

The Vision

Your Source for City of Wentzville News and Events

MARCH/APRIL 2021



YOUR PUPS WILL LOVE THE BONE HUNT!

LEARN ABOUT EASTER EVENTS ON PG. 4.



- Inside this Issue**
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- WPD'S TRANSPARENCYHUB**
- FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS**
- YARD-WASTE PICKUP RESUMES**

Utility Tax Rebate:

A 2021 Overview

Again this year, eligible residents requesting a 2021 Utility Tax Rebate are encouraged to complete the process by mail or email. Residents may also set up an appointment to complete the Utility Tax Rebate process in person at City Hall (1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd.).

Utility Tax Rebates will be processed between April 1 and May 28, 2021. Please call (636) 639-2155 to schedule an appointment, ask a question or check your eligibility.

CONTINUED ON PG . 5



APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED BY MAIL, EMAIL OR IN-PERSON APPOINTMENT.

Welcome New Businesses!

Las Lajas Mexican Restaurant
1126 W. Pearce Blvd.

Natural Impact
124 Hwy. A, Suite A

The Child Advocacy Center
1451 Wentzville Pkwy.
(2nd Location)

Cambridge Air Solutions
1290 Interstate Dr.

The G.O.A.T. Barber House
1816 W. Pearce Blvd.



WPD Announces TransparencyHub

The Wentzville Police Department (WPD) is dedicated to establishing essential trust in community policing in order to be a symbol of leadership in our community.

In order to keep our residents safe and reassured, WPD launched its **TransparencyHub**. This section of the WPD website provides a fully open view of the policing strategies we use. Our goal is to inform and update citizens about the training, protocols and continued education our officers receive. On the **TransparencyHub** you will find a series of regulations that enforce accountability among our police officers.

You can visit the **TransparencyHub** online at www.wentzvillemo.gov/pdtransparency. Questions? Please call Officer Schmidt at (636) 639-2107.



LEARN MORE AT WWW.WENTZVILLEMO.GOV/PM.

Property Maintenance: Inspections Begin April 1

Maintaining your property helps ensure that your family lives in a clean, safe environment and contributes to neighborhood revitalization.

As warm weather approaches, it's time once again to focus on our community's property maintenance standards. Please remember to cut your lawn, maintain attractive curb appeal, clean out your gutters, and generally help maintain the healthy, safe and stable community we all desire. Few things have more potential to enhance the quality of life for everyone in our community than neighborhood pride.

The City works with property owners and neighborhoods to address nuisance properties and housing violations, which helps to protect property values and makes your neighborhood more pleasant and welcoming for residents and visitors alike. Maintaining your property helps ensure that your family lives in a clean, safe environment and contributes to neighborhood revitalization. For most people, their homes are their single largest investment.

To help protect Wentzville homeowners' investments and ensure property values remain stable, the City conducts annual property maintenance inspections. Between April and September, all structures in the City of Wentzville will be inspected, with inspections beginning April 1. If City inspectors find a property that needs attention, a notice will be mailed

to the property owner. This notice allows a reasonable amount of time for completion of the repair. If you have a specific property maintenance concern about a Wentzville property, enter a concern at www.wentzvillemo.gov/concerncenter or call (636) 639-2121. Inspectors will verify the concern within 72 hours and respond back, upon your request. Concerns may be filed anonymously as well. By remaining attentive to ensure all Wentzville properties are suitably maintained, we can all work together to continue to make Wentzville a desirable place to live and work.

Service Requests

Residents can now add, remove or change any solid-waste services, report a missed collection or schedule a one-time pickup directly from your desktop or mobile device.

Residents are invited to complete a short form at www.wentzvillemo.gov/solidwasterequest. This form is for all missed pickup and service requests for solid waste, yard waste, rigid and fiber recycling. This service is only for Wentzville solid-waste customers. You can also call (636) 327-5101 to complete a service request by phone.



Message from the Mayor:

The State of the City of Wentzville

The State of our City is amazing! We are strong, resilient, forward-thinking, informative, community oriented, future focused and always planning for what's next. I, for one, truly believe the best is yet to come!

We Are Strong: We draw our strength from our employees, residents, business owners, developers and other key community stakeholders.

Our employees are true public servants. For the second year in a row, the City was designated as a Top Workplaces recipient by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. This award is 100% based on employee feedback.

Our residents are engaged. Again this year more than 600 participants attended the City's Electronics Recycling and Document Shredding event and kept over 30,000 pounds of electronic waste out of the landfill.

Our growth is planned and well managed. In 2020, Wentzville processed 308 permits for new housing and more than 2,900 permits Citywide. As growth occurs, the City's leadership will continue to consider how to best build out infrastructure, handle transportation concerns, promote economic development and maintain a high quality of life for residents in our community.

We Are Resilient: 2020 was hard on us all, but our City employees made it look easy. Many employees worked from home, while continuing to provide high-quality customer service. We added new online service options so our customers could continue to do business with the City remotely. Staff also streamlined many of our processes so we could be more effective and efficient in responding to the needs of our customers.

We Are Forward-Thinking: Our Economic Development Office pivoted this year to launch an eNewsletter, which was sent to over 800 brick and mortar and home-based businesses. This allowed us to communicate timely updates with these folks about grants, funding, COVID changes and more. In 2020 our economic development team received 33 business special projects and completed 140 business visits. Best of all, in 2020, Wentzville grew by 47 new businesses!

We are Informative: A Comprehensive Plan update is in the works for 2021. This is a long-range plan that helps the City prepare for and manage expected population and employment growth, and plan for and coordinate major public infrastructure investments. It accomplishes these goals by providing direction for land use, transportation, parks, sewer and water systems, economic development and more.

At the request of the Board of Aldermen, City staff in the Administration and Community Development departments worked to create new Public Hearing notice signs. These signs, which have already started to appear around town, help to clearly announce public hearings for proposed projects and developments in the City.

We Are Community Oriented: While 2020 made it harder to connect in person, the Wentzville Police Department kept its commitment to positively impact our community as often as possible. Our Police Department shifted to address COVID-19 issues and adapted in an effort to keep employees and residents safe.

WPD was able to safely conduct its annual Citizens Police Academy, which gives residents the opportunity to learn firsthand how the Wentzville Police Department operates through an eight-week class. WPD also conducted four Walk and Talks where officers went into neighborhoods to meet with community members outdoors.

In addition to our police programs, we also introduced our first-ever Resident Photo and Holiday Display contests in 2020. These contests provided fun and easy opportunities to engage with residents virtually and to celebrate our community. Both were great successes! We're looking forward to hosting them again in 2021.

We Are Future Focused: Projects that address infrastructure and transportation issues continue to remain a top priority for the City of Wentzville.

In 2020 we ...

- Completed the Wentzville Parkway Turn Lane Phase 2 project;
- Started construction of the David Hoekel Parkway (DHP) and I-70 Interchange;
- Began the David Hoekel Parkway Phase 2D project (Goodfellow Road to West Meyer Road);
- Completed construction oversight of a Two-Million Gallon water tower and well house; and
- Worked on the design of Wentzville Parkway South Phase 1 and 2. Phase 1 construction will start this spring.

In 2021, we will continue to work on the DHP projects and Wentzville Parkway South project, as well as Allen Street and West Meyer Road. Get details about 2021 projects in the Board article on pg. 6.

We Are Always Planning for What's Next: We are currently moving forward with the Wentzville Community Center project near City Hall and Heartland Park. The design for the facility and the construction firm have been selected, and a groundbreaking will be held this spring. The facility will include an indoor aquatics area, senior activity space, a gym with an elevated track, a unique outdoor fitness area, classrooms, multipurpose and meeting rooms, a kids' zone, and more! Learn more at www.wentzvillemo.gov/communitycenter.



DON'T MISS THE ANNUAL EGG HUNT!

Easter EGGstravaganza: Who's EGGcited?

To view all of the Easter events hosted by Wentzville Parks and Recreation, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/EGGstravaganza.

BUNNY RUN 5K, 10K AND ONE-MILE FUN RUN

-  **March 27**
-  **5:30 a.m.***
-  **Heartland Park**

Start the season off with our annual 5K and 10K Bunny Run or One-Mile Fun Run! Whether you want to take on the 5K, challenge yourself with a 10K or walk/run with friends and family on the One-Mile Fun Run, it's time to put on your speed enhancing shoes and tie up your laces as you race around beautiful Heartland Park before the Easter EGGstravaganza! These fun family events feature a beautiful course you are sure to enjoy. All registered participants will receive a custom race shirt, on-course water stations and post race drinks and snacks. The events will be held on Saturday, March 27. Registration costs vary, to learn more please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/bunnyrun.

To guarantee shirt sizes, please register by March 1. The race will be professionally timed for all 5K and 10K participants.

*Packet pickup and same-day registration starts at 5:30 a.m.; race starts at 7 a.m. 10K course is a second lap of the 5K course. Awards will be given to the top three overall male and female winners for the 5K and 10K. Age group awards will be given to the male and female winners of the 5K and 10K run in each of the following age groups; 10 and under, 11-14, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60- 69, 70 and older. Overall winners will not be awarded for winning their age group. Participants can pick up packets early at Wentzville Ice Arena on March 25 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m or March 26 from 4:30-8 p.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT

-  **March 27**
-  **8:30 a.m.**
-  **Heartland Park**

We are pleased to be able to offer our annual Egg Hunt with the elements you know and love! However, it is important to note that this year's event will come with some changes in order to offer it in a safer way. The first change is that we are offering more hunt timeslots than in years past. We will have hunts at 9 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. For \$10, each family will register to hunt a 20'x20' section of the field. Participants will also need to specify how many hunters they will have on their field for an additional \$5 per hunter. We expect this event to fill quickly so it is important that participants register in advance to ensure that they will have a section of field to hunt. We

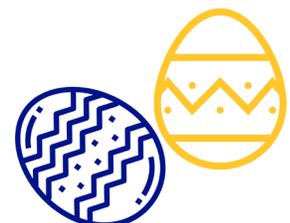
encourage everyone to stay for additional EGGstravaganza festivities which include live entertainment and, of course, photos with the Easter Bunny! Get updates about prizes, entertainment and more when you follow the Easter Egg Hunt event on Facebook at www.wentzvillemo.gov/egghuntfacebook.

BONE HUNT

-  **March 27**
-  **Noon**
-  **Rotary Park**

Your dog will bark for bones when all kinds of dog treats, bones and toys are hidden for your furry friends. Your dog(s) will be allowed to try to find as many goodies as possible. This event will be held at Rotary Park at noon on March 27. The cost is \$8 for residents and \$10 for nonresidents (day-of registration is \$15).

Dogs must remain on leashes at all times. Don't forget to bring a basket to put their treats in! Before the hunting ends, each dog will receive a "doggie bag" to take home. We will also draw for door prizes. Dogs and their owners may roam around in the park after the event and take advantage of our trail, which is a little over a mile in length and loops around the lake. You must turn in proof of vaccinations when registering your pet. Please call (636) 332-9236 or stop by the front desk to register. Please be on time for this event because it doesn't take long for the dogs to gather all the bones.



INVITE THE EASTER BUNNY TO STOP BY YOUR HOME!

The Easter Bunny will stop by your home for a special hello and toss 25 Easter eggs in your front lawn on Saturday, March 20 from 8 a.m-4 p.m. or on Sunday, March 21 from 9 a.m-5 p.m.

You may choose to purchase an extra 25 eggs for an additional \$15. A new tracking system allows you to watch the Easter Bunny as he travels around town and gets closer to your home! This program is for Wentzville residents only. Register by March 12 by calling (636) 332-9236 or visiting www.wentzvillemo.gov/bunnyvisits.



COMPLETE YOUR UTILITY TAX REBATE VIA EMAIL.

Utility Tax Rebate Cont'd

To apply for a City utility tax rebate, eligible residents should use one of these methods:

- Email the required documentation to City.Inquiry@wentzvillemo.gov.
- Mail the required documentation to: Utility Tax Rebate, City of Wentzville, 1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd., Wentzville, MO 63385.
- Setup an appointment to apply in person at City Hall by calling (636) 639-2155.

Please include your phone number on all rebate items emailed or mailed so City staff can contact you, if necessary.

Resident eligibility criteria:

- Rent or own your primary residence in the City of Wentzville;
- Be at least 65 years old or considered totally disabled by Social Security;
- And have a maximum annual adjusted gross income of \$46,450 for a single-person household or \$53,050 for a married-couple household.

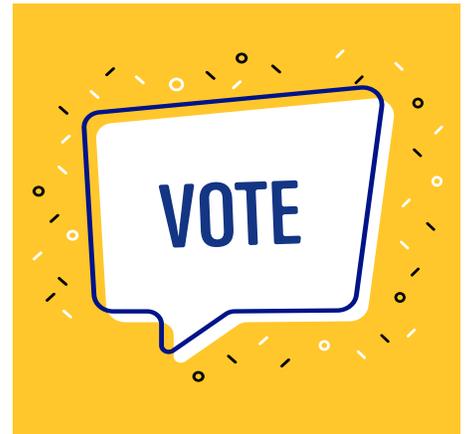
Residents will need to provide copies of the following:

- Photo ID or Social Security card;
- Proof of Income (Tax form 1040, 1099, or Social Security Statement);
- Proof of Residency (Utility Bill or ID);
- Proof of Age and/or Disability (Social Security Statement);
- And municipal tax reports (see next column) or copies of 2020 gas and electric bills.

The refund amount is a portion of the “City Tax” or “Franchise Tax” listed on your electric, gas and phone bills. Your local utilities may be able to provide a report. Use the contact information below to request the required report.

- Ameren UE: Request the “Municipal Tax Report” for 2020 by calling (314) 342-1111.
- Spire (Laclede): Request the “Municipal Tax Report” for 2020 by calling (314) 621-6960.
- Cuivre River: Request the “Wentzville City Tax Report” for 2020 by calling (800) 392-3709.
- Phone bills: The City of Wentzville is waiving confirmation and proof of utility tax on phone bills for residents who qualify. The City will issue \$1 per month, for a total of \$12, for the phone bill portion of the rebate.

If you are a Wentzville resident who is age 65 or older or legally disabled, you may qualify for the City’s Utility Tax Rebate on phone, gas and electric taxes paid in 2020.



Municipal Election April 6

All eligible City residents are encouraged to vote and make their choices known in the April 6, 2021, election.

Voter registration is coordinated by the St. Charles County election Authority Office, which is located at 397 Turner Blvd., in St. Peters. For questions, visit election.sccmo.org or call (636) 949-7550.

Below are the candidates for the April 6, 2021, election.

JUDGE

TWO-YEAR TERM

- Mike Carter
- Travis E. Strobach

ALDERMAN, WARD 1

TWO-YEAR TERM

- Bryan Harr
- Richard D. Colombatto

ALDERMAN, WARD 2

TWO-YEAR TERM

- Jordan Meyer
- Jenna Roberson
- Jordan Broviak
- Jeffrey Ottenlips
- Cole J. McCollum

ALDERMAN, WARD 3

TWO-YEAR TERM

- Michael Lovell



Now Hiring: Seasonal Positions

Looking to earn some extra cash? Consider a flexible summer job with Wentzville's Parks and Recreation Department. We are currently hiring seasonal positions starting at \$10.30 an hour, so that you can get active, stay active and save up for your next big purchase — all at the same time.

The flexible hours, positive work environment and personal growth opportunities are sure to make your summer! Apply today if you are a natural-born leader with great communication skills that is hard-working, enthusiastic, reliable and passionate.

Available positions include front desk attendant, concession worker, aquatics staff, day camp and assistant day camp director, day camp and assistant day camp counselor, and more. To view job descriptions and apply, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/hr.



Board Update: Citywide Transportation Improvements

In 2021, several important projects will continue to move forward. These projects are part of the Board's overall desire to improve thoroughfares and access points throughout the community.

ALLEN STREET CONSTRUCTION

The City is currently working to improve infrastructure, accessibility, aesthetics and on-street parking in Historic Downtown Wentzville. This project, which started in January, consists of the removal and replacement of pavement and sidewalks along Allen Street between Blumhoff Avenue and North Locust Street. The project includes the installation of exposed aggregate sidewalks, ADA-compliant curb ramps, new parking stalls, stormwater improvements, decorative street lighting and landscaping/streetscaping improvements.

WEST PEARCE/MEYER SIGNAL PROJECT

Scheduled for construction to begin in 2021, the West Pearce Boulevard and Meyer Road Signal Project will include intersection improvements along West Pearce Boulevard at Meyer Road and Cheryl Ann Drive, including converting the Cheryl Ann Drive intersection to a two-way, stop-controlled intersection and converting the Meyer Road intersection to an all-way, signal-controlled intersection. Improvements will include improved turning radiuses, sidewalk replacement, curb ramps, crosswalks and ADA-compliant push buttons. The signal will be interconnected to the City's traffic signal system to monitor operations and provide optimal timing plans.

DAVID HOEKEL PARKWAY (DHP)

The interchange project is currently under construction. The contractor is actively working to construct the bridge over Norfolk Southern Railroad. Veterans Memorial Parkway is closed between Schaper Road and South Point Prairie Road to allow for the construction of the retaining walls for the Eastbound I-70 Ramps. This project has been funded in partnership with St. Charles County and MoDOT. With completion anticipated in Fall 2021, this project will provide motorists with an alternative to Wentzville Parkway when entering or leaving the City. The St. Charles County Highway Department is currently

overseeing the construction of an adjacent project that will extend DHP over Peruque Creek as well as construct Interstate Drive west from South Point Prairie Road to DHP and Schaper Road. These projects are near completion with tie-in connections to old South Point Prairie Road near Peruque Valley Park entrance. The next phase of DHP will extend a roadway north from Goodfellow Road to West Meyer Road. The project is funded through a partnership with St. Charles County; design is ongoing. The project is anticipated to be constructed over two construction seasons, with grading and stormwater infrastructure beginning in 2022 and roadway paving in 2023.

WEST MEYER ROAD PHASE 3

The project extends from North Point Prairie Road west to the bridge just east of Duenke Road. The project includes vertical curve improvements, a center turn lane and a multi-use trail from North Point Prairie Road to Rotary Park. Right-of-way acquisition for this project is currently ongoing with construction anticipated to begin later this year. The project is funded by the City of Wentzville and St. Charles County.

WENTZVILLE PARKWAY SOUTH

This project is divided into two phases, both of which are currently in the design/right-of-way process. The first phase includes improvements on Veterans Memorial Parkway, which will improve traffic flow through the construction of a roundabout to the west of Wentzville Parkway as well as increase the length of the eastbound acceleration lane onto I-70. This project is funded by the City of Wentzville, St. Charles County and Federal CMAQ dollars. Phase 1 is anticipated to begin construction in the summer of 2021. Phase 2 will include the extension of Wentzville Parkway South over the Norfolk Southern Railroad via a grade-separated bridge. This project is funded by the City of Wentzville and St. Charles County. Phase 2 of the project is anticipated to begin construction in 2022.

Check the status of a project at www.wentzvillemo.gov/projectupdates and view future Capital Improvement projects at www.wentzvillemo.gov/CIP.



FIND YOUR TREASURE DURING THE CITYWIDE YARD SALE.

Spring Citywide Yard Sale

Get into spring-cleaning mode and clear your home of unwanted items by selling them during Wentzville’s annual Spring Yard Sale, which will be held Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24. For just \$10 you can list your sale in our yard-sale booklet. Each sale will receive an official City Yard Sale sign. The deadline to list your sale is April 19. Plan a fun shopping expedition and hunt down the best bargains! Shoppers may purchase booklets beginning Wednesday, April 21 at City Hall (1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd.) or at Progress Park Recreation Center (968 Meyer Rd.) for only \$5 — this includes a digital copy of the booklet (with all sales listed) and a map to help you locate the bargains!

How to Test for a Leak

Does your water bill seem higher in usage? More often than not, a leaking toilet can be the cause of this increase. A quick in-home test can be done to see if this is indeed the problem. First, put a few drops of food coloring into your toilet tank. Then, wait 10 minutes without flushing and check to see if the color shows up in the toilet bowl. If so, you have a leak and a quick and easy seal replacement should stop your water loss. Be sure to run this test on all the toilets in your home and also check the handles to be sure they’re not sticking, as this will also cause water loss by the toilet continuously running. For more information concerning water usage, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/waterusage.



Parks and Recreation Goes Digital!

In 2021, *Fun Times* will continue its digital-only format. Look for the spring/summer issue to go live on April 5 at www.wentzvillemo.gov/funtimes. To stay in the loop in between issues, sign up for the WPR eNewsletter and get updates sent right to your inbox! Sign up at www.wentzvillemo.gov/enews.



Façade Improvement Grants

Wentzville’s Façade Improvement Grant Program includes two application periods: April 1-30 and Aug. 1-31. The program applies to business and mixed-use buildings, which are more than 50 years old and located in the HD-1, HD-2 or HD-3 zoning districts. Residential buildings are not eligible for the program.

The Façade Improvement Grant Program was established to permit and encourage the preservation of historic structures and avoid neighborhood deterioration through renovation and restoration of commercial and mixed-use buildings. The emphasis of the program is to enhance the exterior facades of these structures. The City established the program recognizing that the requirements for the restoration of older structures are generally more expensive than more modern buildings. The program will encourage reinvestment in Historic Downtown Wentzville through a matching 50-50 grant for an amount not to exceed a \$10,000 grant, per eligible project. A total of \$50,000 has been set-aside in the 2021 budget to support this effort.

The program includes a number of additional requirements. Eligible property owners will receive a letter from the City. Interested property owners are encouraged to submit an application for the grant. Applications can be obtained from the Economic Development Office. For questions, please email ecodev@wentzvillemo.gov or call (636) 639-2016.



**ECRWSS
Postal Customer**

Holiday Collection Schedule

City offices will be closed on Friday, April 2 to observe Good Friday. This holiday will NOT affect your trash, recycling or yard-waste collection. Progress Park Recreation Center and the Wentzville Ice Arena will be open regular hours on Good Friday, however, all facilities will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 4.

Large-Item Pickup

The week of April 26-30, the City will offer its free, large-item pickup. During that week, residents may place bulky items out for pickup on their regularly scheduled collection day. This large-item pickup is free for Wentzville residential customers only. Please place items at the curb by 6 a.m. on your regular collection day that week. Please limit large items disposal to four items per free pickup, per household. To learn more and view a list of accepted (and not-accepted) items, please visit the City's website at www.wentzvillemo.gov/largeitempickup.

Free Tree-Limb Pickup

The City's Chipper Program provides residents a free, convenient way to dispose of small tree limbs twice a year. Tree-limb pickup takes place over a three-week period — by ward. If you are unsure about which ward you live in, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/wardmap. Don't forget, the tree-limb pickup does NOT correspond to residents' trash, recycling and yard-waste collection day. To take advantage of this free program, residents must have their tree limbs stacked at the curb by 6 a.m. on MONDAY of the week their area is scheduled for the Chipper Program.

The spring 2021 schedule is as follows: Ward 1: Week of April 5; Ward 2: Week of April 12; Ward 3: Week of April 19. Tree limbs must be less than eight inches in diameter and should not be bundled or placed in bags. The 2021 Chipper Program collection does not include leaves, root balls, shrubs or hedge trimmings, decorative grasses or grass. If you have any questions, please call (636) 327-5101.

Yard-Waste Collection Resumes March 1

Yard-waste collection begins the first full week in March and continues through the last week of December each year. Yard-waste collection will automatically resume the week of March 1, if service is not canceled. Cancellations will be accepted until March 31. For those with service, yard waste must be set out by 6 a.m. on your regular trash/recycling collection day. If you prefer to provide your own cart, it must be clearly marked with "Yard-Waste-Only" stickers on the lid and both sides of the cart. You can request the stickers by calling City Hall at (636) 327-5101. If you don't have monthly service, but want to use the yard-waste, per-bag service, you will need to schedule a pickup by calling (636) 327-5101. This service must be scheduled a minimum of two business days before your regular trash/recycling collection day.

Yard waste includes leaves, grass clippings, limbs and branches. Limbs and branches cannot be more than four feet long, three inches in diameter or weigh more than 40 pounds. Bundles should be tied with a natural twine or other biodegradable binding material. Yard waste DOES NOT include dirt, sod, rock, concrete, asphalt, lumber, tree stumps or limbs more than three inches in diameter. For yard-waste collection questions, please call (636) 639-2049.