



Carbondale Communiqué

March - April, 2008

City of Carbondale

www.ci.carbondale.il.us



The Carbondale Bicentennial Industrial Park, located at the intersection of U.S. Highway 51 North and Dillinger Road is home to a number of businesses and industries with 110 acres available for additional development. For information about the Bicentennial Industrial Park, contact Kevin Baity, Assistant City Manager for Economic Development at 457-3233.

Haven't You Heard...

City Council Approved Firms to Design New Carbondale Police Station and Fire Station

At the February 12, 2008 regular meeting, the City Council approved Arcturus of St. Louis, Missouri to design the new Police Station and FGM Architects of O'Fallon, Illinois to design the new Fire Station.

The proposed new Police Station and new Fire Station requires the City to engage professional architectural/engineering consultants to prepare design plans and construction documents for construction of the new facilities. City staff utilized the formal Consultant Selection Process to develop recommendations for the City Council in determining the design consultants for the projects.

A formal Request for Proposals was released by the City on November 1, 2007 for architectural and engineering services related to the design of the new Police Station and new Fire Station. The RFP was widely distributed through a local newspaper and through professional publications. A total of 19 proposals were received by the December 3, 2007 deadline. The RFP allowed the consultants to respond to one or both of the projects with the understanding that

one consultant could be selected for both projects or two separate consultants could be selected for the projects. The response for the project designs was excellent and the RFP attracted consultants from throughout the Midwest.

The Consultant Selection Committee reviewed all the proposals in depth and selected five firms as finalists to be interviewed by the committee. Important criteria used in the selection process included experience of the firm in designing police and/or fire stations, the proposed project manager and other personnel that would be assigned to the project, and the firms understanding of the projects.

In the weeks ahead, staff will work with the selected consultants to develop agreements that will be presented to the City Council for approval at a later date. The agreements will contain the detailed scope of work, time line and fees. It is anticipated that the design phase for the new Fire Station will be six months and the design phase for the new Police Station will be ten months.

A May 1, 2008 notice to proceed is anticipated for both projects.

Youth Award Nominations Due April 4, 2008

Each year the City of Carbondale recognizes the community service contributions of its youth. We invite you to nominate a youth who has gone above and beyond expectations. We are looking for youth who represent a healthy lifestyle, are committed to serving others, and who serve as a role model by making a difference through their actions, and demonstrating leadership in our community.

Outstanding Youth and the Youth Volunteer of the Year winners will be recognized at a ceremony to be held during the City Council Meeting on May 6, 2008, followed by a reception. Invitations will be sent to the winners, their families, nominators, elected officials and the

media.

Middle school and high school students may be nominated for the Outstanding Youth Award in recognition of their efforts in exceeding expectations as a role model, through community service and/or helping others. Youth Volunteer of the Year nominees must be high school juniors or seniors, have a least a B+ grade point average, completed 50 volunteer hours of community service and participated in other community activities.

Nominators may be youth or adults who know of a special person. Nomination forms are available in the Mayor's Office and are due April 4, 2008. To obtain a nomination form contact Deborah McCoy at 457-3247.

From the Mayor



Mayor Brad Cole

There is no such thing as "the government's money."

Every dollar that any unit of government spends has to come from the people it serves. This is true with the federal and state governments; it includes counties, cities and townships, and is equally the same for school districts, park districts, public libraries and etc... The money can come from taxes and fees or it can come from goods or services that are provided, but the money has to come from someone's pocket.

I often hear many people complain about high taxes in Carbondale. And, compared to some places, they are high. Compared to other places, however, they may be low. It's important to keep in mind that all things are relative. In Carbondale, the City Council took action several years ago to modify its budgeting efforts and we eliminated our portion of the real estate property taxes. We shifted our revenue emphasis to sales tax, which we have been able to steadily grow through active retail shopping development and solid, in-house fiscal management. This resulted in a reduction of about 7% off the average property tax bill in Carbondale. And because of our growth, other taxing

bodies have been able to increase their tax collections, but do so with lower actual increases per property owner, because our overall community real estate value has been growing faster than the tax rates.

But like everything in life, people always want more, and they usually want more for less. That's a hard thing to do in government, provide more for less, but it can be done. In our city government, we have kept our employment levels down while increasing the services we provide. We have increased our presence in the region and state, we have increased our customer service efforts and we have improved the quality of services provided to our residents and visitors. All of this has been done with an eye on keeping the costs down for the people that pay the bills, the taxpayers. From time to time, though, we have to consider our options and weigh the cost/benefit of increasing taxes to pay for programs and services that the community may, in fact, want and be willing to pay for. The school systems are usually the place most people get caught up in tax and spending issues, when new buildings need to be built and a referendum question is placed on an election ballot, but it can also apply to others. A possible example in the near future could be the idea of building a community pool, which would need to be paid for by somebody's taxes.

As we go through our annual budget cycle and work to dedicate funds in the right places to pay for the right programs and services for the upcoming fiscal year, please let us know what your priorities are. This will help the elected City Council members balance community interests with funding realities and it will promote a more interactive and open local government, which we strive to guarantee for all citizens.

Brad Cole, Mayor

P. Michael Kimmel Appointed City Attorney

P. Michael (Mike) Kimmel has been appointed City Attorney for the City of Carbondale by City Manager Jeff Doherty.

Kimmel was a partner in the Carbondale law firm Gilbert, Kimmel, Huffman, Prosser & Hewson and had been associated with the firm since 1976. His private practice emphasized a diverse area of civil, criminal and appellate law.

Kimmel is a 1976 graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in History from the United States Air Force Academy in 1968. Kimmel is a native of Carbondale and now lives in Carbondale with his wife. They have two adult children.

Kimmel has a long history of community involvement. He was named Carbondale Citizen of the Year in 1988 by the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Carbondale Elementary School District Hall of Fame. He has served on the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce's

Board of Directors on two separate occasions, 1983 to 1988 and 1997 to 2007, serving as Chamber President in 1987, 2001 and 2002.

He has been a member of the Carbondale Preservation Commission from 1989 to 2007 and a member of the Southern Illinois Airport Authority from 1984 to 2007.

Mike Kimmel offers a wide range of legal experience that will assist him in the many areas of municipal law, City Manager Doherty said when making the announcement. "We are very pleased that we attracted a person with the experience, abilities, and commitment to the community that Mike possesses."

Kimmel replaces Jeffery Berkbigler who left in November 2007 to become the City Attorney in Edwardsville, Illinois. Jamie Snyder, the Assistant City Attorney, served as the Interim City Attorney during the vacancy. Kimmel began his new duties on January 28, 2008.

SIUC Students Needed to Serve on City Boards, Commissions and Committees

During the January 15, 2008 City Council Meeting, Mayor Cole announced that there is a need for more students to participate on City boards, commissions and committees. Four of the commissions require student representatives in order to operate, and decisions they make not only impact Carbondale residents, but students as well.

Committees needing student volunteers

include the Carbondale Information and Telecommunications Commission, the Energy and Environmental Advisory Commission, the Human Relations Commission, and the Liquor Advisory Board.

If you are interested in becoming involved in your City government, contact the Office of the Mayor for more details at 457-3229 or stop by City Hall.

Historic Preservation Award Nominations Due March 7, 2008

The City of Carbondale Preservation Commission is honored to be sponsoring the Third Annual Historic Preservation Awards. Any structure located within the Carbondale city limits is eligible for a Historic Preservation Award. Carbondale residents are invited to submit nominations for any property that they feel is deserving of an award. Properties can be nominated in one of four categories:

• Preservation

Buildings that have been kept in their original architectural style and are being used for their original purpose.

• Restoration

Properties that have been restored to their original style or appearance.

• Sympathetic Addition

Construction of an addition to an existing structure that is consistent with the original architectural style of the structure.

• New Construction

A new structure that is

consistent with the original architectural style of the neighborhood or that utilizes historic building materials and techniques.

The only stipulation is that all nominations will require the owner's permission. We also encourage property owners to nominate their own property.

The deadline for nominations will be Friday, March 7, 2008. The award winners will be recognized at a City Council meeting in May, in association with National Preservation Month. The response to last award program was overwhelming and we look forward to another successful year.

Nomination forms can be picked up in the Planning Services Division at City Hall or can be found online at www.ci.carbondale.il.us/Historical/index.html.

For further information on the Historic Preservation Awards, or any other activities of the City of Carbondale Preservation Commission, please feel free to contact the Planning Services Division at 457-3248.

A Permit May Be Required For Your Sign

Sign Permits are required in the City limits and within the City's one and one-half mile zoning jurisdiction. The City's sign regulations apply to both permanent and temporary signage and are designed to protect the safety of motorists and the overall attractiveness of our community.

It is recommended that you contact the City prior to constructing or placing any sign to ensure that it will meet the related requirements. Sign permit fees range from \$5 to \$10 depending on the type and size of the sign.

In limited circumstances, a formal permit may not be required. Some of these circumstances include: construction signs, temporary real estate signs, yard sale signs, and political signs. Although these signs do not require an official permit, they must still conform to the related requirements.

Before a sign is erected, altered, or relocated within the City of Carbondale, please contact the Development Services Department at 457-3235 to obtain information about the sign regulations.

City Finances....Rising Pension Costs

By Jeffrey W. Doherty, City Manager

Citizens look to local government to provide basic services such as police protection, fire suppression and prevention, street maintenance, refuse collection, water and sewer services, zoning and code enforcement. These services are paid by Carbondale citizens through sales and service taxes and through service fees. Fortunately, the City of Carbondale does not levy a property tax. Municipal officials work to maintain these quality services with fiscal responsibility.

As with many service delivery organizations, a major part of the City of Carbondale's budget is personnel costs. The City's Fiscal Year 2008 Budget includes \$11,729,794 in salaries and wages for its 279 employees. Salaries and wages represent only 69% of the City's total cost for personnel.

Public employment has many advantages and benefits. Typically, public employment provides long term job security, competitive wages, health benefits and disability and pension benefits. The increases in employee costs is challenging government budgets. No where is this more evident than police and fire pension costs for municipalities.

Police officers and firefighters place their lives on the line everyday in serving their communities. Accordingly, they are provided excellent disability and retirement plans that are guaranteed by law through property tax levies. In Carbondale, the City pays for these pension costs with non property tax revenues.

The City of Carbondale supports providing public safety personnel the pension benefits they have been promised. However, in order for municipalities to be able to afford the growing pension costs, the Illinois Municipal League, in which the City of Carbondale is a member, is asking the General Assembly to stop any proposed legislation that would create increased pension benefits.

For municipalities in Illinois, a crisis has developed in funding public safety employee pension costs. Due to the increase in benefits and other factors including returns on investments, police and fire pensions in Illinois are underfunded at an alarming rate. It is estimated that it would

take approximately \$180,000 per active police officer and \$177,000 per active firefighter to pay off the accumulated statewide debt.

The City of Carbondale is in the same position as most Illinois municipalities. The City's contributions to the Carbondale Police Pension Fund have grown 36% to \$788,105 in the past five years for its 64 police officers, yet the pension fund remains only 78% fully funded. The current total liability of the Carbondale Police Pension Fund is \$23.3 million, with approximately \$5.2 million of that liability unfunded.

The City's contributions to the Carbondale Fire Pension Fund have grown 134% to \$675,172 in the past five years for its 31 firefighters, yet the pension fund remains only 58% fully funded. The current total liability is \$18.7 million, with approximately \$7.9 million unfunded.

Contributions by the City of Carbondale to the Carbondale Police Pension Fund and the Carbondale Fire Pension Fund are established by actuaries selected by the independent pension funds. In FY 2008, the City contributes 28% of a police officer's salary to the pension fund and 47% of the firefighter's salary to the pension fund. Police officers and firefighters contribute 9.91% and 9.44%, respectively. These employees do not participate in Social Security.

In comparison, all other City employees participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund. In FY 2008, the City contributes 9.46% of their salary to IMRF and 7.65% to FICA (Social Security), a total contribution of 17.11%. Employees contribute 4.5% to IMRF and 7.65% to FICA. The City is approximately 97% fully funded with IMRF.

Municipalities statewide are struggling with growing costs as pension benefits for firefighters and police officers are increased by the state legislature with mandates that the municipalities, and ultimately, local taxpayers, fund the benefit costs.

The increase of benefits approved by the state legislature without consideration of the cost impact on municipalities is a prime reason the Illinois Municipal League is working to bring reasonableness and accountability to fire and police pensions.

Homebuyer Assistance Program Grant Funds Available

The City of Carbondale has received a Homebuyer Assistance Program grant to assist lower-income persons with the purchase and rehabilitation of a home located within the Carbondale city limits.

The maximum amount of assistance for the purchase and rehabilitation of a home is \$40,000. The HOME program provides up to \$10,000 for down payment and closing costs, with the remaining funds for rehabilitation of the property in order to bring the dwelling up to the City's current housing codes. Based on the amount of assistance, this prorated loan will be forgiven in five or ten years. Home owners must live in the house as their primary residence for the duration of the loan. The home purchaser must provide at least \$1,000 towards the down payment, and qualify for and obtain financing from a participating lender.

Applicants must be first time home buyers or not have owned a home in the last three years. The household income must be less than or equal to 80% of the area median income. Income limits annually set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development are based on the number of persons in the household. Currently the income limits are 1 person- \$29,250, 2 persons-\$33,400, 3 persons-\$37,600, 4 persons-\$41,750, 5 persons-\$45,100, 6 persons-\$48,450, 7 persons-\$51,750, and 8 persons-\$55,100.

Persons participating in the program will work with

Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) for the HOME Homebuyer Assistance Program forgivable loan, and they will apply separately to participating local lenders for the primary loan for the home purchase. The Western Egyptian EOC, which is administering the program under a contract with the City, will evaluate information provided by the applicants to determine if they meet basic program eligibility criteria. The eligible applicants will be required to attend a HOME Homebuyer counseling program. Upon successful completion of the counseling program, applicants will be able to contact participating local lenders to apply for a home loan. The lenders will use their normal criteria to evaluate the loan applications and decide whether to approve or deny a loan.

If you are interested in further program information, please contact Khristina Vaughn, Housing Programs Administrator, at 618-549-5302 x 346. Persons interested in participating in the program must contact the Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council at (618) 965-3193 or by mail at P.O. Box 7, Steeleville, Illinois 62288 to receive application materials.

The process from application to closing the sale on your new home may take several months. If you are interested in buying a home or are considering it in the future, you are urged to request application materials and submit them as soon as possible.

Seasonal Employment Opportunities Available

Early each spring, generally in March, the City begins the process of hiring its Temporary (Seasonal) Positions which usually include a Weed Control Inspector, four Public Works Seasonal Workers, four Cedar Lake Maintenance Workers, a Head Lifeguard and numerous Lifeguards. Job opening announcements for these and other temporary positions that may become available are posted at City Hall, are available on the City's Web site at ci.carbondale.il.us under Job Opportunities and on CityVision 16 (Mediacom Channel 16). In addition, ads are also run in the Southern Illinoisan newspaper and, for the Lifeguard positions, in the Daily Egyptian.

The City's Application for Employment forms are

available at City Hall at the Receptionist's desk and in the Human Resources Office. The application form may also be downloaded from www.ci.carbondale.il.us.

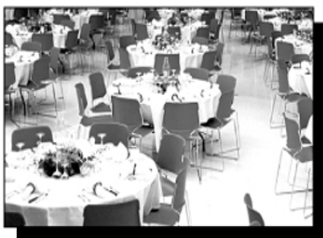
Applications are reviewed and candidates are selected for interviews based on their qualifications and interviewed by a team of management personnel. This team makes recommendations for filling these positions to the City Manager who makes the final decision. The City of Carbondale encourages female and minority applicants. The City of Carbondale is an equal opportunity employer. For more information about employment opportunities with the City of Carbondale contact the Human Resources Office at 457-3228.

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- Rooms for 2 to 600
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- Portable bars
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So we'll know what combination of resources will make your event a success



Carbondale Civic Center



618-457-3209

Ichamness@ci.carbondale.il.us

Haven't You Heard...

Community Services Outreach Office Opened February 26, 2008

The City of Carbondale has opened a Community Services Outreach Office at the Eurma C. Hayes Center located at 441 E. Willow Street in Carbondale. Marilyn James, Community Relations Officer will be at this office on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Additional times will be available at the Eurma C. Hayes Center by appointment by calling 457-3246 or by e-mail at mjames@ci.carbondale.il.us. Marilyn James will continue to also have an office at City Hall with hours of 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursday and 1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. on Fridays.

Services directly provided by the Community

Services Department include the direction of the City's Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity and Fair Housing functions, monitoring the operations of the Eurma C. Hayes Center and facilitating communication between the City and various community groups.

The Community Services Department also works to increase the level of participation of minority groups, women and persons with disabilities in economic development projects. For more information about services available through the City of Carbondale Community Services Department contact Marilyn James at 457-3246 or at the Community Services Outreach Office at 457-3288 during office hours.

Contractors Needed for Housing Rehabilitation Program

The City is continuously seeking additional contractors to work in the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Contractors experienced in building and renovating homes are encouraged to contact Kristina Vaughn, Housing Programs Administrator at 618-549-5302 x 346, if they are interested in

participating in the Housing Rehabilitation Program. The City is an equal opportunity contractor and encourages minority and women owned businesses to consider this contracting opportunity.

The City also is seeking contractors who are licensed by the State of Illinois to perform lead-based paint mitigation in homes being rehabilitated.

City Fire Department Offers Free Home Safety Inspections

In an ongoing battle to reduce the number of house fires in the City of Carbondale, the Fire Department has in place a home fire safety inspection program. This is a complimentary service; there is no charge for an inspection. The inspection is an advisory visit, done to help residents prevent home fires before they start.

Fire service personnel will look at both the interior and exterior of the home for safety problems. They will also give helpful fire prevention recommendations to the residents. Some of the things they will look for are: proper house identification (visible street addresses), kitchen safety, smoke detector operation, home escape plans, and proper storage of flammables.

Some things to keep in mind:

- Make sure you have an outside street address that is easily seen from the road and is adequately lit at night. This makes it faster for emergency personnel to locate your home in case of an emergency.
- You should know where the outside utilities are located (gas and electric) and how to shut off the gas in case of an earthquake or other emergency.
- If you have a fire hydrant in your yard, we ask that you keep it accessible by clearing shrubs or obstacles away from it. Remember, seconds count when a fire occurs and fire fighters do not have time to clear a path to the nearest fire hydrant.
- If you store flammable liquids in a shed or garage, please keep them in a proper container, locked away from children.
- Do a yearly cleaning of storage areas and get rid

of unused papers, magazines, or anything that contributes to the fire load in your home.

- If you have any electrical problems, call a licensed electrician and have your electric service checked.
- Use extension cords only on a temporary basis, not as permanent wiring. Do not overload the cords.
- Practice safe cooking techniques. Never leave food unattended when it is cooking. If there are children in the home, always turn the pot handles inward to make it less likely for a child to reach up and pull a hot pan down on him/herself.
- Check your smoke detectors. They can save your life and the lives of your family if there is a fire in your home. The detector is useless if the batteries are dead or missing.

The City of Carbondale Fire Department looks forward to visiting with the people of Carbondale to share fire safety and prevention information. In addition to offering an inspection performed by members of the fire department, you may access the Household Risk Analysis Checklist from the City's website at www.ci.carbondale.il.us or find out more information from CityVision Channel 16 or the Fire Department. This checklist will allow you to perform an inspection at your convenience.

If you would like a home safety inspection or would like a Household Risk Analysis Checklist please contact the City of Carbondale Fire Department Administrative Office at 457-3234.

Grant Received for R. Buckminster Fuller Dome

The City of Carbondale recently received notification of a \$6,400.00 grant award from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The grant will be used to initiate research necessary to prepare an application seeking designation of the R. Buckminster Fuller Dome Home for National Historic Landmark status through the National Parks Service.

The R. Buckminster and Anne Hewlett Fuller Dome Home was designated a Landmark District by the City of Carbondale in 2003 and locally serves as a reminder of the world-renowned R. Buckminster Fuller and his work in Carbondale. Fuller, who was an SIUC professor from 1959 until 1970, was the originator of the geodesic dome, which includes his former home. Fuller's dome inspired the more than 300,000 geodesic domes that stand today, including the Epcot Discovery Center at Disney World.

In 2004 the Dome was listed on the Landmarks

Preservation Council of Illinois' list of the Ten Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois.

Since then a local grassroots effort has taken place by a group of citizens who acquired the property and formed a not-for-profit organization with the expressed purpose of restoring the RBF Dome Home as a museum.

The R. Buckminster Fuller Dome was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in February, 2006 and most recently received recognition from the Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects as one of 150 places of architectural significance in Illinois.

The additional designation on the National Register of Historic Places will shine a spotlight on one of Carbondale's most recognizable landmarks as well as provide additional funding opportunities for ongoing restoration work to restore the structure to its original condition.

Eurma C. Hayes Child Care Center

"An Educational & Nurturing Environment"

If you live or work in Carbondale... Consider the Eurma C. Hayes Child Care Center when you are looking for quality child care.

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Head Start Collaboration Site • State Licensed/Municipally Owned
Open Year Round - 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m weekdays.

Serving infants six weeks to children 12 years of age. For more information or to enroll a child call 457-3302 or visit 441 East Willow Street, Carbondale, Illinois.

Important Notice to City of Carbondale Water and Sewer Customers

Effective January 1, 2008, a \$5.00 late payment fee will be assessed on each Carbondale Water and/or Sewer bill that is not paid by the due date listed on the original bill.

Questions regarding billing statements should be directed to the Customer Service Representatives in the City of Carbondale Water Services Office at 549-5302.

Mandatory Rental Inspection Program Informational Meeting April 3, 2008

The preservation and stabilization of residential neighborhoods, along with ensuring that the housing stock in the community is maintained in a safe, sound and sanitary condition is a priority of the City of Carbondale. The Mandatory Rental Housing Inspection Program has been effective in gradually improving the housing stock of the community, particularly in older neighborhoods where single family houses have been converted for multiple occupancy use.

An informational meeting to discuss the registration process and requirements of the Mandatory Rental Housing Inspection Program will be held on Thursday, April 3, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. at the Carbondale Civic Center. Property owners and property managers of rental property in Carbondale are encouraged to attend.

Through the Mandatory Rental Housing Inspection Program,

detailed inspections are conducted on the exterior and interior of rental properties. The scheduled inspections are initiated through the City's Building & Neighborhood Services Division of the Development Services Department. Violations that are noted are required to be corrected before a certificate of occupancy can be issued.

In November, 2007 the City Council approved an annual registration of all rental units in Carbondale. The revised requirements on registration take effect on January 1, 2009. An annual fee of \$35.00 per residential rental dwelling unit will be required to be paid at the time of registration by the property owner.

For further information about the Mandatory Rental Housing Inspection Program, contact the Building and Neighborhood Services Division at 457-3237.

La Policía Ofrece Seminarios Gratis sobre Medidas de Seguridad Infantil

El Departamento de Policía de la Ciudad de Carbondale se complace en anunciar que ha recibido una Subvención del Departamento de Transporte de Illinois para promover la Seguridad de Niños Pasajeros. La subvención permitirá al Departamento de Policía convertirse en una Estación Permanente para la Inspección de la Seguridad de los Niños como Pasajeros.

Personal del Departamento, entrenado como Técnicos Certificados en Seguridad Infantil, inspeccionará los asientos que se usan para asegurar a los niños con el fin de que sean instalados y usados correctamente y suministrarán instrucción de persona a persona para educar a los padres y a los que cuiden niños sobre los puntos básicos de seguridad infantil en la instalación y uso de los asientos. Estos servicios se suministran en forma gratuita y están a su disposición todos los jueves desde la 1:00 p. m. hasta las 4:00 p. m., o haciendo una cita en el Departamento de Policía de Carbondale.

Estadísticamente, nueve de cada diez asientos para carro están instalados incorrectamente. Entre los errores más comunes se incluyen el no asegurar apropiadamente el asiento al vehículo, el inclinar al niño hacia adelante demasiado, el colocar o el ajustar

inadecuadamente las correas y el utilizar un asiento que no es de la talla apropiada para el niño.

Aunque no todos estos errores pueden conducir a lesiones en caso de un accidente de tránsito, sí aumentan la probabilidad de una lesión al niño. La Ciudad de Carbondale tiene el compromiso de asegurar que los niños de nuestra comunidad viajen de la forma más segura posible y anima a todos los padres y cuidadores de niños para que hagan inspeccionar los asientos de seguridad por los técnicos entrenados del Departamento.

Las leyes de Illinois exigen que el conductor y cada pasajero de un vehículo motorizado utilicen un cinturón de seguridad apropiadamente ajustado y amarrado. También se exige que siempre que una persona esté transportando a un niño menor de ocho años, la persona sea responsable de asegurar al niño con un sistema de protección infantil apropiado que incluya un asiento "booster". Cada persona que transporte a un niño de entre ocho y dieciséis años de edad, es responsable de asegurar al niño adecuadamente con un cinturón de seguridad.

Para más información, contacte a la Sargento Heather Reno del Departamento de Policía de Carbondale en el 457-3200, Ext. 465.

Carbondale City Calendar

March

Date	Meeting	Time
The Following Meetings Are Televised LIVE On CityVision 16		
Tuesday - 4th & 18th	City Council	7:00 pm
Wednesday - 5th & 19th	Planning Commission	7:00 pm
Monday - 10th	Park District Board	6:00 pm

Other Scheduled Meetings At The Carbondale Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue

Monday - 3rd	Human Relations Commission	6:30 pm
Monday - 17th	Preservation Commission	7:00 pm

Scheduled Meetings At Other Locations

Wednesday - 12th	Library Board, Conference Room 405 West Main St.	4:30 pm
Thursday - 20th	Carbondale High School Dist. #165 Carbondale High School Cafeteria 1301 E. Walnut	7:00 pm
Thursday - 27th	Elementary School District #95 Lewis School, 801 S. Lewis Lane	7:00 pm

THE OFFICES OF CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED ON: Friday, March 21st, for the Good Friday holiday. The City's refuse collection schedule will not be affected.

April

Date	Meeting	Time
The Following Meetings Are Televised LIVE On CityVision 16		
Tuesday - 1st & 15th	City Council	7:00 pm
Wednesday - 2nd & 16th	Planning Commission	7:00 pm
Monday - 14th	Park District Board	6:00 pm

Other Scheduled Meetings At the Carbondale Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue

Monday - 7th	Human Relations Commission	6:30 pm
Thursday - 17th	Energy & Environmental Advisory Commission	7:00 pm
Monday - 21st	Preservation Commission	7:00 pm

Scheduled Meetings At Other Locations

Wednesday - 9th	Library Board, Conference Room 405 West Main St.	4:30 pm
Thursday - 17th	Carbondale High School Dist. #165 Carbondale High School Cafeteria 1301 E. Walnut	7:00 pm
Thursday - 24th	Elementary School District #95 Administrative Center, 925 S. Giant City Road	7:00 pm



With the arrival of spring, make plans to experience the natural wonders of Southern Illinois. Carbondale is surrounded by beautiful lakes and parks and was the only Illinois location to be named in the recent publication, "101 Best Outdoor Towns." The book, published by Countryman Press highlights Little Grand Canyon, Kinkaid Lake, Devil's Backbone, the River-to-River Trail, and Carbondale's Cedar Lake.

Residential Spring Clean-Up Program Begins April 25, 2008

The City of Carbondale will conduct the annual residential Spring Clean-Up Program beginning April 25, 2008. This program serves single family dwellings up to and including 4-unit buildings. The Clean-Up Program will address household items and general rubbish generated from the dwelling being served. Only household rubbish will be collected. Household lumber must be cut to five feet or less.

The following items will not be collected as a part of this program: tires, yard waste, appliances and contractor's remodeling or construction debris. These items will only be collected through the Landscape Waste Sticker Program.

Items will be collected from the curbside on Fridays, based on your regular refuse collection day (subsequent Saturdays may be used if necessary).

Monday's City Refuse Collection Route (ZONE #1)

Friday, April 25th
All residences east of the Canadian National Railroad (CNRR) tracks.

Tuesday's City Refuse Collection Route (ZONE #2)

Friday, May 2nd
All residences west of South Oakland Avenue and east of Little Crab Orchard Creek (except those residences on the west side of South Oakland Avenue from West Main Street to Chautauqua Street).

Wednesday's City Refuse Collection Route (ZONE#3)

Friday May 9th and Friday May 16th
All residences south of West Sycamore Street, north of West Main Street and west of the CNRR tracks; and all residences south of West Main Street, west of the CNRR tracks and east of South Oakland Avenue. (This includes the residences on the north side of West Sycamore Street from North University Avenue to West Main Street; and the residences on the west side of South Oakland Avenue from West Main Street to Chautauqua Street).

Thursday's City Refuse Collection Route (ZONE #4)

Friday, May 23rd
All residences north of West Sycamore Street and west of the CNRR tracks (except the residences on the north side of West Sycamore Street from North University Avenue to West Main Street); and all residences west of Little Crab Orchard Creek.

Please place your household rubbish at the curbside no earlier than five (5) days prior to your zone's collection day and no later than 8:00 a.m. on the collection day. Do not block sidewalks, streets, ditches or drainage ways. Placing and or allowing items to remain at the curbside outside of these times is a violation of City Code and may subject you to a citation. If you have any questions, please contact the office of the Maintenance and Environmental Services Manager at 457-3275.

Ordinance Requires Maintenance of Tall Grass and Weeds

The City of Carbondale Code declares grass and weeds over eight (8) inches in height to be a nuisance and requires their removal. The provision of the City Code pertaining to mowing grasses and weeds over eight inches in height does not apply to land zoned as "Forestry" or "Agriculture" which is used for agricultural purposes as long as a 20-foot perimeter adjacent to any right-of-way and/or residentially zoned property is mowed and maintained so as not to exceed the eight inch height. Owners and tenants are reminded that they are also required to keep adjoining public right-of-way mowed to the back of the curb, the edge of the street pavement and the alley.

Most property owners and tenants comply with the City of Carbondale's standards for the maintenance of tall grass and weeds. However, some property owners/tenants do not mow their property until the

City posts the property in violation of the tall grass and weed ordinance. Therefore, upon finding the same property in violation more than once during the same growth season, a Court Citation will be issued to all owners and occupants of the property at the time of the second posting and for each subsequent posting that may be necessary during the balance of the growth season. If the tall grass and weeds have not been mowed within seven days after the posting, the City's mowing contractor will mow the property and the property owner will be billed for the mowing by the City.

For more information about this ordinance contact the Building and Neighborhood Services Division at 457-3237. To see if a property has been posted you may visit the City of Carbondale Web site ci.carbondale.il.us. A weed posting report can be viewed under the Government section.

Working Street Lights Keep Citizens Safe

If you notice a street light out or malfunctioning on your street or down the block, in town while you are walking, jogging, bicycling to class, or while driving, dining or shopping during the evening hours, don't keep us in the dark. Contact the City of Carbondale Citizens Assistance line at 457-3226 or email

jporter@ci.carbondale.il.us to report the location.

We rely on you letting us know when you are in the dark. The earlier you call us, the earlier we can get the lights back on. Help us keep your neighborhood and the City well illuminated. Working street lights keep citizens safe.

Bicycle Maps Available Highlight City Bikeways

Bicycle enthusiasts in Carbondale and surrounding areas have a resource to take advantage of when planning their recreational bicycling or for utilizing as a means of safe transportation by bicycle through the City. The Carbondale Bikeway Map identifies Carbondale's on-street and off-street bikeways. The Bikeway Map also includes the Illinois Official

Bicycle Map for Jackson County and the Surrounding Area, and Bicycle Rules and Safety Tips. The maps are available at Carbondale Bicycle Shops, the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce, the Carbondale Convention and Tourism Bureau, the Carbondale Police Department, and the information booth located in the Carbondale City Hall/Civic Center.



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Carbondale Communiqué is written by the City of Carbondale to provide residents and businesses with municipal news.

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For More Information on City Government:
www.ci.carbondale.il.us
AM Radio 1620 • Cable TV Channel 16

CARBONDALE COMMUNIQUE