

City of Mexico

Missouri

May 2015

NEWSLETTER

HIRE THE BEST - HIRE WORK READY EMPLOYEES

A skilled, capable and competent workforce is attractive and alluring to businesses and industries interested in locating or relocating to a community. Knowing if the business builds there will be enough skilled workers to fill employment needs is enough for the business to take the chance. But how does a community increase its odds of bringing in a business like this?

Russell Runge, Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Director for the City of Mexico and Steve Hobbs, Audrain County Presiding Commissioner both say these odds are increased through building an ACT Work Ready Community. An ACT Work Ready Community develops a workforce that will enable existing businesses to expand and attract new businesses, by certifying individuals through testing that offers a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) for hiring purposes.

Since Missouri became involved in the NCRC program, approximately 12 counties have gained status as a Work Ready Community (WRC). Today, Audrain County and approximately 39 other counties are in the process of reaching their goals to become Work Ready Communities.

NCRC is a tool that the Missouri Career Centers provide to business customers, in order to screen and hire job candidates, as well as promote and identify training needs for existing employees. Challenges for some employers, when looking for workers, is in

finding motivated individuals with the right skills for the job. The NCRC allows employers to locate the right candidate quickly, saving time and money.

NCRC looks good on a resume, and because the candidate is competing on a larger scale, the more certificates they acquire and present to an employer, the greater the chance of obtaining a job. The NCRC verifies an individual's job skills and is accepted in 44 states throughout the U.S. The certificate also crosses industry sectors, and can help to advance careers.

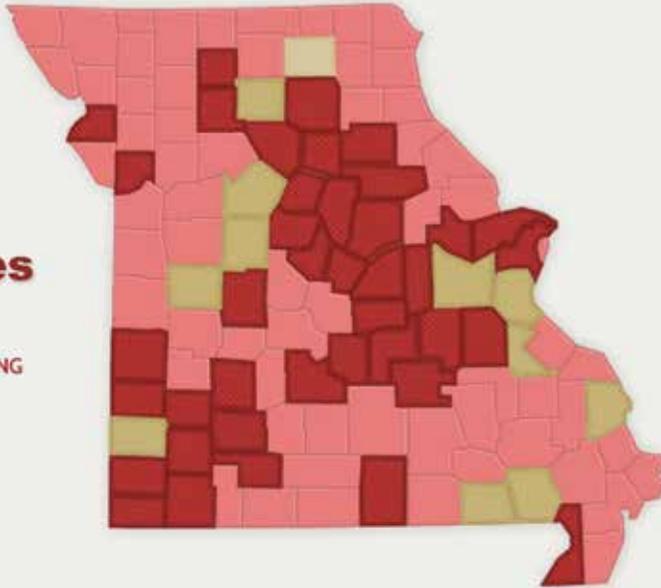
For Mexico, the Missouri Certified Work Ready Community (MWRC) is a voluntary initiative, and by utilizing the NCRC, the community will be able to attract, retain and develop a workforce with the education and foundational skills needed in order to succeed and grow in the future. The benefits will strengthen and grow businesses, as well as build economic competitiveness in Audrain County.

Goals need to be obtained in categories that include emerging, current and transitioning, as well as gain employer recognition/support. Audrain County has currently attained 31% of its goal in 9 months. Currently, Mexico and Audrain County are on their way to the goal of becoming certified. Visit the ACT Work Ready Communities website at <http://workreadycommunities.org/MO> for additional information.

Check out all of **MISSOURI'S CERTIFIED WORK READY COMMUNITIES**
and those in progress of becoming certified.

ACT Work Ready Counties

 PARTICIPATING
COUNTY
 CERTIFIED
COUNTY



? What It Is

- Voluntary initiative lead by community leaders
- Links workforce development to education
- Aligns economic development needs of communities
- Matches appropriate applicants to jobs based on skill levels
- Strengthens and grows businesses

Yard Maintenance

As warmer temperatures approach, Code Enforcement would like to remind citizens that Mexico City Code requires proper yard maintenance. The weeds and grass must be maintained at a height of eight inches or less. The chore of mowing is significantly easier if grass is kept short and don't forget about trimming around

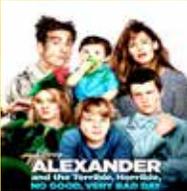


buildings, trees and fences. Grass clippings/yard waste may not be blown into the street, as it can stop up storm drains which causes flooding and erosion. Brush piles must also be kept less than eight inches. Brush and yard waste may be taken to the brush yard located at 104 S. Kentucky. Dropoff hours are Tuesday - Friday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

MEXICO PARKS & RECREATION

Movies in the Park

Lawrence Shelter at Plunkett Park

	<p>JUNE 13, 2015 Starting at Dusk "Alexander & the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day"</p>	
	<p>JULY 11, 2015 Starting at Dusk "Frozen"</p>	
	<p>AUGUST 8, 2015 Starting at Dusk "The Big Hero 6"</p>	
	<p>SEPTEMBER 12, 2015 Starting at Dusk "Cinderella"</p>	

More info (573) 581-2100

City To Implement Fees Related To Credit/Debit Card Transactions

On July 1st, the City of Mexico will put into effect a fee structure on over-the-counter credit/debit card transactions.

Why implement this change?

The use of credit/debit cards for payment on city services has grown significantly over the past three years, and will likely continue to do so. The fees the City incurs in processing card payments directly cuts into financial resources that would otherwise be directed to provide essential public services to our community. It is both prudent and within reason to have those individuals utilizing the conveniences of paying by card pay a small fee to offset the transaction cost rather than have resources meant for support of public services negatively impacted.



To offset the third party cost associated with over-the-counter card transactions, the City of Mexico will be implementing a fee structure on payments by credit/debit card similar to what the State of Missouri made effective statewide on January 1st of this year.

Currently, the City of Mexico collects a \$3.95 convenience fee on web site based card transactions and that will remain unchanged.

As noted earlier, the fee structure will be similar to that currently being used statewide by the State of Missouri. There will be a 2.15% fee charged on all credit/debit card transactions, with a minimum fee of \$1.25.

Should there be any questions in regard to the upcoming fee implementation, contact Roger Haynes, Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services Director at (573) 581-2100.

Reserve a Park Shelter or Register for a Program

The City of Mexico Parks and Recreation Department changed to a web-based format to allow patrons to reserve shelters or sign up for programs from the comfort of their homes.

Go directly to Reservation/Registration on the City's website and create account login. Patrons can locate the calendar and select dates, shelters, and sign up for a program or reservation. Permits for shelters can be sent to patrons via email and printed at home, or available at City Hall.

For questions or information, please feel free to contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (573) 581-2100.

How To Safely Dispose of Prescription Drugs for Cleaner Water

At one time, flushing or rinsing medications down the toilet or sink was recommended. As these drugs have now been discovered in rivers and streams the prevailing advice has shifted to drop-off sites, drug drop-off events, or secured disposal. The biggest concern with flushing medications down the toilet is that those pharmaceuticals do not get pulled out when they go through the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Flushed pharmaceuticals can also harm the beneficial bacteria that are responsible for breaking down waste in the septic system or wastewater treatment plant, reducing the effectiveness of the treatment. While the effect of pharmaceutical pollution on humans is unknown, it has had an impact on aquatic life.

When collection sites or events are not locally available, the Department of Natural Resources offers direction for disposing of prescription drugs through its agency fact sheet, "Management of Household Pharmaceutical Waste, Sharps and Thermometers."

The best way to manage such waste is to minimize it in the first place by taking prescription medications as directed; using all of the medication until it is gone (unless directed otherwise by your doctor); and only purchasing and using essential pharmaceuticals.

If there are remaining unused and unneeded prescription drugs, the fact sheet makes the following recommendations for disposal of prescription pills:

Remove from the original container and put the contents into a hard plastic container such as a laundry detergent bottle. Remember to mark out personal information on the prescription bottles before placing in the trash.

- Add a small amount of water to dissolve the medicine.
- Add a thickening material such as cat litter, flour, salt, charcoal or coffee grounds. Nontoxic powdered spice such as turmeric or mustard may be added to discourage wildlife or young children from trying to eat the resulting material.
- Seal the container and place it in the trash just prior to pick up.

The complete fact sheet, which is available on the department's website at dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2252.htm, also offers similar recommendations for liquid medications and medications in blister packages.



Mexico Department of Public Safety

The Mexico Department of Public Safety (MDPS) had a very active 2014.

The department handled 9 residential fires in 2014, 15 in 2013 and 20 in 2012 and 2 commercial fires in 2014. There has been a decrease of commercial fires from the previous five years due to MDPS addressing the need for improved annual fire inspections. MPDS completed 306 inspections in 2013 and 326 in 2014, with inspections being directed at reducing commercial fires. Sgt. Rusell Sing has been added to the Fire Division and he has added the enhancement of teaching Fire Fighter I and II certifications, as well as several State certifications. Two officers were certified in 2014 as Fire Fighters I and II and several officers have completed Fire Instructor certification. Obtaining these certifications addresses the Department's goal of increasing the level of certifications of all officers.

Another service that is provided to our citizens, is the availability and installation of smoke detectors to those Mexico residents in need. Smoke detectors are always available and may be obtained by calling the MDPS.

The need for First Responders or ambulance assists has continued to increase. MDPS estimates that 850 medical calls were received in 2014, 871 in 2013 and 803 in 2012. 2013 has been the highest number in the last 10 years with an average of 683 medical calls a year over the last ten years. MDPS continues to stay current with First Responder certifications with Officer Nicole Henry now serving as the CPR/AED instructor.

In 2014, MDPS experienced 61 burglaries with 21%

cleared. This is a decrease from the 2013 figure of 86 burglaries. These burglaries included breaking into storage units and vacant houses, but the Mexico community remains well above the national average burglary clearance.



Assaults were down during 2014, with 91 assaults and 96% cleared by arrest. This is a decrease from 99 in 2013. Overall the Uniform Crime Rate for Mexico was down from last year's 443 to this year's 396.

MPDS Patrol Division handled 2,243 traffic crashes in 2014. This was a decrease from the prior year, and the number of injuries in traffic crashes also decreased. It appears that a significant portion of these crashes could be attributed to speed and careless driving. MDPS is addressing this concern by increasing its traffic enforcement and redeploying an increased number of personnel for this enforcement. MPDS has also been selected by the Missouri Department of Transportation to receive a new breathalyzer due to the number of Driving While Intoxicated cases that were made. MDPS continues to participate in all Missouri Highway Safety Initiatives.

In order to provide excellent service to the community, training is extremely important to the MDPS. MDPS Officers attended approximately 3,162 hours of training during 2014. Training included first aid, police tactics, fire arms, self-defense, legal matters, apparatus operation, basic firefighting, and supervision. Coupled with education, the fine and dedicated people of the MDPS, there is a strong and professional team serving the Mexico community.

BRICK
CITY SPRINT

2015
MEXICO, MISSOURI



Mexico Parks
& Recreation
Department



@mexparks

Saturday, June 27
8:00 a.m.

Teal Lake Shelter

Register at City Hall or at
cityofmexico.recdesk.com.

The triathlon distances are Swim
300 meters, Bike 15k (9.3 miles) and
Run 5k (3.1 miles). Sign up as an
Individual or as a Team. Packet

Pickup Friday, June 26 @ Teal
Lake Shelter 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. &
Saturday, June 27 @ 6:00 a.m. - 7:00
a.m. Individual Registration \$50.00 or
Team Registration \$60 includes Swim
Cap, Finisher Medal & Dri-fit T-Shirt.

2015 Asphalt Improvements Project & the 2015 Concrete Project

Listed below are the streets scheduled for the 2015 Asphalt Improvements Project and the 2015 Concrete Project. Streets are not listed in any particular order. Notices will be given to residents on these streets prior to work beginning at that location.

2015 Asphalt Project

STREET	FROM	TO
Love	Agricultural	Stewart
Monroe	Agricultural	Stewart
Crestview	Anderson	Pollock
Monroe	Agricultural	Hord
Neptune	Mars	Orange
Hitch Lot Parking Lot	Washington	Clark
Fairground Park Parking Lot		

2015 Concrete Project

ADA Sidewalk Ramps Intersection:

S. Coal/E. Central

Agricultural/E. Love (East Side)

Stewart/E. Love

Agricultural/E. Monroe

E. Monroe/Eastholm

E. Monroe/Jeffries

Pavement Repairs:

Calhoun From E. Liberty to Lafayette

Central From Coal to Calhoun

Pavement Extension (Huntingfield Rd. N. of Commerce Road)

Walk Mexico

The Health Leadership Team of Mexico will be hosting its 2nd Annual Walk Mexico Program from May 4 - August 14. Log your walking or running miles, receive discounts from some of Mexico's local businesses, and be healthy and active. You must be registered to participate. Registration is held at the Mexico Area Family YMCA and for more information please call Megan Harrington with the Parks and Recreation Department at (573) 581-2100, ext. 149.



Salesman/Peddler

Do they have a License? Mexico City Code requires that a person who sells door-to-door (Peddler) obtain a business license from the City Clerk's Office. A Peddler must register with the City Clerk's Office and provide information on the type of product, length of time selling the product, and number of Peddlers selling the product. A Peddler's License will be issued to each Peddler and the Peddler is required to have the license with them while conducting business. If they cannot provide a current Peddler's License, they are not registered to sell products within the City of Mexico.

To inquire about a Peddler, call the City Clerk's Office at (573) 581-2100 ext. 220.

Brush Yard Rules

Current posted rules are designed to reduce volume to the site so that services can be provided to Mexico City residents without having to raise refuse rates.

1. Resident drop off only. Proof of residency needed City utility bill, driver's license, voter ID or State issued ID.
2. No material from commercial tree trimmers, landscapers, mowing businesses.
3. Yard waste and brush must not be mixed. No bagged yard waste.
4. No Brush or yard waste material containing rock or gravel.
5. Brush and logs greater than 4 inches in diameter must be in 4 foot or shorter lengths.
6. Brush less than 4 inches in diameter must be in 10 foot or shorter lengths.

With the help of the Public Works Department and Parks Department, the brush yard staff is working hard to improve the site so that better quality services can be offered at the site. Root wads, stumps, lumber, pallets, household hazardous waste, tires, batteries, waste oil, demolition material, asphalt, animal carcasses, construction waste, or garbage are not accepted at the site.

Hours of Operation

Tuesday-Friday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

& 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Tuesday Evenings
Concerts in the Park
HARDIN PARK GAZEBO

June 2 - Weber & Staley

June 9 - Mexico Community Band

June 16 - Liberty Jazz

June 23 - Bluegrass Jam

June 30 - Talk of the Town

July 7 - Mexico Community Band

July 14 - Bluegrass Jam

July 21 - Mexico Community Band

July 28 - To Be Announced

Concert starts at 7 p.m. Feel free to bring lawn chairs. Rain cancels listen to KWWR/KXEO.



Brought to you by the Parks
1/2 Cent Sales Tax



New restroom constructed at Fairgrounds Park.



Fairgrounds soccer field was badly damaged by drought two years ago. Sales tax funds paid to laser grade and replant the field for youth soccer programs.

No Peddlers, No Solicitors

NO PEDDLERS



NO SOLICITORS
AUDRAIN COUNTY AREA
 CRIME STOPPERS

Members of the Audrain County Crime Stoppers Committee have designed a static cling type placard to be posted on your door or window to make it known that peddlers and solicitors are not welcome.

Less than positive experiences can lead disgruntled residents to contact the Sheriff's office or local police demanding relief, including:

- Protection from fraud, scam artists, and other unwanted intrusions.

- Prevention of crimes and unlawful activities.
- A direct city/county response to their uneasiness and need for safety in the community.

Placards are available at the Audrain County Sheriff's Office, Mexico at City Hall, Department of Public Safety and the Mexico Chamber of Commerce.

Volunteers Needed

The City of Mexico Parks and Recreation Department is looking for energetic volunteers for a Parks Tree Planting Crew. Due to the loss of trees to drought two years ago, we have a larger than normal need to restock the parks with trees. A volunteer tree planting crew is being assembled to assist the Parks Department with spring and fall planting annually. Selected volunteers will be trained in up-to-date tree planting techniques, learn about tree care, have an opportunity to help beautify our parks for many years into the future, and make new friends. To be part of this team, fill out a Volunteer Application and list "Parks Tree Planter" as the position desired. Volunteer applications are available on the 2nd floor at City Hall or at the City's website www.mexicomissouri.net, under "I want to volunteer."

Did You Know

Signs...Are They Legal? Are They Permitted?

All signs within the city limits are regulated by the Mexico City Code. Before an advertising sign is installed at a business, a sign permit is required. Prior to the issuance of a permit, a site plan indicating the size, location, and number of signs must be approved. But what about "garage" and "yard" sale signs? These types of signs, although temporary, are also regulated by the City. Even though a permit is not required, temporary signs must also comply with City Code. Temporary signs are not allowed in the public right of way and may only be located on the private property where the sale is taking place.



If you are planning a sale and intend on using a temporary sign, please contact the Building Official at (575) 581-2100 ext. 335, if you have any questions.

Fairgrounds Pool

Fairgrounds Pool which was built from 1984-86 had a total failure of its mechanical system last July. The pool was closed for the end of the summer 2014 season.



Engineer's specifications for the repair of electrical systems, valves, pipes, pumps, motors, and a lift station were completed last fall. Contractor bids for completing repairs were received during the winter. Repairs are now under way for a scheduled opening day of Saturday, May 23 during Memorial Day weekend.

Fire Engine

The Mexico Public Safety Department received its 2015 E-One Typhoon Custom Rescue Pumper, Engine 214, on February 11, 2015. The engine is equipped with a Cummins ISL 350 hp engine, Allison 3000 transmission, a Hale 1500 gpm pump, 750 gallon poly water tank with additional 30 gallon foam storage, a Waterous 140 cfm CAFS system, dual medical boxes and a Harrison generator.



The department's firefighters have received training on the operation of Engine 214, which is now in service. Engine 214 expands the department's firefighting abilities to provide lifesaving services to the citizens of Mexico.

The New Buzz Word "Sustainability"

Sustainability, in its broadest sense, means delivering services in a manner that achieves an appropriate balance between the environment, the community well-being, and our ability to pay. Mexico's Public Works Department is striving to meet this standard of sustainability in their services. Examples include the phased retrofit of downtown lighting from 250 watt high pressure sodium to 85 watt LED lighting. The obvious benefit to the environment is the energy savings. The reuse of the existing light poles and the phasing in using available budget dollars keeps the project within our ability to pay. The community benefits from safe true color lighting, reduced maintenance, and a fresh appeal to the downtown.

Another activity that may not be immediately obvious is the City's program of crack sealing and hot mix street patching. Proper maintenance keeps moisture from entering cracks and making potholes through freeze thaw cycles. This can obviously save money on pothole patching, and car and tire repairs. It helps the environment by maintaining a smoother street. Studies have shown it also saves gas. Old asphalt that is removed is recycled. Some becomes base for other repairs, and some is recycled into new hot mix asphalt. Ultimately, maintaining streets in good condition gives them a longer life, saving the community on reconstruction. Sustainability, the interaction between economics, community, and the environment.

While sustainability is the new buzz word, you can be proud that for many years your community has been taking sustainable initiatives.

Sidewalk Program

The City of Mexico's Sidewalk Program is intended to assist applicants with the cost of replacing all or a portion of existing sidewalk, or installing a new sidewalk. To be considered for the Sidewalk Program, an application must be submitted and approved prior to beginning any work on a sidewalk.

Once the application has been submitted to the Community Development Department, the sidewalk will be inspected by the City. Sidewalks are reviewed for funding based on their necessity of replacement; taking into account the location near busy streets and public places (parks, schools, etc), connectivity to other sidewalks, and hazardous conditions of existing



sidewalks. Funding is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified applicants. Not all applications will be approved due to the limited amount of funding.

The City will reimburse those approved for the program at a rate of \$7.00 per running foot upon completion and approval of the work. All sidewalk installation or replacement shall be completed according to the City of Mexico's Sidewalk Regulations and Design Standards and all applicants must insure that proper safety precautions are taken during this work (signage, barricades, etc). If the project intersects a street, a handicap ramp must be installed. Sidewalks must be installed properly to ensure reimbursement.

Reimbursement is not intended to fund the entire project; this program is designed to assist the applicant by reimbursing a portion of the cost incurred. It is the applicant's responsibility to pay the contractor in full for the sidewalk improvements and notify the City upon completion. Applicants should anticipate reimbursement from the City (at the program rate) within 30 calendar days after final acceptance of the work by the City. Sidewalk regulations are found under Chapter 137 of the Mexico Municipal Code.

Complete the Sidewalk Program Application in full and return it to the Community Development Department on the 3rd Floor of City Hall at 300 North Coal Street. Do not start any work prior to approval by the City. Applicants will be notified of approval or denial within 15 days of receipt of the application. For questions, please contact Rita Jackson at (573) 581-2100 ext. 317.



MEXICO, MISSOURI

City of Mexico, Missouri
300 North Coal Street
Mexico, MO 65265

City Hall

(573) 581-2100

- City Manager: BRUCE SLAGLE
- City Clerk: MARCY LECOUNT
- Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services: ROGER D. HAYNES
- Assistant City Manager/Economic Development: RUSSELL RUNGE
- Director of Community Development: RITA JACKSON
- City Engineer/Public Works Director: KENSEY RUSSELL
- Director of Parks & Recreation: CHAD SHOEMAKER

Municipal Court

- Phone: (573) 581-2100, ext 144
- Court Clerk: AMY DEIHL

Public Safety

- Chief of Public Safety: SUSAN ROCKETT
- Emergency: 911
- Non-Emergency
(573) 581-2100 or (573) 473-5800
- Tips Hotline: 1-800-392-TIPS (8477)

Public Works Facility

- 221 S. Morris • (573) 581-8310

Mexico Animal Shelter

- 101 S. Morris • (573) 581-0779

City Website

- www.mexicomissouri.net
- Email: information@mexicomissouri.org

City Council Members

2015 - 2016

- Greg Miller, Mayor
- Chris Williams, Chairman Pro Tem
- Steve Nichols, Councilman
- Ron Loesch, Councilman
- Chris Miller, Councilman

Business License Requirements Proof of Taxes Paid

City Code requires that businesses and individuals, applying for a business license, provide proof of paid property/real estate taxes.

The City Clerk now verifies with the Audrain County Collector's Office that taxes have been paid before issuing a business license.



- City of Mexico
- Mexico Department of Public Safety
- City of Mexico Parks and Recreation

@CityofMexicoMO
@ChiefRockett
@mexparks



The City of Mexico will be closed on the following days in observance of Holidays:

- Monday, May 25, 2015
- Friday, July 3, 2015
- Monday, September 7, 2015
- Wednesday, November 11, 2015
- Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27, 2015
- Friday, December 25, 2015

Reporting Street Light Outages

To report a street light outage, a street light pole number is a necessity. The number on the pole is located 7' from the ground, facing the street and will start with ME and is followed by four numbers.

This is normally a metal or plastic tag. The number refers to a location number which assists Ameren Missouri in locating the correct pole.

When calling in a street light outage, have the pole number ready and contact Ameren Missouri directly at (800) 552-7583, go to the City's website www.mexicomissouri.net and complete the request tracker or contact the City (573) 581-2100, ext. 315.

Please remember, Ameren Missouri requires that a pole number be obtained to assist in locating the correct street light.