

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission

May 2008

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Wastewater Treatment Facilities Will See Cost of Permitting Increase

(courtesy of Jim Froelker, Missouri Department of Natural Resources)

Because of the implementation of federal water quality standards, wastewater treatment facilities throughout Missouri will begin seeing tougher requirements when seeking to renew their operating permits. These standards may require costly facility upgrades. Wastewater treatment facilities, which operate under permits issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, must renew their permits every five years. In a facility's next permit cycle, its permit may contain new or revised limits and a timeline for meeting those new limits. These new requirements include limits for bacteria, ammonia and metals. New or expanding facilities will

also have to conduct an anti-degradation review.

In 2005, the Clean Water Commission adopted a rule change that added bacterial standards to protect swimming uses for about 16,000 miles of Missouri streams and 300 lakes, in addition to those already protected. At the next permit renewal for many of these facilities, a deadline will be provided for when the facilities must begin disinfecting to meet the new bacterial standards. Facilities may be given up to five years after their renewed permit is issued to begin disinfecting or until Dec. 31, 2013, whichever date comes first.

While most of the costs will ultimately be born by the facilities and their customers, the department strives to provide financial

assistance to help communities through the State Revolving Loan Fund. Through the State Revolving Fund, the department provides low-interest loans to municipalities, water and sewer districts saving them 60 to 70 percent of the interest cost of a conventional loan.

In addition, to alleviate the strain of meeting the new standards, Gov. Matt Blunt approved the sale of \$50 million in Water Pollution Control Bonds in 2007 for public drinking water and wastewater infrastructure grants statewide. These funds are intended to help cover the cost to upgrade these facilities.

For more information on what services the department provides, visit our community assistance web page at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/assistance>.

Developing Sustainable Retail in Small Communities

Approximately 50 people representing small communities and rural counties in the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission region attended a seminar on "How to Develop Sustainable Retail in Small Communities". The seminar and was held on April 16, 2008 at the Courtyard Marriott in Columbia, and sponsored by the Mid Mo RPC and AmerenUE.

Attendees heard presentations from Randy Becht of Becht

Properties Inc, Hal Van Slyck from the Missouri Department Economic Development, and Scott Stinson of Central Realty in St. Louis. Speakers emphasized the need for communities to develop an economic development strategy for their community which should include taking a pro-active role in economic development strategies, and identifying retailers that are the right fit for your community. Becht and Stinson reviewed "real world"

examples to the audience of retail projects that they have been involved in developing, which led to an extensive question and answer period with attendees.

Each attendee also received a publication from the International Council of Shopping Centers entitled "Developing Successful Retail in Secondary and Rural Markets". Mary Paulsell, Director of the University Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, facilitated the event. This was the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission's first effort at promoting an economic development seminar, and based on the favorable response and comments from attendees, it is anticipated that an economic development seminar or program will become an annual event.



Announcements, Conference, and Events

Environmental Justice Small Grants Program

The purpose of the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program (EJSG) is to support and empower communities that are working on local solutions to local environmental and/or public health issues. The EJSG Program is designed to assist recipients in building collaborative partnerships that will help them understand and address the environmental and/or public health issues in their communities. Successful collaborative partnerships with other stakeholders involve well-designed strategic plans to build, maintain and sustain the partnerships, and to work towards addressing the local environmental and/or public health issues. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofits, nonprofits recognized by

the state, and cities and county government. Application deadline is June 30. More information is available at www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants.html.

Mid Mo Solid Waste Management District - *The following collection dates and items to be collected have been announced:*

May 3. Jefferson City. Collection at Cole County Public Works, 5055 Monticello Road (south of Jeff City off US 54). Items collected- tires and electronic waste.

May 17. Tipton. 210 North Pacific, Maintenance Bldg. Household hazardous waste collection.

May 31. Fayette. Howard County Road

and Bridge Maintenance Building, 349 Highway 240. Household hazardous waste collection.

June 7. Fulton. Fulton Utility Warehouse, 1024 Westminster Avenue- just north of RR tracks. Tire and electronic waste.

2008 MCB Award Competition

The 2008 MCB Award Competition materials are now available on the MCB web site-www.mocommunitybetterment.com There will be no entry fees for communities to participate in the award competition this year. The project entry form deadline is June 30, 2008 and the project books deadline is July 31, 2008. If you have questions, or need assistance, please contact Jan Simon at 417.334.3474 or mcb@iland.net.

Legislation Update

DATES OF INTEREST:

May 9 - Appropriations Bills must be Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed

May 16 - Last day of the 2008 legislative session

June 30 - 2008 Fiscal Year Ends

July 1 - 2009 Fiscal Year Begins

July 14 - Last day the Governor can veto bills

August 28 - Effective date of bills, which do not have an emergency clause, or effective date

Calendar

May 8 - Harry S Truman Birthday (holiday) MidMO RPC office closed.

May 26 - Memorial Day Holiday MidMo RPC office closed.

May 28 - Transportation Advisory Committee meeting - 4:30 pm Copper Kettle Restaurant, Ashland. Followed by dinner at 6pm and the MidMO RPC meeting at 6:30 pm.

May 28 - MidMO RPC meeting - 6:30 pm Copper Kettle Restaurant, Ashland.

Census 2010 Statistical Areas Programs

The Census Bureau is planning to begin a new program of the 2010 Census. The Statistical Areas Program will commence this summer and wind up in the spring of 2009.

This program provides the opportunity to propose changes to the existing census tract, block group, and census designated place boundaries for each local or regional government. The RPC will act as the key contact during this phase of the 2010 Census. If your city or county government would like to take part in this program you can call the RPC at 573-657-9779 or email Allison Johnson at allison-johnson@mrrpc.org.



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