

CITYSCOOP

The City of Collinsville's Newsletter



CHRISTMAS AT COLLINS HOUSE & LIGHT UP PARADE



Celebrate the start of the Christmas season with a family friendly event!



Join us for Collinsville's Annual Christmas at Collins House and Light Up Parade held in Uptown Collinsville.

The 6th Annual Christmas at Collins House and Light Up Parade will be Saturday, December 2nd, 2023. The Light Up Parade will start at 5:30pm with activities for the family held at the Collins House including a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus after the parade.

Uptown Festivities start at 4:00pm

- Window Display Contest
- Food Specials
- Drink Specials
- Holiday Spirit: Light it up!

Parade Start Time 5:30pm

Collins House Festivities 6:00pm - 8:00pm

- Hot Cocoa (Donated by Walmart)
- Bonfires & S'mores
- Holiday Movies on the big screen
- Tree Lighting Ceremony@7pm
- Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus after the Parade.
- Parade Winners awarded
- Uptown Business Window Contest Winners



DECEMBER 2ND, 2023 |

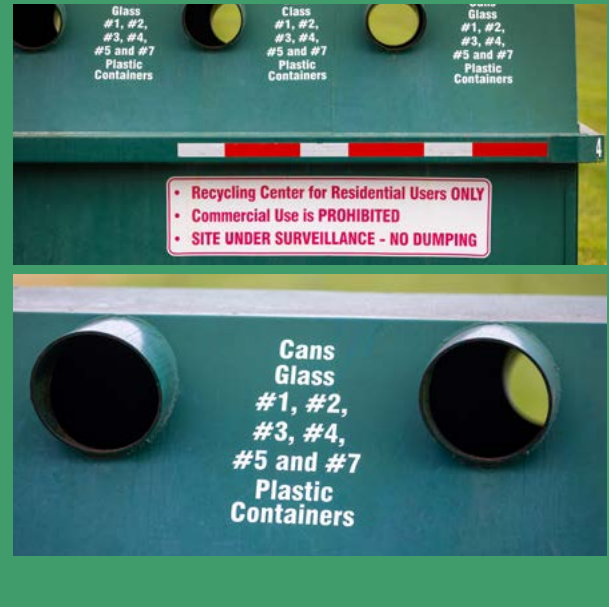


Parade Applications are available at Collinsvilleil.org/lightupparade

-MADISON COUNTY RECYCLE STATION - MOVED TO PARKS ACTIVITY CENTER-

The Madison County Recycle Station, formerly located at Woodland Park, has been relocated next to Collinsville Parks and Recreation Activity Center.

Items such as paper, glass, plastics, and metals can be recycled in the drop-off station. This service is free for all Collinsville and Madison County Residents. Please read the directions on the station prior to use to minimize contamination. Please do not dump materials outside of the station if it is full. The station is collected by Republic Services M-W-F weekly.



WATER BILL - EFT

Want to pay your water bill without mailing it, coming into City Hall or having to pay a convenience fee?

Sign up for automatic bill payments! By doing this, you'll also avoid late payments on bills.

You can come into City Hall to sign up in person or follow this link to sign up on our City website:

www.collinsvilleil.org/eft



30th Anniversary

Joyously celebrate the holidays by joining us at the 30th annual Festival of Trees event held at Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, Illinois. The event space transforms into a holiday winter wonderland with beautifully decorated artificial trees, gorgeous wreaths, stockings and unique home décor. These extraordinary masterpieces are sold by silent auction.

Please join us at the 2023 Festival of Trees and help make a difference in our community while we celebrate the spirit of this holiday tradition.



Festival of Trees is brought to you by:



This years event will benefit Collinsville Faith in Action



TICKETS

GENERAL ADMISSION \$75

Includes all food & drinks: beer, wine, themed cocktails & soda. Other cocktails are available for purchase. *All tickets are adults only.*

RESERVED TABLE FOR 8 \$600

Reserved table for 8 guests. Includes all food & drinks: beer, wine, themed cocktails & soda. Other cocktails are available for purchase. *All tickets are adults only.*

RESERVED TABLE FOR 10 \$750

Reserved table for 10 guests. Includes all food & drinks: beer, wine, themed cocktails & soda. Other cocktails are available for purchase. *All tickets are adults only.*



scan to visit website

SPONSORSHIPS

EVENT SPONSOR \$1,500

Name recognition on the event website, print materials, video and social media ads, digital outdoor signage, name recognition at event. *Includes 8 tickets with reserved seating.*

BAR SPONSOR \$750

Custom sign at one of six bars at event. Name recognition on the event website, print materials, and name recognition at event. Themed cocktail sponsorship. *Includes 6 tickets with reserved seating.*

ARTIFICIAL TREE SPONSOR \$150

We provide the tree that you must use; but you provide the decorations. Value of tree decorations and items should be \$400 or higher. Tree can be picked up at Gateway Center to be decorated off-site. Must be returned (decorated) by December 5th by 6pm. If you plan to decorate tree at Gateway Center, you will need to decorate between noon-8pm on December 5th. *Includes 4 tickets with reserved seating.*

STOCKING SPONSOR \$100

Provide a filled Christmas Stocking to be auctioned. Value of stocking should be \$75 or higher. *Includes 2 tickets with reserved seating.*

WREATH SPONSOR \$100

Provide a decorated wreath to be auctioned. Value of wreath should be \$75 or higher. *Includes 2 tickets with reserved seating.*

EVENT TIMELINE

Doors Open: 6:00 pm

- Food, drinks, and bidding begins!

Auction Closes: 8:30 pm

Live Auction: 8:30 pm

Check Out Begins: 9:00 pm

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

Purchase tickets online at:

www.festivaloftrees.info

There you can also download an order form to mail in with a check.

QUESTIONS? EMAIL US AT manager@festivaloftrees.info



Councilman Tony Furhmann, Darlene Ladd-Assistant Director Madison County Employment and Training, Collinsville HR Director-Payton Drury, Interim City Manager Derek Jackson

COLLINSVILLE RECEIVES 2023 ILLINOIS WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

The City of Collinsville was selected as the 2023 Illinois Workforce Partnership recipient for the Business Leadership Award. This award was attributed to our partnership with Madison County Employment & Training Department, Collinsville Community Unit School District #10, and U.S. Department of Labor. Our Apprenticeship Program is a first of its kind program where the City employs High School Students with

disabilities to work in our departments. After the yearlong program, the student receives their Apprenticeship Certificate and has the opportunity to be a permanent employee of the City.

More information regarding our Apprenticeship Program visit:

www.collinsvilleil.org/apprenticeship

BELTLINE ROAD - IDOT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Beltline Road, a vital arterial roadway that connects Illinois State Route 157 and 159, falls under the jurisdiction and maintenance of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Although the City lacks direct control over IDOT's maintenance schedule, we have maintained an active dialogue with IDOT regarding essential ADA enhancements and the resurfacing of Beltline Road. IDOT has earmarked Beltline Road resurfacing as one of their upcoming projects, scheduled for implementation between the Spring and Summer of 2024. Currently, IDOT is in the final stages of securing the necessary right-of-way acquisitions. The City is eagerly awaiting the formal project bid letting, which is anticipated to be set for either January or March of 2024. Once the bidding process is complete, the project is slated to commence within 90 days.



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2024 SEASON



We are **hiring**

LIFEGUARD DEPARTMENT

- Managers
- Assistant Managers
- Head Guards
- Lifeguards
- Swim Instructors

GUEST SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Managers
- Assistant Managers
- Guest Service Attendants

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

- Maintenance Workers

More information on the 2024 season will be finalized and published on our website by January 2024.



AQUA PARK SEASON PASSES



Season pass sales for the 2024 season will begin online Friday, November 24, 2023 and in office Monday, November 27, 2023. Pricing and more information can be found on our website mid-November for the 2024 season.

Visit our website at www.collinsvilleil.org/pass for pricing and more information.

CBSL

COLLINSVILLE YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL LEAGUE



★1ST★
JANUARY

League
Registration Opens

Practices start April 1st
Games start May 1st

Games no later than July 1st



T-Ball and Coach Pitch: COED

T-ball is designed for Pre-K and Kindergarten aged children (must be at least 4 years old). Coach Pitch is designed for children currently in 1st-2nd grades.



Baseball: Grades 3rd-8th

"Minors" baseball is designed for children currently in 3rd and 4th grades. "Majors" Baseball is designed for children currently in 5th and 6th grades. "Juniors" Baseball is designed for children in 7th and 8th grades.



Softball: Grades 3rd-6th

"Minors" softball is designed for children currently in 3rd and 4th grades. "Majors" Softball is designed for children currently in 5th and 6th grades.

Collinsville Parks and Recreation
Leagues are recreational in nature and
are designed for all kids to learn how to
play and improve their skills.



Divisions will play up to 14 games (12 games guarantee) **Practices and Games may be up to 3x a week.** Games no later than July 1st.



All participants will receive a team uniform shirt and hat. Players will need to provide their own gloves and cleats/shoes.



Games and Practices will be
played at
Collinsville Sports Park
and
Woodland Park

COACHES & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Collinsville Parks and Rec relies on the help of volunteers to make our program successful. Coaches and team managers are volunteer positions. If interested, please let us know!

Collinsvilleil.org/coaches



CBSL is a youth baseball and softball league that seeks to teach participants the fundamentals of the game while encouraging sportsmanship and teamwork



WWW.COLLINSVILLEIL.ORG/CBSL

Pricing for each division available online





2023 C3 Collinsville Community Awards

The 2023 C3 Collinsville Community Awards will be held Thursday night, November 9, at the Collinsville Gateway Center. The C3 Collinsville Community Awards is a celebration of the great people that serve the City of Collinsville.

C3 is the collaboration of The Collinsville Chamber of Commerce, Unit 10 School District and the City of Collinsville.

Tickets are now on sale at:
Collinsvilleil.org/c3



2023 Award Winners

Leader of Tomorrow
Elliott Schusky

Small Business Impact
Bradley Keene
Visionary Wealth Advisors

Corporate Impact
Ascend - Collinsville

Firefighter of the Year
Lt. Kurt Litteken

Police Officer of the Year
Nicholas Woloszyn

Stan Schaeffer Education/Community Leadership Award
Kyle Gordon

Spirit of Tourism
Bailey & Jeremy Martin
Schroepfel Brown House

Cool Cities Sustainability Award
Carol Frerker

Outstanding City Employee
Emily George

Spirit of Excellence Award
Shawn & Stephanie Sims
Miner's Theatre

Good Neighbor Award
Sandy & Ron Snyder

Hometown Hero Veteran Award
Jerry Dallape

FREE
Yard Waste Disposal 

2023

Friday December 1 8am - 2pm	Saturday December 2 8am - 3pm
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Leaves and Yard Waste must be in paper yard waste bags- **NO PLASTIC BAGS**
proof of residency required
bring Drivers Lic. Water Bill or Power Bill

**Collinsville Street Garage
850 S. Morrison Ave.**

Questions?
call 618-346-5214 www.collinsvilleil.org



REPUBLIC
SERVICES

BULK TRASH PICK-UP

Republic Services provides a free pick-up of large items and appliances for residents twice each year.

Please contact Republic Services at:
(618) 656-6883 or www.republicservices.com
to schedule your pick-up.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

Appliances, Carpet (cut into bundles no longer than 4' in length and 3' in diameter and weighing less than 50lbs. per bundle),

Furniture including couches, chairs, dressers, tables, desks, mattress sets.

Glass portions of doors/windows must be broken down and placed into small box marked "GLASS".

YARD WASTE PICK-UP

Republic Services offers Yard Waste Pick-up Service for Collinsville residents.

3 months of yard waste service is \$55.32

Please contact Republic Services at:
(618) 656-6883 or www.republicservices.com
to start service.

FREE LIMB & YARD WASTE PICK-UP

November 13th through 17th

PARTNERING TOGETHER

The City of Collinsville is partnering with the Collinsville Township to provide a free, one-time, limb and yard waste collection for residents. There is no need to call to register in advance. Republic Services will pick up any limbs and yard waste that is put out at residences on your **NORMAL TRASH DAY THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13TH - 17TH**.

GRASS

WHEN

November 13th
through November
17th. Pickup will occur
on your normal trash
day.

LEAVES

WHAT

Grass, leaves, flowers,
stalks, stems, small
tree trimmings and
branches. All leaves
and yard waste must
be in a can or paper
bag the weight of
which shall not
exceed 50 pounds.
No plastic bags.

TREE
LIMBS

TREE LIMBS

Small tree trimmings
and branches (less
than 4 feet in length
and less than 3 inches
in diameter) shall be
in a can or paper bag
the weight of which
shall not exceed
35 pounds. Tree
trimmings may also
be tied into bundles
and laid in piles
curbside.

YARD
DEBRIS

WHO IS
ELIGIBLE?

All Collinsville
residents within City
limits. The City would
like to discourage
residents from
bringing in waste
from out of town.

→ **FREE
ONE-TIME PICK-UP**

brought to you by:



+



The City and Township also plan on scheduling a limb & yard waste pick up in the Spring of 2024 – more details to come!

Questions? - call 618-346-5200 x0



COLLINSVILLE TOWNSHIP has a multitude of programs that assist low income households, seniors, and households with disabled members. The following is a summary of programs that provide assistance to residents living in Collinsville Township. If you feel any of these programs can benefit you or your family please call to make an appointment with our office. We will do everything possible to assist you.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE:

This is a program of last resort which the Township provides to its residents in special emergency situations. This means an applicant has to apply for all other public benefits available first. The broad general qualification to participate in this program is that the applicant must live within the Collinsville Township (City of Collinsville within Madison County). There are income level restrictions and other qualifications involved in participating in this program. All of the information and application forms are available through your Collinsville Township Office at 307 E Main St. Collinsville, Illinois.

LIHEAP:

This is a program designed to assist our Township residents (City of Collinsville within Madison County) who qualify for low income home energy assistance. The purpose of the program is to ensure that needy families, elderly, disabled and qualifying individuals have access to basic utilities necessary for their household to function and in particular to provide comfort and protection from extreme heat, extreme cold and inclement weather conditions. Call to make an appointment 618-344-1290.

BENEFIT ACCESS PROGRAM:

This is a program to provide certain benefits to seniors and persons with disability. The benefits available through this program include a license plate fee discount for qualifying individuals and also free rides on fixed-route transit systems. For further information, the fixed-route transit schedule times are available through MCT. Eligibility to participate in this program is determined by income, resident age and/or disability.

If you have any questions or want to apply for any of these programs please call 618-344-1290 to find out if you qualify and what steps you will need to take to get assistance.

Collinsville Township also manages and coordinates activities at the Collinsville Senior Center located at 420 E. Main St, Collinsville.

The Collinsville Senior Center provides a variety of benefits and a myriad of programs for the benefit of Township residents. Among those programs offered at the Collinsville Senior Center are nutritious balanced hot homemade meals, offered Monday through Friday from 11am to 12:30pm. The Collinsville Senior Center has many ever-changing weekly activities. There's always something new! Some of our ongoing activities at the Center include Yoga, Exercise classes, Bingo, Dominoes, Bridge, Pinochle, Shuffleboard, Pool, Arts and Crafts and many, many more. Our Collinsville Senior Center provides a



warm welcoming environment for socializing, networking, meeting old friends and making new friends. The Collinsville Senior Center has coordinated the "Folks wagon". The purpose of the Folks wagon is to get all of the Collinsville Senior Center regulars, newcomers and visitors out and about. Some of the destinations of the Folks wagon are pre-planned field trips to new and different places! There's always a new destination for the Folks wagon! We often choose the designations based on popular request. Some of the standard trips have included Busch Stadium, the Arch, Meramec Caverns, Springfield IL and the Zoo. The Collinsville Senior Center offers easy to understand technology classes offering simple to understand concise educational programs teaching how to use your laptop, Ipad and even programming cell phones. The Center also provides rules of the road review programs to assist in renewing your Illinois driving privileges and even free tax preparation services annually. The Collinsville Senior Center also sponsors and is a designated center for receiving preventive vaccinations as a public service. . . and even more.

For information please come in for our schedule and menu. You can also visit Collinsvilletownship.org.

ASSESSORS DEPARTMENT:

The Collinsville Township assessor is charged with fairly and accurately assessing all real property located in Collinsville Township both within and outside of the City of Collinsville Corporate limits. Depending upon age, disabilities, whether or not your home is owner-occupied, or even if you are a Veteran, certain exemptions may apply to your real estate assessment. In addition, you may be eligible for property tax freezes and our Township Assessor's Office is ready, willing, and able to assist you with any questions you may have in that regard. If you have any questions, please contact 618-345-0051. The assessor's Office is open from 8:30am-4:30pm at 307 E Main, Collinsville.

ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT:

Where the City road maintenance crew's responsibility ends at the City limits, Collinsville Township Road and Bridge Dept. maintenance begins. Did you ever wonder how the picturesque rural byways stay so well-maintained and clear of snow and other impediments? They plow and salt the roads to keep them safe so our vehicles don't slide off the roadway and cause serious injury to ourselves or others.

Collinsville Township is responsible for road projects and maintenance throughout Collinsville Township outside the City limits of Collinsville and Maryville within Madison County. But that's not all the Collinsville Township Road and Bridge Dept does. It manages drainage and flood control throughout the district. It makes sure that the creeks and streams run free and clear so that they don't backup onto the adjoining landowner's properties.

In addition, Collinsville Township has yard waste dumpsters available for City of Collinsville residents. It is Collinsville Township's belief that all Township residents, whether they live in the City of Collinsville Corporate limits or the unincorporated outlying areas of the Township, should have equal access to the amenities which the Township has to offer for all of its residents and the City is certainly part of the Township. Dumpster access is available during normal office hours (7:00am-3:00pm) at 1407 N Bluff Road.

REMEMBER: Collinsville Township holds its regular monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at the Collinsville Senior Center 420 E. Main St. Collinsville, Illinois. Township meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome.

The "Original" Classic
**INTERNATIONAL
GEM &
JEWELRY
SHOW INC.**



**DECEMBER
1-3**

**FRIDAY
-SUNDAY**



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 4 Princess Party

NOV 9 C3 - Community Awards

NOV 18 Kellsie's Trees of Hope

NOV 24-25 Cahokia Mounds Vendor Fair

NOV 25-26 The Great American Train Show

DEC 1-3 International Gem & Jewelry Show

DEC 6 Festival of Trees

DEC 16-17 Winter Market

JAN 5-7 Let's Go Fishing Show

JAN 20-21 Brick Fest Live

JAN 25 Gateway Wedding Show

JAN 27 SLSRC Winterfest Hamfest

FEB 8 Rivers & Routes Tourism Summit

FEB 15 Kahok Hall of Fame Ceremony

FEB 17 Totally Rad Vintage Fest

Gateway Convention Center offers flexible and affordable space with easy access for vendors and exhibitors. Our clients love the Center's close proximity to hotels, restaurants, and local attractions as well as the convenient, central location and free parking.



**DECEMBER 16 & 17
10 AM - 4 PM**

SHOP & STROLL
30,000 SQ. FEET OF UNIQUE GIFTS, BOOZY HOT CHOCOLATE, HANDMADE CRAFTS, BOUTIQUE ITEMS, AND FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE!



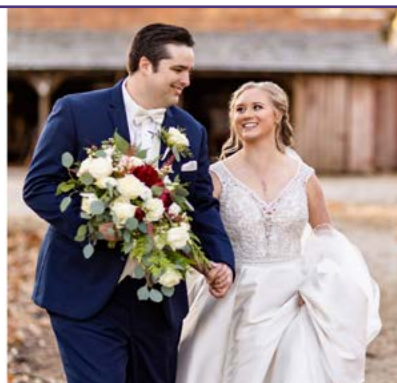
**LET'S GO
FISHING
SHOW
GATEWAY
CONVENTION
CENTER**

**LET'S GO
FISHING
SHOW
JAN. 5-6-7**

GATEWAY
WEDDING SHOW

January 25, 2024

5:00 pm - 8:30 pm





2024 Kahok Hall of Fame Induction

Save the date! The 2024 class of Kahok Hall of Fame inductees will be honored on February 15, 2024 at the Gateway Center in Collinsville.

Tickets for the awards dinner are limited and go on sale December 1, 2023. The cost is \$40 per person. To purchase your seat for the biggest night celebrating Kahok history, contact Clay Smith (csmith@cusd.kahoks.org) at 618-346-6320 ext. 1231 OR Jan Harmon (jharmon1@cusd.kahoks.org) at 618-346-6320 ext. 1122.

The 2024 inductees will be announced on December 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. during the Prairie Farms Holiday Basketball Tournament in Fletcher Gymnasium at Collinsville High School. A ticket for the tournament is required for admission. The presentation will be streamed live on the Kahok Sports Network YouTube channel.

The Kahok Hall of Fame was established in May 2022 “to recognize athletic and personal accomplishments, exemplary citizenship, contributions to society and actions that brought distinction and honor to all associated with Collinsville Community Unit School District #10.”

For information about the Kahok Hall of Fame, including the list of 2023 inductees, visit kahokhalloffame.org.

CUSD 10 Schools Earn State Recognition

Each year the Illinois State Board of Education releases report cards for public schools across the state. One component of the School Report Card is the summative designation – a descriptor of how well a school is meeting the needs of all students.

This designation is based on academics, student success, school culture and climate, financial investments, overall data, and data for individual student groups.

For 2023, Webster Elementary School was designated as an Exemplary school. This indicates that the school’s overall performance is in the top 10 percent of all schools and has no underperforming student demographic groups.

Collinsville High School, Dorris Intermediate School, Caseyville Elementary, Kreitner Elementary, Maryville Elementary, Renfro



Elementary and Twin Echo Elementary were designated as Commendable schools. This indicates they have no underperforming student demographic groups. (Summit and Jefferson Elementaries are too small to receive a designation.)

CUSD 10 schools’ Exemplary and Commendable status reflects investments the district has made in instructional staff, social emotional supports, STEM, early intervention programs and Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) to better meet the academic and social emotional needs of our students. **Go Kahoks!**

CMS, Kreitner & Webster to install solar arrays



The Collinsville School District Unit 10 has partnered with Renewable Energy Evolutions to construct and install three solar arrays that will be located at CMS, Kreitner and Webster.

The district expects the arrays to be operational in December of 2023. Preliminary estimates show the solar arrays will reduce electrical expenses approximately \$100,000 annually in the first full calendar year.



NEW FACES AT COLLINSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Collinsville Police Department continues to add new faces to the CPD family.

On Monday, October 2, 2023, we welcomed our newest officer at the Collinsville Police Department. Gregory McAllister joins us from the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, where he has worked since 2022. Ofc. McAllister is a graduate of O'Fallon Township High School and the University of Missouri St. Louis. Ofc. McAllister will immediately enter our 14 week field training program. Welcome Greg!



Gregory McAllister

Katrina Stemler is the newest Civilian Police Aide and began on 8/21/2023. Katrina worked in retail prior to coming to the police department. Katrina is planning on going back to school to earn a degree and pursue a career in the criminal justice field.



Katrina Stemler

Nathaniel Simon is one of our newest Telecommunicators who began September 13th, 2023. Nathaniel came to us from SLU Public Safety, where he had worked as a Public Safety Officer/Relief Supervisor for the last 3 years. Nathaniel is in the Communications Training program and scheduled to complete it in December.



Nathaniel Simon

Caylin Rhodes is the newest Telecommunicator who began October 24th, 2023. She is a CPD Cadet/Explorer and has worked for the Missouri Department of Corrections for the last year as a finance senior office support assistant. She is anticipated to complete the Communications Training program in early 2024.



Caylin Rhodes



Programs and Events

Growing and Harvesting Mushrooms Indoors

November 12 - 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Pre-register by calling 618-977-0941 or online at Collinsvilleil.org.
\$5 - Participants will take home a free starter kit.

Winter Seed Starting Without a Greenhouse

January 14th

Maple Syrup Tapping

January 28

Beekeeping

February 11

Pruning and Winter ID

February 25



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

WEDNESDAY WORKDAYS @
Willoughby Farm - 9am - 12pm

You can also fill out a "Volunteer Opportunities Form" on our website.
www.collinsvilleil.org/farm



**BOOK YOUR NEXT SPECIAL OCCASION
AT WILLOUGHBY FARM!**

Be sure to visit our website at Collinsvilleil.org or call 618-977-0941 to get our new rental prices for 2024.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - LOANER RESIDENTIAL LOCKBOX PROGRAM

The Collinsville Fire Department, in conjunction with Collinsville's Faith in Action and the Age Smart coalition, are pleased to introduce a new program for our senior residents. The program is a loaner lockbox for our seniors or those physically challenged within our community. This program has been designed to enhance the age-in-place movement. Many times, our seniors need our assistance and cannot get to the door to let us in; with this new program, your paramedics will be able to get in without having to break glass or a door.

The program is designed for Collinsville and Collinsville FPD residents; typically seniors aged 65 and older living alone or with another senior,



both of whom may be experiencing a physical challenge that may cause limited mobility, have health conditions, and may not be able to get to the door. The Fire Department and/or Faith in Action will evaluate each application to ensure the applicant meets the intent of the program.

The boxes are similar to a realtor box placed on the outside front door handle and are designed to withstand tampering and harsh weather conditions. A house key and health information form will be secured in the box. The Fire Department will program the boxes with a code that will be kept secure. This will ensure that in an emergency, the responding crews will have access to the unique code, allowing immediate assistance. This quick access could potentially save lives.

The Collinsville Fire Department is administering this program. Age Smart coalition is providing these lockboxes through grants received, allowing this program to be free of charge. This is a loaner program, so when a resident no longer needs the box, it is returned to the Fire Department to be reissued to someone in need.

To see if you or a family member qualify for one of these limited residential loaner lockboxes, we will come to your home to verify the resident's situation fits into this plan. Contact the Fire Chief's Executive Assistant at 618-346-5022, x3141 or contact Faith in Action at 618-344-8080.



FALL SAFETY TIPS

With the seasons changing and temperatures dropping, we thought it would be a good time to provide some fire safety tips.

FIREPLACE SAFETY

For wood burning fireplaces the following should be inspected prior to use:

- The damper should be inspected to make sure it opens and closes properly. Also, the damper should be in the fully open position before starting a fire. Failure to fully open the damper could result in the release of toxic gases into your home.
- The flue should be checked prior to use and professionally cleaned to remove any excess buildup of creosote.
- Chimney caps are recommended to prevent birds and other animals from building nests in the chimney.
- Wire mesh screening should be used to prevent embers from flying out of the fireplace. These embers can not only damage floor finishes, but they can also start a fire.
- Only use fireplace tools when adjusting logs, and never move the logs with your hand. Fireplace gloves work well to prevent burns when adjusting hot doors or screens.

- The firebox should be periodically cleaned of ash during the burn season. The ash should be put in a metal container and allowed to cool completely before discarding. Remember, coals will stay hot long after a fire, so it is imperative they are disposed of properly.
- Ensure that fire starters, kindling, and logs are stored away from the fireplace so there is no way an ember can ignite them.

Follow the listed tips for a safe and warm burning season.



SMOKE DETECTORS



The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports between 2012-2016, almost three out of five home fire deaths in the U.S. resulted from fires in homes with no smoke detectors or smoke detectors that were not working. Additionally, in 2019 there were 91 residential fire deaths in Illinois, with most of the deaths occurring in homes without working smoke detectors.

Time is everything when it comes to escaping a fire in your home, and working smoke detectors will increase your chances of escaping if a fire were to occur.

- It is recommended that smoke detectors be tested once a month, but the time change serves as a reminder to inspect, test, and replace any expired or non-working smoke detectors. Smoke detectors should be discarded once they are ten years old.
- It is also recommended that smoke detector batteries be replaced when the time changes in the spring and fall.
- Beginning January 1, 2023, a new Illinois law now requires ten-year sealed smoke detectors for all homes without hard-wired detectors.

CANDLES

Candles are one of the leading causes of residential fires. Please follow the tips listed below when using candles:

- Never leave lit candles unattended.
- Never place lit candle next to flammable materials such as drapes, furniture, etc.
- Make sure lit candles are out of reach of children and pets.



CODE RED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Have you heard about the CodeRed notification available to all residents? CodeRed is an emergency notification system that enables your public safety personnel to notify residents and businesses by telephone, text message, email, social media and more of time-sensitive information, emergencies, or urgent alerts. Weather alerts are an option to keep you informed of severe weather threats. We encourage anyone living or working in Collinsville to register. Register the whole family!

Messages regarding the safety of our residents and community will be disseminated using CodeRED as one form of communication. We will send out alerts via phone, text, email, and social media in a variety of situations including boil water

notices, gas leaks, evacuation notices, police activity, fire emergencies, missing persons and more. When you register to receive alerts, you will have the ability to select the types of alerts you wish to receive and your preferred methods to receive the messages.

The CodeRED system will leave a message on your answering machine or voicemail if you miss the phone call. If you do not have an answering machine, the system will consider the call as "incomplete" and will attempt to call again after several minutes have passed. If your phone line is busy, CodeRED will try two more times to connect. At any point, you may re-dial the 800 number on your caller ID to hear a replay of the message sent. Messages will have the caller ID # 866-419-5000 for emergencies and caller ID # 855-969-4636 for non-emergencies.

You can register more than one phone number and/or email address for your location when you register for CodeRED on this registration page:
<https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/68684CD288F8>

Please note that we recommend you register at least one phone number and one email address to ensure that you will receive alerts in the event of a power outage or an incident that may occur late at night when you are generally asleep. If you do not have a computer or have difficulty entering your information, contact the Fire Chief's Executive Assistant at 618-346-5022, x3141. Monday – Friday 08:30AM – 2:00PM and we will register for you. While you do not need to have anything on your phone to receive the messages, there is an App available, which is useful when traveling as it will send you alerts in the area where you are.



scan qr code
to register.

Addressing Homelessness in the City



Homelessness within the City of Collinsville has been on the hearts and minds of our residents, business owners, elected officials, and City staff. This is evidenced by the numerous conversations taking place on social media as well as reports to the Police Department and City Hall. Homelessness within the City is not new, nor is it against the law; however, recent gatherings of homeless individuals in our Uptown area have resulted in an increased public awareness and requests for action. The City hears you and understands your concerns regarding safety, appearance, sanitation, welfare, and more.

First and foremost, please be assured that our Police Department will always investigate and address criminal behavioral issues. If a criminal violation can be established, which includes behavior that breaches the peace, our Police Department will take the necessary action to remedy it. But we must also be clear - simply being homeless or unsheltered is not a crime and we cannot treat it as such. Understanding both the law and the causes for homelessness is key to establishing reasonable expectations and solutions.

The State of Illinois is one of three states to pass a "Homeless Bill of Rights" and the challenges we are facing today are no different

than those of our neighboring communities. Illinois law guarantees everyone "the right to use and move freely in public spaces, including but not limited to public sidewalks, public parks, public transportation, and public buildings, in the same manner as any other person and without discrimination on the basis of his or her housing status."



Homelessness can arise from various factors such as mental health, substance abuse, affordable housing shortages, family crises, and more. It may be surprising to learn that, despite being offered opportunities for housing and employment, some homeless individuals are homeless by choice – being homeless is simply their preference.

Initiated by local business owners, the City created a homeless stakeholder group in

the winter of 2022. The stakeholder group is made up of non-profits, local churches, local businesses and governmental entities and continues to meet regularly to collaborate on reducing homelessness in Collinsville through outreach and providing connections to resources. The City is also actively involved in the Madison County Continuum of Care monthly meetings, which are aimed at ending homelessness in Madison County. We continue to communicate with the homeless individuals and offer them the resources that are available, encompassing emergency/welfare checks, transportation, shelter access, meal providers, health services, domestic violence assistance, employment training, and legal services. Should you know someone in need to these resources, you can find many listed on our City's website here:

<https://www.collinsvilleil.org/community/housing-homeless-resources>.

In addition to working directly with our homeless population, we will also continue to address criminal issues. The City is grateful for our caring citizens and thankful for your concern and compassion. We are confident we can meet these challenges together as a community.

Referral Hotlines:

- Madison County-** 618-296-5300
- Referrals to food pantries, clothing assistance, emergency shelter, and housing assistance.
- Collinsville Faith in Action-** 618-344-8080 - Referrals for transportation
- United Way-** 211 or 1-800-427-4626
- Free & confidential service helping individuals find local resources 24/7

Shelter Access & Housing

- Salvation Army-** 618-465-7764 - 525 Alby St, Alton IL 62002 - Anyone welcome
- Catholic Urban Programs (CUP)-** 618-398-5616
- 7 Vieux Carre Dr, East St. Louis IL
- Good Samaritan House-** 618-876-0607
- 1825 Delmar Ave., Granite City, IL - Shelter that allows children

Meal Providers

- Collinsville Food Pantry-** 618-346-1861
- 2009 Mall St, Collinsville, IL - For those in need of food. Tues 4pm-6pm Thur & Fri 9am-11am
- Spirit of Sharing (SOS) Soup Kitchen-** 618-344-2526
- Tuesdays at First United Presbyterian Church 5pm-6:30pm 201 E. Church St, Collinsville, IL
- Thursdays at St. John EUCC 5pm-6:30pm Faith Hall 307 W. Clay St, Collinsville, IL

- Collinsville Township Senior Center-** 618-346-1861
- 420 East Main St, Collinsville - Hot homemade lunches

- Hunger Hotline-** 1-866-348-6479 or 1-800-359-2163 (Illinois Line)
- Assists individuals in need of food



Resource Guide

Health Services:

- Anderson Hospital-** 618-288-5711 - 6800 State Route 162, Maryville, IL
- Alton Memorial Hospital-** 618-463-7311 - 1 Memorial Dr, Alton, IL

Transportation:

- Collinsville Faith in Action-** 618-344-8080 - Assistance finding transportation
- Madison County Transit (MCT)-** 618-797-4636
- Fixed route bus service in Madison County to Metro Link and downtown St. Louis

Support Networks:

- Centerstone-** 618-462-2331
- 2615 Edwards St, Alton, IL - M-Th 8:30am-6:00pm, F 8:30am-5:00pm
- Chestnut Health Systems-** 618-877-4420
- 50 Northgate Industrial Dr, Granite City, IL - M-F 9:00am-6:00pm
- Veterans Crisis Line-** 1-800-273-8255 press 1
- Confidential crisis chat - connects veterans with qualified caring VA responders

Legal Services:

- Land of Lincoln Legal Aid-** 618-462-0029
- 111 E. 4th St, Alton, IL - M-Th 8:30am-6:00pm, F 8:30am-5:00pm

Employment Training:

- Madison County Employment and Training-** 618-296-4445
- 1101 E. Edwardsville Rd Suite 1302 - Wood River, IL M-Th 8:30am-4:30pm

BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT

Uptown Laundromat



806 West Main Street - Uptown Laundromat and Dry Cleaning is now open for business.



Eastport Plaza Phase 4



1609 Eastport Plaza Dr. – The fourth and final phase of the Maune development along Eastport Plaza Drive has finished construction. The fourth building consists of a similar layout to buildings A-C and offers similar small-scale warehousing/distribution space.

Mike Halloran - State Farm



520 West Main St. – State Farm office renovation.



Total Access Urgent Care



404 Beltline Road – Total Access Urgent Care



Eckhardt Financial Group



(506 Vandalia) – New commercial office space for Eckhardt Financial Group.



The City of Collinsville
125 S. Center St.
Collinsville, IL 62234



CITYSCOOP

The City of Collinsville's Newsletter

Fall 2023

If you have any questions or concerns about any information in this newsletter, or about any other City business, please call us or visit our website!

City Hall: 346-5200
Public Works: 346-5214
Parks & Recreation: 346-7529

Police Department: 344-2131
Fire Department: 346-5022
Gateway Center: 345-8998

