual. Applicants may submit more than one project for the same or different categories.

Nomination forms and criteria for the awards are available online at www.wentzvillemo.org/stormwater.aspx. Submissions can be faxed to (636) 639-2057, or mailed to:

Wentzville Public Works
Attn: Water Quality Champion
200 E. Forth Street
Wentzville, MO 63385

Anyone who has questions about the award or nominations process can call (636) 332-5102.
City Beginning Process to Update Comprehensive Plan

The City of Wentzville is currently reviewing its Comprehensive Plan document. According to City policy, a regular review and updating of the Comprehensive Plan is required. In this way, the Plan stays current to the wants and needs of the community. The current Plan was developed in 2006, with a review of the Plan and an Amendatory Supplement added in 2010.

A Comprehensive Plan, basically, is a tool cities use to set policies, goals, and priorities for how the city should develop in a manner that best promotes the general welfare of the city and its residents. Wentzville uses its Comprehensive Plan as a map to guide the character of how Wentzville grows from what it is currently, to the vision City residents, elected officials, and leaders have for its future development.

Once City staff has completed reviewing the Comprehensive Plan, they will pass their recommendations on to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their review and consideration. During this review, the Board of Aldermen will be kept up-to-date on all details of this planning effort.

To ensure Wentzville’s Comprehensive Plan meshes with other community agencies, such as the school district, MoDOT, local utility companies and other governmental agencies, City staff will coordinate the Plan’s information with these agencies as needed, and under the direction of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Wentzville will also attempt to coordinate its Comprehensive Plan with the County and neighboring cities, to better coordinate land use and transportation efforts.

Wentzville residents are encouraged and welcome to comment on the review and updating of the Plan. Residents can access a copy of the current Comprehensive Plan and the Amendatory Supplement from the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org. To access these documents, choose the “Boards & Commissions” choice in the drop-down box that appears under the “Your Government” heading on the home page; then click on the “Planning and Zoning Commission” link that appears to the right of the drop-down box. Once residents are on the Planning and Zoning main page, they will find both the “Amendatory Supplement” and “Comprehensive Plan” links in the right column, under the “Quick Links” heading.

Residents are also invited to attend a public hearing for the proposed Comprehensive Plan document. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for spring/summer of 2013, prior to the adoption of revisions to the Plan. If residents have any questions concerning this process or the Comprehensive Plan document, they are invited to contact the City’s Planning and Zoning Division at (636) 639-2032.

Free Large-Item Pickup
Scheduled September 24 – 28

This fall, the free Large-Item Pickup will take place September 24 through September 28. With the City’s change to a five-day-a-week pickup schedule for trash, residents can put out their bulky items for pickup on their regularly scheduled trash pickup day that week. This service is for Wentzville residential customers only and all items should be placed at the curb by 6:00 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: For safety purposes, semi-airtight containers with a capacity of 1 ½ cubic feet or more and openings of 50-square inches must have the hinges, latches or other hardware removed.

**All appliance items limited to 1 of each type per household**

Appliances that will be accepted are:

- Refrigerators
- Freezers
- Air-conditioners
- Washers
- Dryers
- Stoves
- Televisions

NOTE: Items with Freon should be put to the side of all other items. A separate truck will pick up all appliances.

The following items will not be accepted:

- Tires
- Batteries (Lead Acid)
- Waste Oil
- Yard Waste
- Bricks
- Concrete of Any Kind
- Railroad Ties
- Any Liquids
- No Paint of Any Kind
- Car or Engine Parts of Any Kind

Also, basketball hoops will not be picked up unless the resident calls ahead of time and clearly states that he or she wants one picked up. Residents can have any of their questions answered during business hours, Monday through Friday, by calling the Wentzville Public Works Department at (636) 639-2049.

GM Expansion
continued from front page

as many as 2,000 new jobs to the existing 1,300 jobs already present at the plant. GM is expected to invest $300 million in the project. City elected officials feel GM’s expansion of the Wentzville Assembly Plant brings both GM and Wentzville a significant step forward in providing more jobs and enhanced economic stabilization to Wentzville and surrounding communities.

The agreement provides two primary incentives: a sales-tax exemption that allows GM to purchase construction materials for the project free of sales tax, and a partial property-tax abatement, which exempts GM from paying up to 75 percent of the property taxes it would have otherwise had to pay on the expansion and new equipment purchased as a part of the project. The project will be constructed in annual phases, with the last phase expected to occur in 2016. Tax abatement for each phase will last for a period of ten years.

To help ensure the City does not provide full incentives without receiving the expected benefits, GM’s payments in lieu of taxes are based on a sliding scale. If fewer jobs than expected are provided at the plant, GM will get less tax abatement. If there are at least 3,300 jobs at the plant beginning in 2014, GM will pay 25 percent of the property tax amount, thus receiving the full 75 percent tax exemption. If the number of jobs is less than 3,300, GM will pay a higher percentage of the property tax amount.

319 Grant Update
continued from front page

Progress Park. The meeting is open to the public, and residents who are interested in the project and how to address the problem of NPS pollution are encouraged to attend.

Also part of the 319 Grant was a stream-naming contest the City held over the summer. Fifteen unnamed streams in our area were available for naming. Over 50 names were proposed. The City will post the selected top names on its Web site and submit them to the U.S. Geological Survey for approval. Once approved, the stream names will become official and entered on federal and City maps.

As the City moves further into year two of the Clear Stormwater and Green Parks Project, there’s a lot more work planned that will help Wentzville be even more effective at addressing NPS pollution. A large part of the Project will address NPS pollution at the City’s new Heartland Park.

The Project is looking at ways to design “green” stormwater management features for the new park. Under consideration are wetlands, pervious pavement, athletic-field biofilters, a native meadow, and parking-lot bio-swales to clean stormwater runoff before it gets to the park’s seven-acre lake. Another forebay feature upstream from the lake will trap mud, collect trash and remove pollutants in stormwater runoff from roughly 500 acres of development along I-70 and Wentzville Parkway. Also, an interpretive trail and signage at Heartland Park, and a boardwalk along the lake is planned to promote public awareness of NPS pollution.

Residents can find more information about the 319 Grant on the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org/319.aspx.
Safety on the roads in and around Wentzville is a deep concern of mine. In fact, improving the safety of our roads and highways was one of my major goals I shared with City staff, the Board of Aldermen, and the public at the Board of Aldermen retreat in May. At the retreat I specifically mentioned my concern about the number of deaths and injuries along Highway 40-61, because of unsafe grade-level road crossings.

In late June, I and the Board, along with several City staff members and representatives from other cities and the state legislature, met with MoDOT officials to discuss the problem and explore possibilities of what can be done now to improve the safety of that roadway, and what mid- and long-term goals can be set for a permanent solution. Creating a “travel safe zone” and increasing enforcement of the posted speed limits in that area is something that can be done fairly quickly, and we will work with MoDOT on these options. Budget restraints at MoDOT make a long-term solution like an overpass unlikely for the foreseeable future, but we haven’t given up. We will continue working with MoDOT, St. Charles County, other municipalities along Highway 40-61, and the East-West Gateway Council to move improving the safety in this area higher up on the funding priority list.

For now, we ask all residents to drive extra cautiously and defensively in that area. Although there are things the City, our police officers, and MoDOT can do to improve the safety of our roads, much of the responsibility of road safety rests with residents who daily drive through our neighborhoods and along our roadways.

Now that school is back in session, I want to stress the importance of driving with extra vigilance in neighborhoods, through school zones, and around school-bus stops. This is especially important in the mornings and afternoons when children are walking to and from school. I also urge residents to watch for any suspicious activity or persons who seem out of place in our neighborhoods. If you see something that just doesn’t seem right, report it to the police right away—don’t wait.

One measure our Police Department is taking to keep children safe on their way to and from school is to designate areas near schools as “safe routes to schools.” In these areas, our officers will closely monitor things like cars speeding or parked across sidewalks, and they will write tickets for drivers who are spotted doing those things. We all get in a hurry sometimes, but shaving a few minutes off your travel time is never worth putting children at risk. Remember to “Keep Kids Alive-Drive 25” when you are traveling through any of our residential neighborhoods.

As always, I invite residents to contact me with their questions and concerns. I also invite you to either attend our Board of Aldermen meetings in person, or watch them online at the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org. The better informed our residents are and the more they are willing to share their thoughts with us, the better job we can do directing the growth and development of our City.

**Mayor’s Comment: Road Safety Is Everyone’s Concern**

To make it easier for treasure hunters to find just what they want and sellers to attract the right buyers, the Wentzville Parks and Recreation Department will again publish a Citywide Yard Sale Booklet. For $6 you can list your sale, or you can get together with three of your neighbors and list all of your sales for $15. Each sale will receive an official City Yard Sale sign. The deadline to list your sale is Monday, September 17.

Beginning September 19, shoppers can purchase the Booklets for $2 at City Hall, located at 310 West Pearce Boulevard; the Utilities Service Center, located at 5 West Pearce Boulevard; or the Parks and Recreation Office, located in Progress Park at 968 Meyer Road. Each book-let comes with a treasure map to help shoppers locate the bargains!

No matter whether you’re buying or selling, this year’s Fall Citywide Yard Sale is something you won’t want to miss. For more information about the Citywide Yard Sale, contact the Parks and Recreation office at (636) 332-9226 or (636) 327-7665.

**Raise Cash or Troll for Treasure With Citywide Yard Sale**
# September Calendar of Events

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<th>SUNDAY</th>
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<td>City Offices Closed for Labor Day**</td>
<td>** See article in this edition of Vision</td>
<td>7:00-8:30 p.m. Pooch Plunge** Progress Park Pool</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Planning &amp; Zoning 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>** Call City Hall at (636) 327-5101.</td>
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<td>Starts at Noon Soapbox Race** Meyer Rd. by Progress Park</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Park Board Meeting 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. Municipal Court 1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Board of Adjustment 310 W. Pearce Blvd. 5:00-8:00 p.m. Taste of Wentzville** Wentzville Community Club 500 W. Main</td>
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<td>12:30-2:00 p.m. Coffee Talk With the Mayor 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>Last Day for Listing in Citywide Yard Sale Booklet**</td>
<td>2:30-4:30 p.m. Dry Branch Watershed Team Meeting Progress Park Center</td>
<td>Citywide Yard Sale Booklets Available** City Hall, Utility Service Center &amp; Progress Park</td>
<td>** Visit the City's Web site: <a href="http://www.wentzvillemo.org">www.wentzvillemo.org</a></td>
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<td>Free Large Item Pickup**</td>
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<td>Free Large Item Pickup** 6:00 p.m. Board of Aldermen 310 W. Pearce Blvd. 6:00 p.m. Municipal Trials 1019 Schroeder Creek Blvd.</td>
<td>Free Large Item Pickup** 6:00 p.m. Storm Water Committee Meeting 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
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<td>Park Board Meetings: 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
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<td>City Offices Closed for Columbus Day**</td>
<td>Brush &amp; Tree Chipper Program** South of Railroad Tracks</td>
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<td>10:00-11:30 a.m. Town Hall Meeting 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
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<td>7:00-9:00 p.m. H.O.P.P. Nights** Progress Park Center</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m. Storm Water Committee Meeting 310 W. Pearce Blvd.</td>
<td>Make a Difference Day</td>
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<td>2:00-4:00 p.m. Halloween Happenings** Progress Park</td>
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* Call City Hall at (636) 327-5101. ** See article in this edition of Vision.
H.O.P.P. Night: OMG—G2g

Kids in sixth through eighth grades won’t want to miss the next Hangin’ Out at Progress Park (H.O.P.P.) Night on Friday, October 19, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. It’s a fun and safe place for kids to dance, listen to their kind of music, and spend time with their friends. Since kids get the munchies that time of the evening, concessions are always available for purchase.

H.O.P.P. Nights are well supervised by Parks and Recreation staff, volunteers, and police officers. Parents can relax, because once registered at the front door, everyone must stay until the end, unless they are signed out by an adult. NO outside beverages or backpacks will be allowed.

Cost for H.O.P.P. Night is $3 per youth. For more information, parents can call the Parks and Recreation office at (636) 332-9236.

Progress Park Pool Goes to the Dogs With Annual Pooch Plunge

It’s time again for the furry member of your family to end the dog days of summer with a splash at the Progress Park pool when Wentzville’s Parks and Recreation Department hosts its annual Pooch Plunge, on Tuesday, September 4, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. During the races, all dogs will be leashed while out of the water. Preregistration is required and must be signed in by an adult. No outside beverages or backpacks will be allowed.

The event kicks off at noon with a brief ceremony, followed at 12:30 p.m. with commencement of the races. In case of rain, the rainout date for the race will be Sunday, September 16.

Kids who are interested in driving a car in the race must be between four- to five-feet tall, weigh between 55 and 120 pounds, and able to comfortably fit into the car. Preregistration at the Parks and Recreation office at Progress Park is required, and participants must be present at the time of registration to verify their height and weight. Registration for the race is $10 for residents, $13 for nonresidents, and is limited to the first 200 racers. Registration ends Sunday, September 2. Racers are randomly placed in the cars, and no personal cars will be accepted.

Taste of Wentzville Autumn Festival—Great Food, Great Music, Great Fun!

Don’t miss all the great food, music and fun when the City of Wentzville and the Wentzville Chamber of Commerce host the annual Taste of Wentzville Autumn Festival. In addition to sampling food from over 15 area restaurants, guests at the event will enjoy a fun atmosphere for visiting with old friends or making new ones, and live music by The Fog.

Taste of Wentzville will run from 5:00-8:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 13, at the Wentzville Community Club, located at 500 West Main Street. Tickets for Taste of Wentzville are $15 for General Admission, which includes food sampling, two drinks and attendance from 5:00-8:00 p.m.; and $30 for VIP, which includes food sampling, unlimited drinks and attendance from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Children’s tickets are $6. Tickets can be purchased at Wentzville City Hall, located at 310 West Pearce Boulevard, or at the Wentzville Chamber of Commerce office, located at 210 South Linn.

For more information about the Taste of Wentzville Autumn Festival, go to the Wentzville Chamber of Commerce Web site at www.wentzvilledc.com, or call the Chamber office at (636) 327-6914.

Residents can call the Parks and Recreation office at (636) 332-9236 to register for any of these programs or for more information.

Halloween Happenings for Kids at Progress Park

Wentzville kids ages one through ten are sure to have lots of fantastic fun on Sunday, October 28, when Wentzville’s Parks and Recreation Department hosts its annual Halloween Happenings at the Progress Park gymnasium. In addition to wearing their favorite costumes, kids will get to play games, jump in the bounce houses, and watch clowns create cool balloon gifts just for them. Kids should be sure to bring trick-or-treat bags with them to carry all the treats they get that afternoon.

This safe, fun-filled Halloween event is for residents only and runs from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The cost per child is $2 in advance, or two canned food items. Advance tickets can be picked up at Progress Park during regular business hours. Tickets on the day of the event will be $4, but no canned-goods substitutions will be allowed.
Update on Pearce/Wentzville Parkway and Church Street Projects

With improvements in progress at both the Pearce/Wentzville Parkway intersection and Church Street, motorists in Wentzville are almost certain to encounter at least one of these projects. The good news is both projects could be completed by the end of this year. In the meantime, motorists might want to look for alternative routes around these areas. When residents must drive through these construction zones, they should exercise extra caution and patience. It only takes a second of inattention to turn a distraction into a tragedy.

Below are updates on both projects as of production time of this newsletter.

Wentzville Parkway and Pearce Boulevard Intersection:

Once completed, this project will provide dual left turn lanes on all legs of the intersection. Turning movements will be controlled by adding median islands and traffic signage. The project also includes the installation of a new traffic signal and relocating some of the existing lighting. As of late July, the new lanes were under construction, new lighting installed, and relocation of the water main in the area had been completed.

Church Street:

The improvements on Church Street run from Wagoner Street, north to Main Street. Once completed, it will reconstruct and widen the three lanes, add new curb and gutter, and add a new enclosed stormwater system. It will also provide sidewalks on both sides of the street. The Church Street project is part of the Downtown Revitalization Plan, and as such will include amenities like exposed aggregate sidewalks, ornamental lighting, planters, stamped crosswalks, and ornamental benches and trash receptacles. As of late July, construction and testing of the eight-inch water main had been completed, and City crews were relocating existing services onto the new waterline. Also, the installation of temporary asphalt for the project detour was imminent, with the full Phase 1 detour expected by the end of July.

Residents can track the progress of these and other construction projects around the City by going to the City’s Web site at www.wentzvillemo.org, and clicking on the “Construction Updates” link near the bottom of the home page.

NEW BUSINESSES

Miss Marilyn’s 2nd Chance • 144 East Pearce Boulevard
Supplement Super Store • 1894 Wentzville Parkway #102

Brickhouse Cardio Club • 1459 Wentzville Parkway
Heartland Hearing Center • 706 West Pearce Boulevard

Ranken Opening Satellite in Wentzville

Over the summer, the City of Wentzville and Ranken Technical College reached an agreement that will bring a new satellite location to Wentzville. At the July Wentzville Chamber of Commerce meeting, Ranken Technical College President, Stan Shoun, announced Ranken Technical College has reached a tentative agreement with the Carpenter’s District Council of St Louis to offer classes in the Carpenter’s District Council new property in Wentzville, located on Parr Road. Ranken plans to begin offering classes in Wentzville for the spring/summer semester of 2013.

Appearing left to right are: Wentzville Alderman Rick Stokes, Paul Higgins (Carpenter’s District Council), Don Pohl (Ranken College), Wentzville Alderman Cheryl Kross, Stan Shoun (President-Ranken College), Wentzville Alderman Chris Gard, and Wentzville Alderman Sonya Shryock.
City Offices’ Holiday Hours

Please note that City offices will be closed Monday, September 3, and Monday, October 8, to allow City employees time to enjoy the Labor Day and Columbus Day holidays with their families.

There will be no change in the operating schedule, however, for Wentzville’s Recreation Center at Progress Park during both of these holidays.

Voters Approve Transportation Sales Tax Extension in Wentzville

On August 7, voters in Wentzville approved Proposition T by nearly a 30-percent margin. Approval of Proposition T extends the City’s current Transportation Sales Tax rate through 2035. Funds generated through the City’s Transportation Sales Tax are used to finance transportation improvements, including repair and replacement of roadway sections, general roadway maintenance, expansion/upgrading of existing roadway, and new road construction.

The Transportation Sales Tax also provides the City a reliable funding source for road projects, and enables Wentzville to leverage funds collected to qualify the City to receive additional funding from county, state and federal sources. With the passage of Proposition T, the City will be able to go forward with its Long-Range Transportation Plan and road maintenance schedule.

Free Fall Pickup of Tree and Shrub Trimmings

Once fall arrives, many residents like to do a final trimming of the trees and shrubs around their houses. To make it easy for residents to dispose of these trimmings, the City provides a free Brush and Tree Chipper Program in both the spring and fall. For residents living north of the railroad tracks, the free fall pickup of tree and shrub trimmings is scheduled for the week of October 1-5. Residents living south of the railroad tracks will have their tree and shrub trimmings picked up October 9-12.

To ensure their trimmings are picked up, residents should have them placed at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on Monday of the week their area is scheduled for pickup. Limbs should be eight inches or less in diameter, and not tied into bundles or placed in bags. All materials not placed at the curb line or that have greater than an eight-inch diameter will not be picked up. Leaves, decorative grasses or grass clippings are not included in this pickup and will not be accepted. After the October pickup, the next scheduled free limb-and-brush pickup won’t be until spring of 2013.

If residents have questions about the Brush and Tree Chipper Program, they can call the Wentzville Public Works Department at (636) 639-2049.

Holiday Trash-Pickup Schedule

The week of September 3, residents’ trash-pickup days will be moved back by one day to allow for the Labor Day holiday. Monday pickups will take place on Tuesday, Tuesday pickups will be moved to Wednesday, and so forth, ending with Friday pickups taking place on Saturday that week. The following week trash pickups will go back to their regular schedule.

Trash-pickup schedules will not be affected by the Columbus Day holiday in October. If residents have any questions about the pickup schedule, they can call the Public Works office at (636) 639-2049.