



# CityScene



April / May / June 2012  
Volume 12, Issue 1

[www.stegenevieve.org](http://www.stegenevieve.org)  
573-883-5400

## The City of Ste. Genevieve Now Has a Newsletter!

The City is pleased to announce the launch of CityScene, our electronic newsletter. The purpose is to inform citizens about City news, department updates and happenings around town. This newsletter will be produced quarterly with this issue being the first covering April, May and June.

Until the link on the City's website is up and running, you can subscribe by sending an email to

[cbullock@stegenevieve.org](mailto:cbullock@stegenevieve.org) to be added to the email list. Once the link on the website is up and running, you will be able to go to [www.stegenevieve.org](http://www.stegenevieve.org) to sign up for the newsletter and view/print past issues. Keep checking the City's website for the link to subscribe.



## Flushing the Water Mains to Maintain Clean and Fresh Water

Today's water and wastewater treatment standards are rapidly changing, requiring communities to implement and adapt. Whether this would be from plant expansion projects, changing of chemical feeds, or just servicing and managing the existing systems.

One way to service a water system is to flush the water mains. This will clean the low volume and low usage lines, and bring fresher water into them. Flushing will help remove sediments from the water system.

If flushing is done properly over a few years it can help reduce water quality problems, water system maintenance cost, and may also improve firefighting.

The water department will be flushing the water system in April, and again in the fall around October.

We plan to stay on this schedule for many years. If at any time you would find your water to be discolored while flushing is being done, please refrain from washing white linens, if the discolor does not go away, please contact your water department or City Hall.

The staff of your water and wastewater department is honored to work in a community that allows them to be able to do a good job, by being provided with the means and tools needed to perform our task, this can only be done by citizens, and

elected officials who care about our community.



## City Restrooms are Now Open!



The Ste. Genevieve Park Department has opened the City restrooms for the summer. This Main Street restroom was built in 2010 after the City purchased the old car wash and tore it down. The restrooms were built by volunteers and City crews together. It is located on the corner of Jefferson and Main Street.

The Park Department has also been busy working on the ball fields for the local schools ball teams and have already begun mowing for the season.

## Police Department's Mobile Data Project is Well Underway

The Ste. Genevieve Police Department's Mobile Data project is well on its way to being fully operational. The project, made possible with a grant from the Missouri Police Chief's Association, started into effect in October. The grant provided the department with 5 Panasonic Toughbook laptop computers, with corresponding docking stations, antennae, and air card access for 12 months. Once the hardware was installed, and with a generous contribution from the Ste. Genevieve Memorial Hospital, we were able to utilize the reporting software at the Police Department to access critical data stored at

the office while on the scene of a call or traffic stop.



The Mobile Data project received another boost in March, when we achieved the ability to access the Missouri State Highway

Patrol's MULES system, which provides us with vehicle registration, driver's license and arrest warrant information available on the statewide network. This allows our officers to perform many of their essential duties without having to broadcast critical information over the radio. Our ability to run our own driver's license; and other information, prevents tying up an Emergency Dispatcher, therefore freeing them to handle other emergency situations.

The Mobile Data project has been extremely beneficial to our officers, and the citizens of Ste. Genevieve. The project has allowed us to be more efficient and effective in our patrol and enforcement efforts.

## Controlling Mosquitoes During The Summer

Due to the mild winter, mosquito season has arrived early. The City would normally start putting out larvacide in April, but this year we started in March. Likewise, instead of waiting until the middle of June to start fogging, we will begin a month earlier. We will publish the fogging schedule in the Herald, 93.1 FM radio and Channel 7/98 television. The City asks residents to help control mosquitoes by emptying any stagnant water source where mosquitoes can breed (see illustration).

Even a spoon full of standing water can produce mosquitoes. If you have any questions, or wish to report a mosquito problem, please call City Hall at 883-5400 and a representative will perform an inspection and offer suggestions for controlling the insect population.



### YARD & HOME CHECKLIST

- Get rid of old tires, tin cans, or any water holding containers.
- Fill in or drain any low places in yard.
- Keep drains, ditches and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly.
- Cover trash containers to keep out rain water.
- Empty plastic wading pool at least once a week and store it indoors when not in use.
- Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.
- Keep grass cut short so adult mosquitoes won't hide there.

## Sewer Rates to Be Established in April

The City of Ste. Genevieve will establish residential sewer charges for the 2012/2013 calendar year. For residential contributors, monthly user charges will be based on the

average monthly water usage during the months of January, February and March. If a residential contributor has not established a January, February and March average, their

monthly bill shall be the average of the first full three months of usage at their residence. This rate will be established on the April billing.

## Take a Stroll Downtown To Re-Visit Your Hometown

Ste. Genevieve is a unique town with a variety of attractions and amenities. People who visit our town are amazed with all we have to offer! While we all like to think that everyone in town is aware, the reality is that many of our community's own residents don't fully know all of the attractions found in Ste. Genevieve.



It is easy to take this for granted and it is not a unique problem. One just needs to look an hour north for an example; many who were raised in St. Louis have never been to the Arch! When is the last time you took an afternoon to explore your home

town? If it has been a few years, you may be surprised with the changes.

Celebrate local flavor and flare in downtown Ste. Genevieve, a National Historic Landmark District, where you will find an array of locally-owned and operated shops, restaurants and art galleries. Meet your friends for lunch and spend an afternoon shopping in the boutiques. Cap off the afternoon with a bottle of wine under the arbor. Fairs and events throughout the year provide additional entertainment and celebrate Ste. Genevieve's unique history.

If history peaks your interest, Missouri's oldest European settlement should catch your attention. The historic homes are open for touring and the Welcome Center has your discount Passport. The homes have been working to update and find ways to keep their sites fresh. It is worth your time to take another look at these homes and their rare architecture that have survived centuries of catastrophic floods and major earthquakes that would have toppled modern structures.



The Welcome Center invites you to visit and discover Ste. Genevieve. With all of the attractions available, you don't need to spend a lot of money or drive a great distance for entertainment and adventure. Look no further than your home town for vacation. For more information, go to [www.visitstegen.com](http://www.visitstegen.com)

## New Rental Housing Regulations

On March 22, 2012 the Board of Alderman approved an amendment to the city's rental housing regulations. Prior to this amendment, the municipal code stated that "no rental housing shall be occupied or used in whole or in part until an occupancy permit is issued...all rental housing located within

*the city limits will be inspected upon change of occupancy."* The new regulations now state that "An existing building shall be exempt from this requirement if it has been inspected and an occupancy permit has been issued within the twelve months prior to the change of occupancy." Therefore, if a new

tenant plans to occupy a housing unit that has been inspected within the previous twelve months, an occupancy inspection will not be required.

For further information, please contact Jimmie or Brenda at 573-883-5400.

## City Board Vacancies

BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE. Thinking of becoming more active in your community & wondering just what you could do? Curious about how things get done in city hall? Maybe you have some good ideas that should be shared. Maybe

**YOU** are the change that Ste. Genevieve needs! Don't just sit there complaining, do something positive for your town and join a city advisory board or commission.

There are vacancies on both the Ste. Genevieve Planning and Zoning Commission

and the Board of Adjustment. If you think you may be interested in serving on either of these boards, call City Hall or stop in and ask about the functions of these boards.

## Fire Department Puts Support Vehicle in Service

The fire department recently purchased two used vehicles to replace a couple of aging and unreliable vehicles in its fleet. The first to be replaced was a 1986 Chevrolet Suburban.



1986 Suburban (Before)



1986 Suburban (After)

The fire department has a history of purchasing good used vehicles and turning them into viable emergency response vehicles. The '86 Suburban was acquired from the Missouri Department of

Conservation Surplus Property Division in 2005. The vehicle was refurbished by the department and used to transport firefighters to and from Mutual Aid calls throughout the County and Regional area.

Over the years, some of the problems we have with our vehicles, is that they look good on the outside, but due to the age and mechanical condition they have become unreliable as an emergency response vehicle, says Chief Schwent. The department recently purchased a 2004 Chevrolet Pick Up to replace the aging Suburban (shown left).

The four door, 4x4 pick up will be used for transporting firefighters in support of our pumper trucks on fire and EMS calls in our area and to calls for mutual aid assistance. Because it is a truck, it will be used to haul equipment to and from fires and will be able to tow our Safe House Trailer to fire prevention functions. This vehicle will also play an important part in transporting Technical Rescue Equipment to emergencies throughout the City and County as well.



2004 Chevy Pick Up (Before)



2004 Chevy Pick Up (After)

Many hours have been spent by dedicated members of our volunteer department refurbishing these vehicles and transforming them into reliable emergency response vehicles. The newly acquired pick up has been totally gone over to assure that motor and transmission are strong and that brakes, tires, fluids, seals and all mechanical functions are working properly.

The department has added lights, sirens and a radio needed to perform as an emergency vehicle. We have also added reflective striping and lettering for safety and to identify the unit as part of the Ste. Genevieve Fire Department fleet. The effort put forth by the department's staff makes our vehicles look as good as they function.

The second vehicle to be replaced was a 1985 Chevy one ton chassis used as a Rural Water Supply Apparatus. This apparatus will be featured in our next newsletter.

## Nuisance Violations and Weed Complaints

With the arrival of spring time showers comes the sudden growth spurt of a fresh new lawn, complete with wildflowers, dandelions, poison ivy, chickweed and other colorful vegetation. The City of Ste. Genevieve wishes to remind everyone that Ste. Genevieve does have a nuisance ordinance that defines a property with more than 7 inches of vegetative growth in the yard as a nuisance. Property owners found in violation of the ordinance may

receive a citation by the Ste. Genevieve Police Department, which would require a municipal court appearance as well as a hefty fine.

Property owners are also asked to be mindful of any plants, shrubbery or trees whose growth near streets may create a traffic hazard by blocking the vision of motorists. Plants and trees next to public sidewalks should also be trimmed to allow free, unimpeded use

by pedestrians. Nothing spoils an evening stroll like being slashed across the face by a sticky bush.

If you would like to submit a high weed/grass complaint or any nuisance concerning a vehicle, complaint forms can be picked up at City Hall, 165 S. Fourth Street. Return the completed form to the Ste. Genevieve Police Department or contact the Police Department at 573-883-3999. The City will not release the names of those who submit complaints.

## Who's Going to Save the Children?



Have you ever asked yourself this question? In an emergency who is going to come to my aid? In our town, it may very well be your neighbor who is a Volunteer Firefighter. Did you know that 72 percent of

all the Fire Departments across the nation are comprised of volunteers?

Volunteer firefighters don't get paid, so why do they do such a thing? These are men and women just like you and me that join the fire department out of a sense of concern and commitment for their community. Ask yourself this question, if I don't do it, how can I expect others to do it? "Do you have what it takes to make a difference"?

The Ste. Genevieve Volunteer Fire Department is looking for a few individuals who have what it takes to make our community a safe place to live and work. Our department has a rich tradition dating back to 1894. As did the founding members of our department, the volunteers of today continue to uphold the tradition of protecting our community with dedication and pride. We have made the commitment to be ready to answer the alarm day or night.

Have you ever thought of becoming a firefighter? Are you looking for something to add a little excitement and adventure in your life? The Ste. Genevieve Fire

Department might be the answer. The department is always looking for people that can commit the time to train and respond to emergencies.

If you're over the age of 19 years, in good health and live or work in our community, we are interested in talking to you. If you are the owner of a business and have an employee that you think would make a good volunteer firefighter, please encourage them to contact us. We will train you to be safe, confident and proficient at saving lives and property.

Does this sound like the commitment you can make? Those of us, who do this today, do it for the pride and satisfaction of making a difference in our community. Protecting your family, friends and your community is one of the highest forms of volunteerism you can do. If you feel like you would like to make a difference in someone's life, please stop by the Fire Station any Wednesday evening after 6:30 PM or contact Dean Meyer at 573-883-9381 or Tim Heller at 573-880-0402. They will be glad to discuss all the aspects of becoming a volunteer firefighter.

## City Pet Licenses are Due May 1<sup>st</sup>



City Pet Licenses are due May 1<sup>st</sup>. If your dog is spayed or neutered they are \$5.00 if they are not, the tags are \$8.00 Feline tags are free. Stop by City Hall and get your pet license today.

# Directory

CityScene is published quarterly by the City of Ste. Genevieve located at 165 S. Fourth Street, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670. For information call 883-5400 or visit our website at [www.stegenevieve.org](http://www.stegenevieve.org).

## City Contacts

City Hall – Phone	573-883-5400
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City Administrator – Martin Toma	573-883-5400
City Clerk – Pam Meyer	573-883-5400
City Treasurer – Sue Schweiss	573-883-5400
Utility Clerk – Cindy Gaddy	573-883-5400
Planning & Zoning – Brenda Schloss	573-883-5400
Building Inspector – Jimmie Jones	573-883-5400
Court Clerk – Lisa Kemper	573-883-5707
Street Department – David Pinkley	573-883-3507
Sewer Department – Terry Merritt	573-883-3251
Water Department – Terry Merritt	573-883-9240
Welcome Center – Stephanie Bell	573-883-7097
Park Department – Darrin Jacob	573-883-9264
Police Department – Eric Bennett, Chief	573-883-5707
Police Department – Dispatch	573-883-5215
Fire Department – Mick Schwent, Chief	573-883-5321
Emergency	911

### Board of Alderman

Shawna Zerwig (Ward 1) <a href="mailto:szewig@stegenevieve.org">szewig@stegenevieve.org</a>	573-883-7867 (H) 573-535-9449 (C)
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Recycling Center of Ste. Genevieve  
17690 U.S. Highway 61  
1<sup>st</sup> bldg. south of St. Mary Road on left

**Hours of Operation**  
**Monday – Friday: 8 am – 5 pm**  
**Saturday: 8 am – 12 noon**

Items accepted at the center include paper, cardboard, paperboard, steel and aluminum cans, plastic, glass (clear & colored), clothing, shoes and linens.



Ste. Genevieve Community Access Television



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