

# City of Mexico

## MISSOURI



# Newsletter

May 2017



## “Mexico Ranks #1”

*Top 10 Affordable Small Towns Where You'd Actually Want to Live*



Ah, the ever-exciting city life: It's not everyone's cup of mocha java. Cramped apartments go for mind-blowing prices, the daily stress and competition can be killers, a wayward cab just splashed gunk all over your Guccis, and that Knob Creek Manhattan you just ordered up to salve the pain (straight up, plenty of bitters, don't forget the maraschino), cost more than most Americans spend on a nice meal. Subway cars reeking of urine, angry squeegee men, long lines for stupid things like Cronuts—is it all really worth it?

Hell, yeah! City life is thrilling, and full of endless opportunities and diversions. But what's that you say? The whole shootin' match isn't for you?

We're here to tell you that you can buy a free-standing home with a real backyard in a small town where you'll actually know your neighbors—without breaking the bank. And we're not talking about depressed areas where you can buy a house for a song (even a slightly off-key one). Nope, we're talking about towns whose economies are humming along, so local services are plentiful and your chances of finding a paying gig are good.

The realtor.com® data team ranked more than 500 U.S. Census-designated micropolitan areas (i.e., communities with a population between 10,000 and 50,000) by median home price. We also factored in:

- low unemployment rates
- crime rates below the national average
- households that spend no more than 28% of their annual income on housing costs, so that they have enough left over for just about everything else. (This percentage is commonly accepted to be a healthy proportion.)

Turns out, leaving the perpetually burning city lights behind can really pay off. The median home prices of our top picks range from just \$65,600 to \$139,900—compared with the national median price of \$250,000, or the \$800,000



median price tag in San Francisco. We found the most livable small-town oases of affordability in 2017 to be clustered in the Midwest. Sorry, California beach dreamers or mavens of scenic Colorado ski towns—for the average American, homes there are way out of reach.

But does this mean you have to trade excitement for enervation? As the city-dwelling comedian Lenny Bruce once said, “I hate small towns, because once you’ve seen the cannon in the park, that’s it.” So we focused on life beyond the cannons—small towns offering up rich cultures and a surprising amount of fun side diversions.

So prepare yourself for the small towns you just might want to call home.

#### 1. Mexico, MO

Median home price: \$65,600

Unemployment rate: 3.6%

Despite its name, this town isn’t south of the border—so you might want to think twice about ordering that “authentic tableside-prepared guacamole” at the local diner. Shift your expectations! In fact, this is a surprise mecca for the arts, with no shortage of indigenous artists and ambitious local performances. The Presser Performing Arts Center provides a dazzling array of classes in art, dance, photography, theater, and writing. And they revel in their history here too, as evidenced by the annual “Walk Back in Time” festival, where locals don costumes and reenact daily life from the Colonial era all the way to World War II.

Not enough, you say? It’s also a great place for alpaca fans! On National Alpaca Day (yes, that’s a thing), Binder’s Hilltop Apple and Berry Farm opens up to visitors who can pick apples and pet the resident llamas—gently, though, the big guys have tempers.

When they’re done, residents can enjoy the rolling woodlands that offer Zen-like serenity. And they can revel in the low crime, enviously low unemployment, and insanely affordable homes in this little town about 100 miles west of St. Louis, MO.

With its central U.S. location and easy access by highway, rail, and air, Mexico also has a thriving distribution industry. It’s home to Brookstone Company’s distribution center and Home Decorators international order center.

Fun fact: Mexico is home to the annual Miss Missouri Pageant—where potential Miss Americas are crowned. What, you don’t like beauty pageants?

Yuqing Pan | Mar 6, 2017 | *realtor.com Top 10 Affordable Small Towns Where You’d Actually Want to Live, 2017 Edition*

MEXICO PARKS & RECREATION

# Movies in the Park

Lawrence Shelter at Plunkett Park

Rated PG  
JUNE 10, 2017  
Starting at Dusk  
“Pete’s Dragon”

Rated PG  
JULY 8, 2017  
Starting at Dusk  
“The BFG”

Rated PG  
AUGUST 12, 2017  
Starting at Dusk  
“The Good Dinosaur”

Rated PG  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2017  
Starting at Dusk  
“The Secret Life of Pets”

Rain cancels that evenings showing.      More info (573) 581-2100

## Littering - Let’s Clean Up

There are costs associated with littering, and everyone has the responsibility to keep litter off of our roadways and out of our rivers and streams. There’s a saying, “We all live downstream.” Please think about that. If you are driving, walking, or biking and have trash, please put it in a trash receptacle. If your garbage bag gets ripped open and is strewn around your neighborhood, please pick it up. After all, it’s your garbage!

Did you know?

- When cigarette butts become litter, they have a negative impact on the environment. The filters are made of a plastic that can take up to 10 years to decompose.
- The items most often found during litter cleanups are fast-food wrappers. The second-most-often found items are aluminum beer cans, followed very closely by soda cans.



# Barrel & Cone Update

## An Update of the City's Current Public Work Projects

### Street Department

The 2016 - 2017 annual street maintenance contracts year include:

- A restorative seal for Maple from Wade to Western; Olive from Hanley to Orange; Pearson from Western to Jefferson; Cleveland from Baker to MacFarlane; and Jefferies from MacFarlane to the end.
- Milling and overlay work on Missouri from Jackson to Curtis; Kentucky from Monroe to Curtis; Morris from Boulevard to Francis; and Mars from Jefferson to Neptune.
- Overlay and sidewalk improvements Liberty St. from Tyrone Lue Blvd to Clark St. This project will be under construction



later this year. The project is funded by MoDOT and partially with the City's Capital Improvement Sales Tax.

- All of the downtown street lights have been converted to LED's.

### Wastewater Treatment Plant

- The Wastewater Division has a contractor cleaning and TVing large diameter sewer lines. Later in the year cast in place pipe will be installed in locations around town to rehabilitate some sewer lines.

### Installation of Kingdom Telephone's Internet Service

- Sellenriek Construction will continue to install high speed fiber throughout the city for Kingdom Telephone's internet service.

## The Great American Eclipse

#DarkDayMexMO

Mexico falls perfectly in the path of a Total Solar Eclipse. This will be a once in a lifetime event happening in our own backyard on Monday August 21, 2017. Come and join us for a moment you will never forget. Mexico Parks and Recreation Department has joined forces with the Department of Public Safety, Mexico Chamber of Commerce, Mexico Public Schools and the YMCA to plan the celebration. The Great American Eclipse will be a weekend event starting with a block party on



Mexico's Village Square Saturday, August 19 with an afternoon and evening of family fun that will include participation from local businesses in the downtown square area. The Brick City Bad Boys monthly Cruise Night will take place at 5:00 p.m., followed by a special event you don't want to miss. The weekend events will continue on Sunday, August 20 at Lakeview Park, with a family cookout hosted by the YMCA, food, fun and a glow run. Monday's main event will be held at Green Estate Park from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be food, music, good times and most importantly, a total solar eclipse. The Eclipse process will begin at 11:46 a.m. with a total eclipse at 1:13 p.m. Mark your calendars!! You won't want to miss the activities. Come out and join us for a wonderful weekend event for family fun.

## Help Mexico Grow

Mexico has a great deal to be proud of with many locally grown businesses that employ hundreds of local and regional residents and newer businesses who have also grown and expanded. All of these employees contribute to our economy in different ways, by spending their dollars at local retail establishments and purchasing homes in the area. However, as a community, we are only going to grow if each citizen contributes to the efforts to provide amenities necessary to attract new businesses and residents.

Another area which is being addressed is making sure that those who will be graduating from our school systems regionally along with graduates of 2-year colleges are ready to enter into the workforce. This effort started at the local level by Mark Korman, Fluid Power Support. Work Ready has grown into a multi-entity level with a great deal of contributions by the Mexico School System, the Hart Career Center, the Chamber, Moberly Area Community College and other employers in the area. A plan to address these needs is being formulated with momentum to take the plan forward and shows considerable progress.

Other challenges are the few remaining vacant structures in the community. Although all of our modern structures are full and employing area residents, there are others which remain a concern. The City continues to work towards becoming a Work Ready Community through the Advance Technology Center and we feel confident that we will become certified soon. Buckle up, contribute and be a part of our growing community!

## Residential Swimming Pool Regulations

Did you know that the City of Mexico has code requirements relating to the design, construction and installation of swimming pools, spas and hot tubs on the lot of a one or two family dwelling?

What is a swimming pool? The building code defines a swimming pool as: Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches deep. This includes in-ground, above-ground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.

A building permit is required before the construction or placement of a swimming pool, hot tub or spa within the city limits of Mexico. A critical element of this permitting process involves a site plan of the area where the pool or hot tub is to be placed. This site plan can be hand drawn with appropriate dimensions or quite often an aerial photograph from the Audrain County web site can be used to create a site plan. The site plan can be

completed at the time a permit is applied for.

There are additional safety elements that must be considered and addressed when a permit for a swimming pool is applied for.

- **Barrier Requirements:** A barrier is a fence, wall, building wall or combination thereof which completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access to the swimming pool.
- **Electrical Requirements:** Wiring methods used in conjunction with permanently installed or storable swimming pools shall be installed in accordance with applicable codes.

There are specific provisions that control the design of barriers and electrical requirements for residential swimming pools. A complete list of provisions and requirements is available from the Building Official. Permits are applied for and issued by the Building Official located on the third floor of City Hall.

## Grilling Safety Tips

Summer is here and it is time to start grilling. Mexico DPS would like to offer some safety tips before you fire up the grill. Following cooking safety practices and tips can greatly reduce the possibility of anyone becoming injured from a preventable accident.

### *General Safety Tips for Outdoor Cooking*

- Keep your grill at least 10 feet away from your house. Farther is even better. This includes portions attached to your house like carports, garages and porches. Grills should not be used underneath wooden overhangs either, as the fire could flare up into the structure above. This applies to both charcoal and gas grills.
- Never use a grill indoors. People often think it will be safe to use a grill, especially a small one, indoors. This is not true, in addition to the fire hazard, grills release carbon monoxide, the deadly colorless, odorless gas. Gas needs to vent in fresh air.
- Clean your grill regularly. If you allow grease and fat to build up on your grill, they provide more fuel for a fire. Grease is a major source of flare ups.
- Check for gas leaks. You can make sure no gas is leaking from your gas grill by making a solution of half liquid dish soap and half water and rubbing it on the hoses and connections.



Then, turn the gas on (with the grill lid open.) If the soap forms large bubbles, that's a sign that the hoses have tiny holes or that the connections are not tight enough.

- Keep decorations away from your grill. Decorations like hanging baskets, pillows and umbrellas look pretty and provide fuel for a fire.
- Keep a fire extinguisher within a couple steps of your grill and know how to use it. If you are unsure how to use the extinguisher, don't waste time fiddling with it before calling 911. Firefighters say many fire deaths occur when people try to fight a fire themselves instead of calling for expert help and letting the fire department do its job.
- Never turn on the gas while your grill lid is closed. It causes gas to build up inside your grill, and when you do light it and open it, a fireball can explode in your face.
- Never leave a grill unattended. Fires double in size every minute. Plan ahead so that all of your other food prep chores are done and you can focus on grilling.
- Never overload your grill with food. This applies especially to fatty meats. The basic reason for this tip is that if too much fat drips on the flames at once, it can cause a large flare-up that could light nearby objects on fire.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.

Mexico Parks & Recreation

# Schedule of Events



**2017**  
**INSERT**



@mexparks



Mexico  
Parks &  
Recreation  
Department



## May 9 - Aug 8 - Walk Mexico & Kid's On Track (Free)

The Health Leadership Team of Mexico is hosting its 4th Walk Mexico Program this summer, from May 9 - August 8. 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 and kickoff party will be held at the Mexico Middle School from 4-6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9th. For information, please call Megan Harrington with the Parks and Recreation Department at (573) 581-2100, ext 149.

## Sat May 28 - Fairgrounds Park Swimming Pool

Opens Saturday, May 27 and closes August 21. Admission Fee: Adults 18 & over \$3, Children grades K-12 \$2, Children 5 years & under \$1. Swim Lessons cost \$15: Session 1 - Jun 5-8 and Jun 12-15, Session 2 - Jun 19-22 and Jun 26-29, Session 3 - Jul 10-13 and Jul 17-20 and Session 4 - Jul 24-27 and Jul 31 - Aug 3. Times for Advanced 8:45-9:15 am, Intermediate 9:15-9:45 am, Beginner 9:45-10:15 am and Pre-swimmer 10:15-10:45 am. Evening lessons preswimmer and beginner only 6-6:30 pm. Must pay in full to sign up. More info (573) 581-1914 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Tues Evenings - Concerts in the Park



Free Concerts at the Hardin Park Gazebo on Tuesday evenings starting June 6-Community Band, June 13-Echo's, June 20-Bluegrass Jam, June 27-Community Band, no concert July 4th (Holiday) July 11-Liberty Jazz, July 18-Bluegrass Jam, July 26-Community Band. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. Feel free to bring lawn chairs. Rain Cancels - listen to KWWR/KXEO.

## Thurs Jun 9 - Mobility Impaired Tour (Free)

Green Estate Park: Thursday, June 9, Tours are available from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Groups are welcome. Handicap accessible golf carts provided by M&M Golf Cars. Please pre-register at City Hall (573) 581-2100 by June 9 and let us know of your special needs. Tours are free and tour drivers are provided. For more information (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Sat Jun 10 - Movie in the Park (Free)

Plunkett Park - Mexico Parks & Recreation sponsors Movies in the Park. Saturday, June 10: "Pete's Dragon" R: PG. Held at Lawrence Shelter, bring lawn chairs, starting at dusk. Rain cancels that evening's showing. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Jun 12-23 - Youth Tennis Lessons

June 12-23 at Fairgrounds Tennis Courts - Grades 4-12. Beginners June 12-16 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Intermediate & Advance June 19-23 4:30-6:00 p.m. Cost \$15 - Instructor: Brad Smith. More info (573) 581-2100.



## Tues Jun 20 - Sunrise Summer Solstice Yoga

Looking for a fun way to welcome the first day of summer? Say Namaste to the day and a new season on Tuesday, June 20th. Our one day, Sunrise summer solstice Yoga class is set to begin at 5:30 AM at Fairgrounds Park. Free to any and all, yoga mats not provided.

## Fri Jun 23 - Flick or Float

Flick and Float at the Fairgrounds Swimming Pool on Friday, June 10 "Jaws" R: PG (May not be suitable for small children). Cost for children age 5-under \$1, age 6-17 \$2, and adults 17-up \$3. Swim 8:00 p.m. and movie starting at 9:00 p.m., concessions: Nacho and Popcorn.

## Sat Jun 24 - Kids Golf Clinic (Free)

Saturday, June 24 at Arthur Hills Golf Course from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Open to children 5-10 years old, 1 hour sessions. Learn basics of playing Golf. Sign-up at City Hall, 300 N. Coal by 5:00 p.m. June 27. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Fri Jul 7 - Red White & Green Estate 5K

Teal Lake Shelter: Friday, July 7. Race time 7:30 p.m. and packet pick up between 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. \$20 until July 5 and \$25 from July 5 at 7:00 p.m. Registration and forms at the Mexico Area YMCA, 1127 Adams Street. More info (573) 581-1540 or (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Sat Jul 8 - Movie in the Park (Free)

Plunkett Park - Mexico Parks & Recreation sponsors Movies in the Park. Saturday, July 8: "The BFG" R: PG. Held at Lawrence Shelter, bring lawn chairs, starting at dusk. Rain cancels that evening's showing. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Jul 17 & 18 - 2017 Chute Basketball Shooting Camp

2017 Chute Basketball Shooting Camp for boys and girls at the YMCA Gym. Cost \$50 for 3rd - 8th grade. Classes held 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 6th - 8th grade girls & boys, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 3rd - 5th grade boys, and 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. 3rd - 5th grade girls. Application and payment due on July 1 at the YMCA. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net) or (573) 581-1540.

## Jul 17-21 - British Soccer Camp

July 17-21 at Fairgrounds Park. Register online [www.challengersports.com](http://www.challengersports.com) & get a free soccer jersey from Challenger Sports. First Kicks: 3-5 years \$70, Half day \$142, and Golden Goal 6-16 years \$49. Instructors are Great Britain's finest soccer coaches. Ask anyone who has attended, this is the real deal. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Fri Jul 21 - Flick and Float

Flick and Float at the Fairgrounds Swimming Pool on Friday, July 21 "Finding Dory" R: PG. Cost for children age 5-under \$1, age 6-17 \$2, and adults 17-up \$3. Swim 8:00 p.m. and movie starting at 9:00 p.m., concessions: Nachos and Popcorn.

## Tues in Aug - 1860's Base Ball (Free)

Fairgrounds Park: Special Base Ball, No gloves, no metal spikes and wood bats only. This is a fun game, enjoyed by everyone that plays. Open to anyone that shows up to play old fashioned base ball. Play begins at 6:30 p.m. Schedule: August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Fri Aug 4 - Flick and Float

Flick and Float at the Fairgrounds Swimming Pool on Friday, August 5 "Moana" R: PG. Cost for children age 5-under \$1, age 6-17 \$2, and adults 17-up \$3. Swim 8:00 p.m. and movie starting at 9:00 p.m., concessions: Nachos and Popcorn.

## Sat Aug 12 - Movie in the Park (Free)

Plunkett Park - Mexico Parks & Recreation sponsors Movies in the Park. Saturday, August 12: "The Good Dinosaur" R: PG. Held at Lawrence Shelter, bring lawn chairs, starting at dusk. Rain cancels that evening's showing. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net)

## Fri Sept 15 - Teddy Bear Picnic (Free)

September 15 at Fairgrounds Shelter 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. for ages 4 - 7 years. Grab your favorite Teddy Bear and meet us in the park, we will be enjoying an afternoon of crafts, games and a yummy teddy-themed snack. Space limited.

## Sat Sept 9 - Movie in the Park (Free)

Plunkett Park - Mexico Parks & Recreation sponsors Movies in the Park. Saturday, September 9: "The Secret Life of Pets" R: PG. Held at Lawrence Shelter, bring lawn chairs, starting at dusk. Rain cancels that evening's showing. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net)

## Sat Sept 9 - Kids Fishing Derby (Free)

Saturday, September 9 at the Airport Pond from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Boys & girls 3-12 years old. Prizes for biggest & most fish caught. Bring your own tackle or use ours. Children must be accompanied by adult. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Tues Sept 26 - Johnny Appleseed Day (Free)

September 26 at Plunkett Park from 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. ages 7-11 years. Join us for an afternoon of apple activities to celebrate the history behind Johnny Appleseed, take part in an apple themed craft and enjoy a delicious snack. Space limited.

## Mon Oct 18 - Kite Flying (Free)

Kite Flying on Monday, October 18 at Green Estate Park from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Bring your own kite or fly one of ours. Free & fun for everyone. More info (573) 581-2100 or [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).

## Fri Oct 27 - Ghost Run 5k

Are you afraid of ghosts? Have you always wanted to run a 5k, but were not sure if it was your thing? No need to be fearful of this fun run! Join us at Lakeview Park Friday, October 27 at 6:00 pm for our first Ghost Run 5k 2017. What's the catch? There is no actual run! Bring your family out for a Halloween evening in the park, games, a craft and a costume contest! Bring out the family to enjoy an evening of fun. Sign-up in advance to receive a "race" t-shirt, \$20 for adults, \$15 for kids.

## Nov 6, 2017 - Mar 9, 2018 Walking for a Healthier Lifestyle (Free)

Walking for a Healthier Lifestyle held in the Field House at the Missouri Military Academy, 204 N. Grand Street and is tentatively scheduled for November 6, 2017 thru March 9, 2018. More info will be announced in November 2017 or check for more information at [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net).



## Special Events

Special events are held at various parks throughout the year. If your club or organization is interested in utilizing a park for an upcoming event, contact the Mexico Parks & Recreation Department for further information on reserving a park facility for your special event or activity. Call 573-581-2100 or email [cshoemaker@mexicomissouri.org](mailto:cshoemaker@mexicomissouri.org). To reserve a trail for a walking or running event, please contact Park Staff at 573-581-2100, ext 149 or [mharrington@mexicomissouri.org](mailto:mharrington@mexicomissouri.org). Ball Field Rentals: City Field #1 \$100/day, Garfield Softball Field \$50/day to reserve call 573-581-2100, ext 149 or [mharrington@mexicomissouri.org](mailto:mharrington@mexicomissouri.org) to request a rental contract.



## Program/Event Cancellations

Program/Events cancellations are announced on KXEO/KWWR Radio and posted on the City of Mexico Parks & Recreation Facebook page.

## Shelter Rentals

To reserve shelters and to sign up for programs, go to the "I WANT TO" tab at [mexicomissouri.net](http://mexicomissouri.net) and click "Reserve A Park Shelter" which will take you to the website, or go directly to [cityofmexico.recdesk.com](http://cityofmexico.recdesk.com) and create a log in. From there, patrons can locate the calendar and choose dates, shelters, and sign-up for a reservation. Permits for shelters can be sent to patrons via e-mail and printed at home, or picked up at City Hall. For questions or information, please feel free to contact the City of Mexico Parks & Rec Dept at 573-581-2100.

## Lakeview Camp Ground

Recreational camping available at Lakeview Park by permit only in designated areas. Permit fees: Mexico residents \$8, non-residents: \$10 per day, and \$5 all tent sites, maximum (2 tents per site). Self pay when no host present.

City of Mexico, 300 N. Coal, Mexico, MO 65265,  
573-581-2100, [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net)  
[cshoemaker@mexicomissouri.org](mailto:cshoemaker@mexicomissouri.org)

## Park Rules

Park Hours - 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. with the exception of the camping area in Lakeview Park, where overnight camping is permitted.

Loud noises, driving or parking on grassy areas, and littering in the parks is prohibited.

- Swimming, ice-skating, ice fishing and motorized boats are prohibited on the lakes.
- Reserved times for programs and special activities have priority.
- Beer is allowed in the City Parks, except for fenced areas of Tennis Courts & City Fields.
- Fires are only allowed in designated fire rings.

Mexico Parks & Recreation welcomes you to bring your own Kayak or Canoe to enjoy the Lakes. Bring your own BBQ grill and family games to the parks. Find a nice spot to picnic, take photos and just enjoy the outdoors. Please obey all the park rules and regulations.

Help keep our parks Clean.

Thank you!



Mexico  
Parks  
Recreation  
Department



@mexparks



## Rabies Prevention

The Mexico City Code requires the owner of a dog, cat or ferret shall have the animal vaccinated against rabies by the time the animal is four (4) months of age. The animal must receive a rabies vaccination within the twelve-month interval following the initial vaccination. Every animal must be revaccinated against rabies at a minimum of once each year with an annual vaccine. All rabies vaccinations should be administered by a licensed veterinarian or as required by law.

## Pickleball Courts

Pickleball originated in 1965 on Bainbridge Island near Seattle, Washington. Apparently the odd name originates with the creator's family dog named "pickles". The story is that the dog enjoyed interrupting the game by running off with the ball. Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. It is new to Mexico. Local players started playing at the Mexico Area YMCA a few years ago. The sport is growing rapidly in the U.S. and internationally. There are 15,000 indoor and outdoor courts in the United States and 2.5 million pickleball players. Thanks to the efforts of the Audrain Tennis Association, The Mexico Parks Foundation, Mexico City Council, and many generous donors, the City of Mexico will soon have two new pickleball courts at Fairgrounds Park. Funds granted or donated to the City of Mexico will pay for the pickleball court project in full. The new courts are being constructed north of the old tennis court parking lot.

## Shelter/Program Reservation

Mexico Parks and Recreation Department uses a web-based format for shelter reservations and program registrations. Visit [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net) and use the Recreation Reservations link located on the front page, on the right side, near the photo. Create an account or login. Once you have an account, select your desired facility or program. Don't forget to add your reservation to your shopping cart, shelter reservations are free, however, you will need to check out. Follow the prompts given as you progress through your reservation or registration. Confirmation of your reservation or registration will be sent to you via email. Call the Parks and Recreation Department at (573) 581-2100 with any questions.

## Brush & Leaves & Trash! Oh My!

Code Enforcement would like to remind citizens that City Code prohibits brush/yard waste piles in excess of eight inches and also prohibits leaves/grass clippings from being blown into the street. All brush and leaves may be taken to the brush yard at 104 S. Kentucky, behind the Singleton Maintenance Building. Summer hours are Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 6 pm and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Trash cans may not be stored at the curb and must not be set out more than 24 hours in advance of trash collection. Trash cans must be removed from the curb the same day as the collection. All trash must be bagged and stored in a trash can and set out each week for collection.

As a reminder, regular trash pickup will not accept large items such as furniture, appliances and large electronics. These items must have a special pickup scheduled. Contact Administrative Service Department to make arrangements at (573) 581-2100.



## No Peddlers, No Solicitors

Members of the Audrain County Crime Stoppers Committee designed a static cling placard to be posted on doors or windows 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.



## Yard Maintenance

As warmer temperatures approach, Code Enforcement would like to remind citizens that Mexico City Code requires proper yard maintenance. 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 must 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 high. Brush and yard waste may be taken to the brush yard located at 104 S. Kentucky.

## Reporting Street Light Outages

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



numbers. This is normally a metal or plastic tag and the number is a location number

that 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](http://www.mexicomissouri.net) and complete the request tracker or contact the City at 573-581-2100, ext. 315.

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

Tuesday Evenings

# Concerts in the Park

HARDIN PARK GAZEBO

June 6 • Community Band

June 13 • Echo's

June 20 • Bluegrass Jam

June 27 • Community Band

July 11 • Liberty Jazz

July 18 • Bluegrass Jam

July 25 • Community Band

Concerts starts at 7 pm. Feel free to bring lawn chairs. Rain cancels, listen to KWWR/KXEO.

## Park Progress Construction in the Parks

It is always difficult to build in the parks, and staff tries hard not to disrupt the use of parks and trails any more than they have to. If you are in the parks during construction work, be aware that a construction project can be a dangerous place for children, pets, and yourself.

In 2013 when the community was asked how they would spend a \$100 in the park, the largest response by far was to improve the maintenance of existing parks and facilities. The City has taken that to heart and have been working on improving sports fields, tennis courts, restrooms, the pool, trash cans, and many smaller items. There have been new aluminum benches, bleachers, and picnic tables placed around the system. This saves labor every winter avoiding having to replace and stain boards. The time saved is then reinvested in more improvement projects.

During the winter, several projects included in this year's capital budget have already been completed. Some of these projects include the planned relay of the Skatepark at Plunkett Park, Phase II of the culvert repairs at the Green Estate Trails, a new backstop and recut of the softball field at Garfield Park, and replacement of the Northeast Park playground equipment.

This summer, there are going to be additional construction projects going on in the Parks because of the Parks Sales Tax. R.S. Green Park is getting a new shelter. The old shelter had to be demolished this winter after tree damage. We anticipate the new shelter being open for reservations by June 1, 2017. The new restroom at R.S. Green Park was already under construction and matches the other restrooms in the system and is conveniently located for shelter users.

Later this summer, the City also will be constructing a new shelter at Fairgrounds Park. Planning to construct the shelter, as well as, parking and stormwater site for this project is underway. The proposed site for the new shelter is west of the pool just south of the playground close to the new restrooms.

New playground equipment for Lakeview Park is under design and will be installed later this summer. As a part of this project, staff will be making improvements to the parking site. Basketball courts at Fairgrounds Park and Garfield Park will be getting an asphalt overlay.

## Be a Safe Bicyclist Tips for Bicyclists of All Ages

According to state statutes, bike riders must obey the same laws and rules of the road as vehicle drivers. Stop and check for traffic before entering any street. Be aware of any vehicles around you.

- Always ride on the right with traffic flow.
- Use caution at intersections
- Steer clear of parked cars
- Respect pedestrians and yield to them in crosswalks and on sidewalks



Your bike should also be equipped for safety. This means adding safety features such as:

- A rearview mirror
- A bell or horn
- A headlight and taillight or comparable reflectors

Use hand signs – always signal turns and stops:

- Left turn: Left arm held straight out
- Right turn: left are turned up or right arm held straight out
- Slow or stop: Left are bent downward

Don't forget to check street signs – their size, shape and color give important information to everyone on the road.

Always wear a helmet

- Meets current Federal Safety Standards
- Has plenty of ventilation holes
- Fits securely

Dress for Safety

- Make yourself visible, wear bright colors during the day
- Avoid night ride, but if you must, wear reflective tape and white or light colored clothes
- Use leg clips or bands on pants (avoid loose clothing, which can catch in gears and chains)
- Wear gloves



## 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

### 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)

### Municipal Court

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

### Mexico Animal Shelter

- 101 S. Morris • (573) 581-0779

### City Website

- www.mexicomissouri.net

### City Council Members

2017 – 2018

Chris Miller, Mayor

Chris Williams, Chairman Pro Tem

Ron Loesch, Council Member

Steve Nichols, Council Member

Dr. Ayanna Shivers, Council Member

### 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 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 29, 2017
- Tuesday, July 4, 2017
- Monday, September 4, 2017
- Friday, November 11, 2017
- Thursday and Friday  
November 23 & 24, 2017
- Monday, December 25, 2017

### Smoke Alarms

- Three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms.
- More than one-third (37%) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present.
- The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms.



Mexico DPS has smoke alarms available to those who need them. DPS will install them for seniors and disabled. Please call (573) 581-2100 and schedule an appointment.