

Ladue Newsletter



LETTER FROM MAYOR SPEWAK

I hope to see many of you at the opening of Ladue's Deer Creek Preserve on Saturday, April 27 at 9 am in conjunction with our annual Arbor Day celebration. The Deer Creek Preserve, located at 9810 S. 40 Drive across from St. Louis Bank, features a walking trail with plans for a second phase to include a loop and connector pathways to safely access the business district from our neighborhoods along the South 40 Drive access road. This trail is an asset for our community, and I encourage you to take a walk, bring your kids, grandkids, and their trikes, and enjoy a bit of nature in our town.

Our new website has launched, and we hope that you will take a moment to explore new features and access more information. Please remember to sign up for email alerts that are of interest to you. If you receive email alerts through the previous website, you must still sign up now. I look forward to feedback that will allow us to continually improve our communications with residents and businesses.

The Dielman Road Sidewalk project has begun. A new six-foot wide sidewalk will be constructed on the west side of Dielman from Ladue Road to Tamarack where it will connect to the existing sidewalk. As with all progress and improvements, residents may experience some inconveniences during the construction phase. Please bear with us as we detour traffic so that we may complete the project in the shortest amount of time possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our City of Ladue Youth Council for their work so far this year. The Youth Council consists of high school students from Ladue School District, John Burroughs, and MICDS and I always enjoy my interactions with the members. The Council held a well-received blood drive last fall along with a very successful winter coat drive.

We have established a Ladue Economic Committee consisting of local businesses and property owners to promote our local businesses and strengthen our local economy. The formation of this committee was identified in the Strategic Plan which was adopted in 2022. After an initial meeting, the committee will be setting priorities and I look forward to updating you in future newsletters about their progress.

In closing, let us continue to build our community together. Reach out to a new neighbor, shop our local businesses, and take a walk on the trail with neighborhood friends. We are so fortunate that Ladue attracts young families while retaining long-time residents. If you are new to town, please stop into City Hall or give me a call. I would love to meet you and answer any questions you might have about Ladue.

Keep shopping and eating local! Your support is community support.

Nancy

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Ladue Eateries

On the south side of Clayton Road in the Clayton Road Business District are a couple of long-time Ladue eateries ... Baskin Robbins and Gourmet to Go. What many may not know is that these same sites hosted eateries long before these current two.

Gourmet to Go is located at 9828 Clayton Road. They have been at this location since the 1980s. Prior to Gourmet to Go, in the 1970s, this was the site of the El & Lee Deli (they also had a deli in Clayton at 7639 Wydown Blvd.) El & Lee was a carry-out deli that also had 15 – 20 tables for seating as well as a food line with trays. Prior to El & Lee, in the 1950s, this was the site of the Hay Shaker restaurant. The Hay Shaker restaurant was owned and operated by William Leonard Waymeyer, Jr. (11/9/1918 – 10/30/1993) who in the late 1950's developed the strip shopping center that today includes Gourmet to Go and Baskin Robbins. The Hay Shaker restaurant was known for their fish plates, including fried shrimp and lobster, as well as sandwiches, steak dinners, and chicken dinners. The restaurant was a grill-fountain restaurant with a jukebox.

Baskin Robbins is located at 9842 Clayton Road. They have been at this location since the mid-1960s. Prior to Baskin Robbins, in the early 1960s, this was the site of the Ladue Coffee Shop. This restaurant had an address of 9840 Clayton Road and covered the footprint of both 9840 and 9842 Clayton Road. The restaurant was owned and operated by Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Roadifer. The restaurant advertised in-house dining at a counter and fountain area as well as carry-out service. Dinner specialties were chicken dinners and steak dinners. Carry-out orders were placed at 9840 Clayton Road and then picked up at a window at 9842 Clayton Road at the eastern wall of the current Baskin Robbins. The restaurant was open Monday – Saturday from 7:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. for breakfast and then again from 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. for dinner.



The City of Ladue would like to extend their deepest thank you to Ms. Fiona Woods, Emily, Ben, Alice, and Dorothy Woods for their Living Legacy contributions in honor of Richard (Randy) Woods. Trees were planted at the Deer Creek Preserve.

LADUE CITY NATIVE GARDEN

The Ladue Native Garden, located behind Ladue City Hall, has been providing beauty and relaxing space for residents and City Hall Employees for several years. The garden also serves as a resource for Ladue residents interested in learning more about successful native gardening options for our area.

This garden was created in 2016 by a Ladue couple in conjunction with the St. Louis Audubon Society's Bring Conservation Home program. Since 2017, the garden has been cared for through funds and volunteers from the Ladue Garden Club. Volunteers meet weekly in the spring and summer and as needed throughout the rest of the year. Nonnative plants and aggressive natives, such as Canadian goldenrod and common milkweed, are removed from the garden. Flourishing native plants are kept in specific sections of the garden and labeled. Presenting the native plants in a somewhat tailored setting helps make native gardening more approachable to novice native gardeners.

There are over two dozen plants in the garden, all native to Missouri. Each plant was chosen to provide a variety of color, height, texture, and pollinator benefits throughout different seasons. These are non-aggressive native plants well suited for the size, sunlight, and water conditions of the garden. The garden is quiet for the winter. Plants, including seed heads and stems were left untouched to provide shelter for wildlife. In a month or two the garden will start becoming green again and blossoms will begin taking over. Some of the native plants which will be blooming this spring are:

- beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)
- blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*)
- golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*)
- purple poppy mallow (*Callirhoe involucrata*)
- rose verbena (*Glandularia canadensis*)

Next to the native garden is a lending library-style box containing growing information on all the plants in the garden including a key for identifying each plant. This box also serves as a Seed Bank. For part of the year, and when available, free seeds harvested from the garden are in the box for the Ladue community to take and use in their home gardens.



MSD RATE CHANGE PROPOSAL

THE MSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES HAS APPROVED A STORMWATER RATE CHANGE PROPOSAL EXPECTED TO APPEAR ON THE APRIL 2024 BALLOT FOR VOTER APPROVAL. IF APPROVED, THE PROPOSAL WILL GENERATE \$34 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR STORMWATER CAPITAL PROJECTS WITHIN THE DISTRICT. UNDER THE PROPOSAL: (A) OMCI TAX REIMBURSEMENTS TO THE CITY OF LADUE FOR STORMWATER PROJECTS IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$310 THOUSAND PER YEAR WILL TERMINATE, (B) 30% OF STORMWATER REVENUE WILL BE ALLOCATED TO “MUNICIPAL GRANTS” BASED UPON POPULATION, (C) 10% OF STORMWATER REVENUE WILL BE DEDICATED TO “ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE” BASED UPON SOCIOECONOMIC DETERMINATIONS, AND (D) 10% OF STORMWATER REVENUE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY A DISTRICTWIDE “STEERING COMMITTEE.” UNDER THIS PROPOSED ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY AND ELIMINATION OF OMCI TAX REIMBURSEMENTS THE CITY OF LADUE WILL RECEIVE APPROXIMATELY \$200 THOUSAND LESS EACH YEAR FOR STORMWATER REMEDIATION PROJECTS. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE STORMWATER AND SANITARY MSD RATE PROPOSALS THAT ARE ON THE BALLOT ON APRIL 2, 2024, PLEASE VISIT PROPOSITION W AND PROPOSITION S PUBLIC EDUCATION TOOLKIT - METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS SEWER DISTRICT (MSDPROJECTCLEAR.ORG)



Public Works Superintendent

Employee Spotlight

Tell us about your family...

I have been happily married to my wonderful wife Janice for almost 30 years and we have two amazing boys. Spencer just turned 20 and works for Simmons Bank and Mitchel who is 22 recently graduated from Missouri S&T and now works for Black & Veatch. We still enjoy doing fun things together as a family but it's getting harder to find time these days with everyone's busy schedule.

How long have you been with the City of Ladue?

26 years

On my days off I like to...

Spend time in the outdoors and work on home improvement projects.

If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

Play the guitar.

Where is your favorite place to vacation? Or your dream vacation?

Our favorite place to go on vacation is anywhere in the mountains like Estes Park Colorado.

BRING YOUR BICYCLE TO RIDE THE NEWLY COMPLETED TRAIL!

DEER CREEK PRESERVE
9810 S. FORTY DR. 63124
9AM

JOIN US ON APRIL 27TH FOR ARBOR DAY



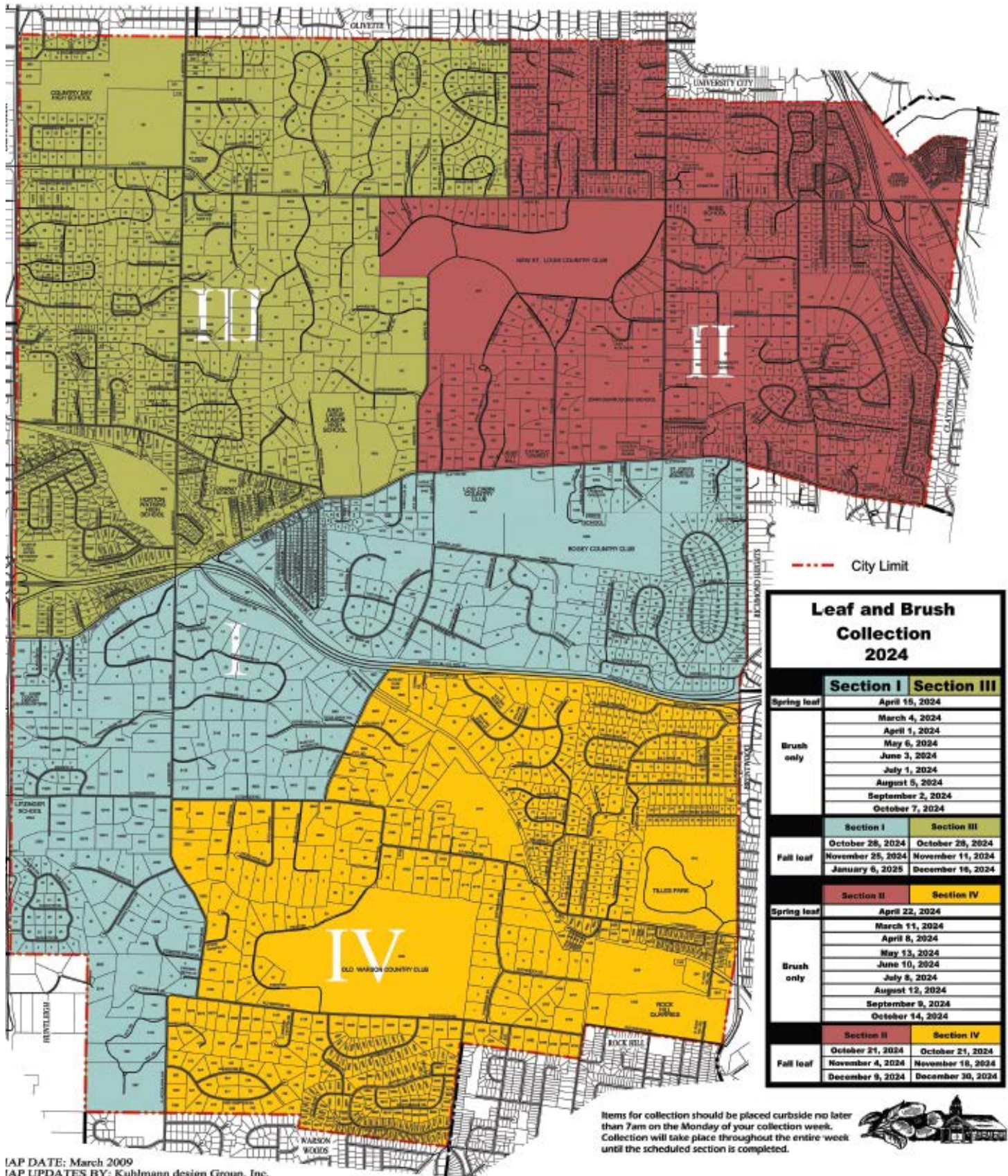
TREE PLANTING
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

SAPLING GIVEAWAY
ASK THE ARBORIST

ANNUAL CELEBRATION AND RIBBON CUTTING!



Leaf & Brush Collection Map



IAP DATE: March 2009
IAP UPDATES BY: Kuhlmann design Group, Inc.

2024

Spring Leaf Collection Schedule

Week of April 15	Section 1	Section 3
Week of April 22	Section 2	Section 4

No bagged leaves will be collected.

No grass, hedges, lawn clippings, or sweet gum balls will be collected.

Leaves should not be placed out for collection more than 10 days in advance.

*2024 Fall Leaf Schedule available on our website.

Brush Collection

Section 1 & 3: Week of:	Section 2 & 4: Week of:
March 4	March 11
April 1	April 8
May 6	May 13
June 3	June 10
July 1	July 8
August 5	August 12
September 2	September 9
October 7	October 14

REMINDERS:

To guarantee pick-up, have brush or leaves out no later than 7:00 am on Monday of your scheduled week.

Not all sections will be picked up on Monday, collection will happen throughout your scheduled week.

Brush may be up to 10" in diameter and 10' in length. Larger diameter wood must be a minimum of 6' in length (no firewood lengths).

Hedge trimmings, stumps, roots and dirt balls are not accepted.

Brush should be stacked parallel to the road and back edge of pile should be no further than 3' from road.

Please do not mix leaves and brush together. Items mixed together will not be picked up until they are separated.

Details and Updates can be found on the city website:

WWW.CITYOFLADUE-MO.GOV

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF ANDRESKI

Mail thefts have continued to plague the region prompting warnings from the United States Postal Service (USPS), as well as from the United States Postal Inspection Service. The following are some basic tips to follow to protect your mail and your identity.

- Promptly pick up mail - Try not to leave letters and packages in your mailbox or at your door for any length of time.
- Inquire about overdue mail - If you do not receive a check, credit card, or other valuable mail you're expecting, contact the sender as soon as possible and inquire about it.
- Don't send cash - Be careful about what you send. Don't risk sending cash in the mail.
- Arrange for prompt pickup - If you cannot be home to receive a package, make another arrangement or use the USPS Hold Mail Service.
- Use Hold for Pickup - When shipping packages, use the Hold for Pickup option, and the recipients can collect the package at their local Post Office.
- Request signature confirmation - When mailing something important, consider requesting Signature Confirmation for the intended recipient.
- File a change of address - If you move, make sure you file a change of address with the Postal Service and let your financial institutions know as well.
- USPS is warning people to avoid dropping mail in blue drop boxes, especially on Sundays and federal holidays. It's best to go inside the post office to send mail.

Personal Mailbox Vandalism	
No evidence of Mail Theft	Evidence of Mail Theft
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notify your local police.2. Place your mail on hold if needed, until you repair or replace your box.3. Contact your Local Post Office if you need further assistance.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notify your local police.2. Place your mail on hold if needed, until you repair or replace your box.3. Report mail theft by following the instructions under "Report Mail Theft", above.

Important information for the Ladue Police Department:

Emergency Line: 9 -1 - 1

Ladue Police Department, Dispatch Line: (314) 737-4600

Ladue Police Department, Administrative Line: (314) 993-1214

E-Mail, crimetips@cityofladue-mo.gov

SAME SITE
Coming March 4th
NEW DESIGN
www.cityofladue-mo.gov

LADUE SOLAR PANEL GUIDELINES

Through much of 2023, the Ladue Zoning and Planning Commission held public meetings to discuss potential solar regulations. Based on these meetings and discussions, new regulations and guidelines for solar panel installations were approved by the Ladue City Council in September. The solar guidelines state that solar panels “...should be located and oriented in such a way that they will be effective for energy collection but located in a thoughtful,



carefully designed manner to minimize visibility to adjacent residential properties.” Thoughtful design of solar panels could mean several things. One important issue is the orientation of the panels on the structure. The guidelines state that “orientation towards a right-of-way should be avoided whenever possible,” however it is generally agreed that orientation toward the south provides the best energy collection.

In Ladue, solar panels require a building permit and review by the Architectural Review Board, but, if they face a road right-of-way, they also require review and approval by the Zoning and Planning Commission and City Council. If the orientation of the house allows for solar panel placement to be inconspicuous, due to vegetation or elevation, this is the most preferred situation. It is a good idea to consider potential solar panel placement when a new home or accessory building is being planned. A section of the roof could be designed in such a way as to be optimal for solar collection but also mostly screened from view.

If the panels are likely to be visible in the neighborhood, there are a few options to help make them less noticeable. Fortunately, solar panel technology has improved, and solar panels are now commonly all-black in appearance. The idea of solar panels should no longer conjure an image of shiny blue glass and gleaming aluminum frames, especially not in Ladue since this would not be allowed.

An asymmetrical array of black panels may be acceptable in many situations, but if a more aesthetic alternative is desired, there are a few options. Solar panels and tiles can be installed that resemble traditional roof tiles. Also, new technologies are being developed that allow solar panels to be produced in alternative colors that could be designed to match roof colors. These alternatives to traditional solar panels are uncommon in Missouri and, it might be difficult to find installers, but homeowners are encouraged to ask questions and seek out more aesthetically pleasing solar options. If their customers are not showing interest in alternative solar installation options, installers are going to be unlikely to try to make alternatives available.

It is important to note that if you have trees on your property, you should not remove them to make solar panels more feasible. Those trees provide many benefits to our community, including shade in the summer, a wind break in the winter, as well as potential erosion control benefits. Homeowners in Ladue enjoy the beauty of their neighborhoods, and being a good neighbor includes avoiding making unsightly changes to a property. As always, beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but it is appropriate to consider neighborhood sensitivities when making major aesthetic changes.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NEWS

Improvements at the Deer Creek Preserve property, located at 9810 S. 40 Drive, are nearing completion. Please join us for a Ribbon Cutting and Arbor Day celebration at the property on April 27, 2024, at 9:00 am. The property now includes a ten-foot-wide shared-use path that accommodates both pedestrians and bicyclists. Several benches have been installed and 69 trees were planted. The project was largely funded through the Municipal Park Construction Grant administered through the St. Louis County Municipal League and through proceeds received from granting an easement to MSD for the project.

The City applied for Federal funding to extend the shared-use path east on South 40 Drive to Rolling Rock and connect the shared-use path to the Clayton Road business district. The City learned that the funding application was successful, and the project will be funded. Design will begin in Fall 2024 and construction is slated for Calendar Year 2027.

Dielman Road Construction

Improvements are beginning this Spring which includes the installation of a sidewalk and storm

sewers on the west side of Dielman from Ladue Road to Tamarack along with paving of the roadway. Byrne and Jones Construction is the General Contractor and construction is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2024.

If you have a question for the Public Works Department, please contact us at (314) 993-5665 or email us at publicworks@cityofladue-mo.gov.

Yours in service,

Anne Lamitola, PE

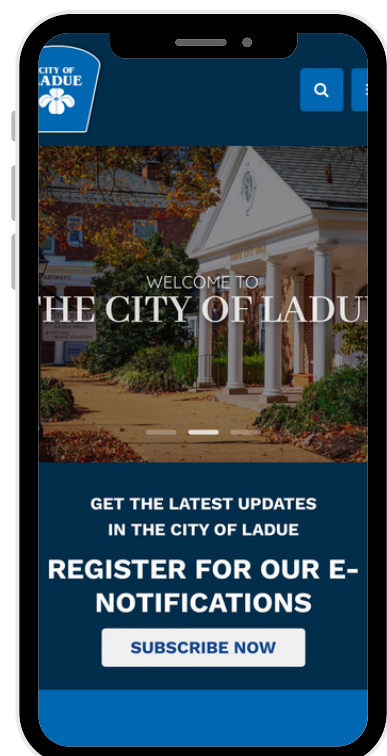
Director of Public Works & the Building Department

alamitola@cityofladue-mo.gov

(314) 993-5665 ext. 1301

Subscribe Today!

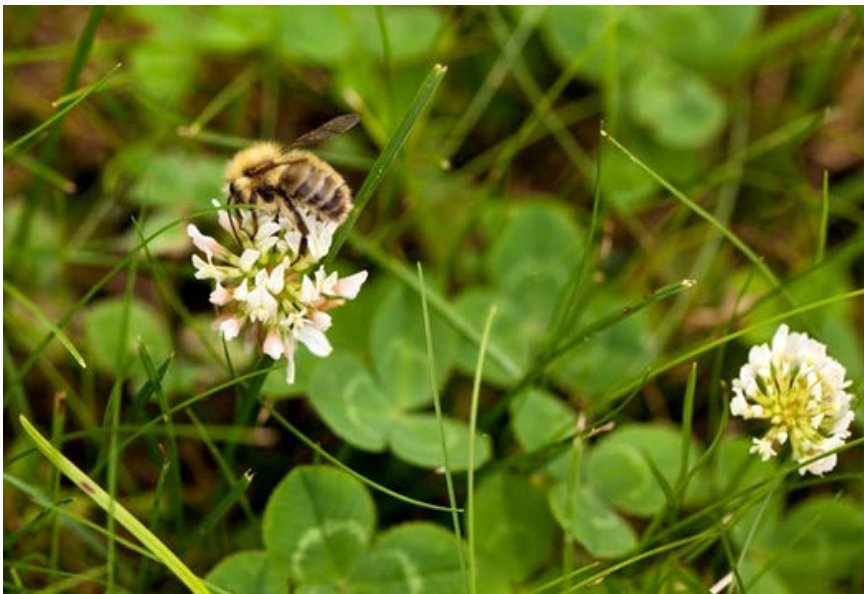
Be sure to visit www.cityofladue-mo.gov to sign up for email and text notifications!



NO MOW APRIL – *Slow Mow Summer: Helping Save our Pollinators*

Last year towns across the U.S. – including Webster Groves MO – waived restrictions for grass height during April and May. The goal: is to provide food for bee populations as they emerge in the spring. Delaying mowing allows spring ephemerals like clover, crocus, and dandelions to flower, offering food for pollinators in spring’s cold early days.

Towns and citizens are participating in a growing movement called “No Mow May”, designed to help reverse the staggering decline in pollinator populations. Globally, almost 40 percent of our pollinators, mostly bees and butterflies, are at risk of extinction. And yet 75% of our food crops are dependent on pollinators. In the US alone, the value of these crops is over \$15 billion. Our pollinators are critical to our economy, our food security, and the health of our ecosystems.



Our lawns have become part of the problem. In the US over 40 million acres are devoted to lawns, leaving vast tracts of suburbia as food desserts for pollinators. And it isn’t just our bees. Bird populations are plummeting too as the insects they need to feed their young have few habitats. Insecticides on American lawns magnify the problem, targeting not just true pests, but everything living in the ground.

Delaying mowing by just 3-4 weeks in the spring is shown to have an impressive impact. Towns like Appleton Wisconsin showed a fivefold increase in bee abundance and a threefold increase in bee diversity, compared to nearby mowed parcels. In addition, mowing slightly less frequently, and keeping grass height just an inch or so higher, can help sustain both the pollinators like ground bees that live in our lawns and the small flowers that feed them.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION



PLEASE JOIN CITY STAFF AND BOSTA COMMITTEE AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 6TH ANNUAL ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION AT THE NEWLY OPENED DEER CREEK PRESERVE. THERE WILL BE A RIBBON CUTTING TO COMMEMORATE THE NEW WALKING TRAIL AND COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE.

City of Ladue
9345 Clayton Road
Ladue, MO 63124

Elected Officials

Mayor Nancy Spewak
nspewak@cityofladue-mo.gov

Stacey Kamps
Councilmember - Ward I
skamps@cityofladue-mo.gov

John Howell
Councilmember - Ward I
jhowell@cityofladue-mo.gov

John Fox
Councilmember - Ward II
jfox@cityofladue-mo.gov

Patrick Hensley
Councilmember - Ward II
phensley@cityofladue-mo.gov

Hal Burroughs
Councilmember - Ward III
hburroughs@cityofladue-mo.gov

Bill Brennan
Councilmember - Ward III
bbrennan@cityofladue-mo.gov

City Directory

Mayor
314-993-3439 ext. 1101

Administration
314-993-3439 / 314-993-5652 (f)

Building
314-997-6308

Municipal Court
314-993-3919

Public Works
314-993-5665 / 314-994-3195 (f)

Police (Non Emergency)
314-737-4600

Police (Administration)
314-993-1214

Fire (Non Emergency)
314-993-0181 / 314-993-0412 (f)

City Clerk
smann@cityofladue-mo.gov