

City of Wentzville News, Information, Important Dates and More!

Recycle Your Real Christmas Tree

CURBSIDE: Curbside collection of real Christmas trees is available for Wentzville residents with trash collection service. Trees, which must be free of decorations, lights, tinsel, garland, etc., and cut into less than four-foot sections, may be placed at the curb on your regular collection day between Jan. 3 and Jan. 21. For questions, please call (636) 639-2049.

DROP OFF: Trees which are free of decorations, stands, coverings, lights, etc., may be dropped off between Dec. 26* and Jan. 16 at one of these City parks (during regular park hours): Progress Park, 968 Meyer Rd; Heartland Park, 100 William Dierberg Dr. or Rotary Park, 2577 W. Meyer Rd. (*Jan. 10-16).

Community Development Block Grants

Maintaining our neighborhoods and assisting our residents are top priorities for the City of Wentzville. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are instrumental in helping the City achieve these goals. Based on eligibility, CDBG funding provides a variety of housing-assistance programs from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through St. Charles Urban County, for the purpose of assisting local residents.



- **Home Improvement Loan Program:** This program provides up to \$10,000 as a 0% interest, five-year forgivable loan for home improvements, emergency repairs and property maintenance concerns to eligible residents. Please visit the City's website at www.wentzvillemo.gov/cdbg to access an application; or complete the application online by visiting the St. Charles City portal at www.wentzvillemo.gov/sccportal — deadlines may apply.
- **First-Time Homebuyer Program:** This program works with participants to gain firsthand knowledge about the essentials of getting mortgage-ready to buy their own home and how they may qualify for financial assistance of up to \$10,000 that can be used for a down payment and closing costs. Various eligibility requirements and restrictions apply for each of these programs and includes income verification. Please visit the City's website at www.wentzvillemo.gov/cdbg to access an application; or complete the application online by visiting the St. Charles City portal at www.wentzvillemo.gov/sccportal — deadlines may apply.
- **Affordable Rental Program and Homeless Prevention Program:** The Affordable Rental Program provides private acquisitions and rehabilitation of dwellings that would be rented to income-qualified elderly, disabled or veterans at affordable rates. The Homeless Prevention Program provides assistance to those who may become homeless due to inability to pay utility and/or lease payments. To learn more or for placement in the program, please call Coordinated Entry at 2-1-1.
- **COVID-19 Hardship Assistance:** This program provides short-term rent, mortgage and utility assistance to eligible households facing foreclosure or eviction for residents impacted by COVID-19. For placement in the program, please call Coordinated Entry at 2-1-1.

Questions regarding any of these programs can be directed to Wentzville's Building Official, Jessica Isaak, at Jessica.Isaak@wentzvillemo.gov or (636) 639-2046.



Protect Your Sewer

'Tis the season for home-cooked meals! As you prepare delicious dishes this Thanksgiving, keep in mind that fats, oils and grease don't just clog our arteries, they also clog our sewers. Keeping these substances out of the drain is one of the best ways to avoid a sewer backup in your home. Fats, oils, and grease are found in many of the foods we eat every day — foods such as meat, butter, cooking oil, gravy, sauces, mayonnaise, salad dressing and cheese. These also happen to be some of the key ingredients to our favorite holiday dishes.

Help prevent drain and sewer clogs by keeping drains free of fat, oil and grease. Use these reminders from the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District to prevent grease buildup in your pipes:

- Wipe cooled pots and pans with a paper towel before washing.
- Remove fatty foods from plates and the kitchen sink and place them in the trash — not down the drain.
- Can it, cool it and trash it. Pour all cooled cooking fats that will harden into a container such as an empty vegetable, pet food or coffee can. Let the contents cool and throw the can in the trash.



Keep Your Deliveries Safe

Keep your packages safe from "porch pirates" this holiday season (and year-round) with these tips.

- Schedule deliveries when you will be home, or have packages delivered to a trusted friend, family member or a commercial locker.
- Request a signature to receive your package.
- Increase your home security with surveillance cameras.
- Report any suspicious activity to the Wentzville Police Department (WPD) by calling (636) 327-5105.

If you have a surveillance system, WPD would love to partner with you! Our "Video Surveillance Camera Registration Program" is a voluntary program that allows you to assist during WPD investigations. If you register your surveillance system and a crime occurs, WPD can quickly identify anyone that has cameras nearby. This helps us collect video evidence and follow up on leads to solve the crime. WPD is NOT asking for access to your system. This voluntary program simply tells where video surveillance systems are located throughout the community. To register your surveillance system, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/videosurveillance. If you have any questions, please contact Detective Sergeant Maddolin at (636) 639-2105.

Candidate Filing Opens Dec. 7

Beginning Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021 at 8 a.m., candidates may begin filing for the elected municipal offices that will appear on the April 2022 ballot. Candidates must file in person at City Hall, located at 1001 Schroeder Creek Blvd. The filing period will remain open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021. This reflects a change to the state law regarding filing dates for candidates for elected office.

Positions open for filing include one Alderman from each of the three Wards. There is a \$25 fee, due when filing. City ordinances state that candidates running for Alderman must be at least 18 years of age; a U.S. citizen; and an inhabitant and resident of the City for at least one year prior to the election. Candidates running for Alderman must also be a resident, at the time they file and during the time they serve, of the Ward from which they are elected.

If you have questions or need additional information, please call the City Clerk's office at (636) 639-2012. Packets can be accessed at www.wentzvillemo.gov/cityclerk.

Holiday Hours

City offices will be closed on the following days to observe these upcoming holidays:

- Christmas: Dec. 23 and Dec. 24
- New Year's Day: Dec. 31

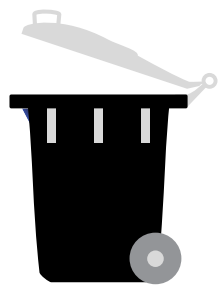
The Progress Park Recreation Center may have an amended schedule to observe these upcoming holidays:

- Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, open 6 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Christmas Day, Dec. 25, closed
- New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, open 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
- New Year's Day, Jan. 1, closed

To view hours and programs at the Wentzville Ice Arena, please visit www.wentzvilleicearena.com.

Quick Reminder

This year, the Christmas Day and New Year's Day holidays will **NOT** affect the collection schedule, as they both fall on a weekend. Did you know there are only six days each year that could possibly affect the collection schedule? To learn more, visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/collectionholidays.



Wentzville Wonderland Holiday Decorating Contest

Decorating for the holidays? Enter your home in the City's Wentzville Wonderland Holiday Display Facebook Contest! Between Dec. 1 and Dec. 17, participants can submit a photo of their holiday display by posting it in the City's Wentzville Wonderland Facebook event. Displays will be voted on by the public via a polling system on the City's social media channels.

Winners will receive a custom Winter Wonderland yard sign to display on their property! One display will be chosen in each of the following categories: Biggest and Brightest, Social Media Favorite and Mayor's Choice.

To review the guidelines and locate contest-submission details, please visit www.wentzvillemo.gov/winterwonderland. Please note: Submissions are subject to City approval. Displays that violate Wentzville's City municipal code will not be accepted. 2020 winners are not eligible to participate again until 2022.

