City of Joplin Phone Directory

Emergency – Police/Fire 911

Airport 623-0262
Animal Control 623-6122
Athletic Complex (Leagues, Activities, Programs) 625-4750
Cemeteries 623-7990
Convention & Visitors Bureau 625-4789
Emergency Management 623-5858
Fire Dept. (non-emergency) 623-0403
Health Dept. 623-6122
Library 623-7953
MAPS (Metro Area Public Transit System) 626-8607
Memorial Hall 625-4750
Parks (Programs, Shelters, Leagues) 625-4750
Parks (Maintenance) 627-8879
Police Dept. (non-emergency) 623-3131
Recreation Programs 625-4785
Schifferdecker Golf Course 624-3533
Sunshine Lamp Trolley 626-8609
Trash Service—Residential 1-800-431-1507
WIC (Women, Infant & Children Supplemental Food Program) 623-1928

Main Number 417-624-0820

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Building Codes/Inspections 521
City Clerk 220
City Manager 201
Community Development 542
Engineering 530
Finance 241
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The Joplin Citizen is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Joplin for all city residents to receive by mail. Please send questions or comments to Lynn Iliff Onstot, Public Information Officer, City of Joplin, 602 South Main Street, Joplin, MO 64801, or you may send an email to lonstot@joplinmo.org.

Trail System continues growth with Mohaska and St. John’s Trails

Mohaska Trail Opening: 4 p.m. Friday November 1
Parking available in Mercy Park lot

Join an active group in Joplin celebrating the newest trail at a Ribbon Cutting and Trail Walk on Friday, November 1 as Mohaska Trail is officially opened.

Connectivity continues to build as City of Joplin opens the two newest trails near two popular parks in southwest Missouri. Mohaska Trail will be officially opened at 4 p.m. on Friday, November 1 and everyone is invited. Trail enthusiasts have planned a ribbon cutting and a community trail walk that afternoon for this fun family event.

Mohaska Trail begins near Mercy Park and winds through neighborhoods to the east before connecting with 26th (Gabby Street) and Main where citizens can access both the Midtown and Southtown mixed use districts and safely cross and continue toward Garvin Park at 28th and Virginia Avenue.

“Mohaska and St. John’s Trails are the most recent addition to Joplin’s trail system,” said Troy Bolander, Director of Planning, Community Development and Neighborhood Services. “The City has a comprehensive trail plan, and through its partnership with JATSO, the vision is to connect southwest Missouri through a series of trails so residents can easily commute by foot or bicycle throughout Joplin and to surrounding cities such as Carl Junction, Webb City and even Carthage.”

Members of Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization (JATSO) updated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan in 2018 after talking with numerous stakeholders and hosting several public meetings. Many citizens participated, offering input and comments to current and future needs for non-motorized transportation options in the area.

It can be found at www.joplinmo.org/bikepedplan.

Funding for the Mohaska Trail was through the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program awarded by HUD following the 2011 disaster. Providing transportation options within a community is a viable project offering various off-road facilities with the traditional on-road options for citizens of all ages. JATSO ensures that projects, such as trails, focus on the region’s core initiatives of safety and connectivity within the overall plan.
Local libraries invite you to community programs

Mark your calendar for upcoming programs offered through the collaboration of Post Art Library and Joplin Public Library. They are located at 1901 East 20th Street.

Joplin Writers’ Faire
Saturday, October 26, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Come one, come all to the 2019 Joplin Writers’ Faire, an annual, collaborative library event that connects writers with current and potentially new audiences. During this event, residents will meet and visit with a number of local and regional writers to learn more about them and their genre. Enjoy opportunities to talk with representatives from writers’ groups and writing-related organizations as well as attend public readings during the gathering and be sure to enter a drawing for door prizes.
This is a FREE, all-ages event. Registration is not necessary to attend the event. For more information, call event organizers Jill Sullivan or Evan Martin at 417-623-7953 or contact them at; jhsullivan@postartlibrary.org or emartin@joplinpubliclibrary.org.
Joplin Writers’ Faire is a collaboration between Joplin Public Library and Post Art Library.

Film Night at the Library
Thursday, November 7, 6 p.m.
Join Post Art Library in Joplin Public Library’s Community Room West for a screening of The Last Man on Earth starring Vincent Price.

Victoria Price Author Visit
Monday, November 18, 6 p.m.
Victoria Price, Vincent Price’s daughter, is visiting the library! Her presentation, Vincent Price: Master of Menace: Lover of Life, features intimate family photos and insights into Vincent Price’s career as an actor, art historian, public speaker and philanthropist. Price’s daughter and biographer explores the life and life-affirming philosophy of the actor and father and public figure who remains cinema’s beloved King of Horror.
A book signing will follow the presentation being held in the Community Room inside Joplin Public Library.

Get your permit before burning yard debris
Burn permits available at City Hall and Fire Departments
Out raking leaves and want to burn these along yard debris? Before you light the match, remember – citizens need obtain a Burn Permit in order to burn yard waste. These are available from any of the Fire Stations in the City or at the City’s Finance Department at City Hall. The permit costs $10 and is good for three consecutive days.
The Permits are available at the Fire Stations from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven day per week. Please note there may be times when firefighters are not at the station to issue permits, due to their job. Fire Stations will only be able to accept payment by check or money order.
The Finance Department, located on the third floor of City Hall, 602 South Main, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The City Hall location will accept cash, check, debit card, money order, or credit card payments.
No matter where the Permit is obtained, residents must still inquire with the Joplin Fire Department about weather conditions and if burning is allowed on each day. Residents can obtain this information by calling the Joplin Fire Department at 417-623-0403.
Prop B is a ½-cent general sales tax dedicated to funding retirement plan changes to help improve recruitment and retention of Joplin Police Officers and Firefighters because experience matters in emergency situations. This sales tax will be in effect no longer than 12 years.

Proceeds from Prop B can only be used to:

- Provide necessary funding to close the City’s underfunded police and fire employees’ pension plan;
  The current self-administered, self-funded pension plan will be closed to new hires, moving to a state-authorized retirement plan, Missouri LAGERS (Local Government Employees Retirement System);

- Transition current eligible police officers and firefighters, and newly hired police officers and firefighters to a more cost-effective retirement plan (LAGERS).

To recruit strong candidates and retain experienced workers, the City needs to ensure that its benefits are secure and competitive with other cities and agencies. Police officers and firefighters do not pay into Social Security or receive Social Security benefits from their employment with the City, so the retirement plan is an important part of their compensation.

Everyone who lives, works or visits Joplin benefits from improved police officer and firefighter recruitment and retention because experience matters when police officers and firefighters arrive at emergencies.

Members of the Police and Fire Pension Plan voted 98% in support of the proposal to close the City’s pension plan and transition to the state-authorized plan.

Impact on purchases...
On purchases of $10 at any Joplin store, 5-cents in sales tax will be added to fund this initiative to help the City recruit and retain experienced and well-trained police officers and firefighters.

Over 20-years, this plan is projected to save the taxpayers an estimated $28 million.

Paid for by:
City of Joplin ~ Dan Pekarek, Interim City Manager
602 South Main Street ~ Joplin, Missouri 64801
Recycling Center offers Community Shred Event on November 16 in Celebration of America Recycles Day

Start cleaning out your files! The Joplin Recycling Department’s FREE residential document destruction event is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 16. If you have personal papers no longer needed, but fear identity theft if you trash them, bring your papers to the mobile shredding truck at the Joplin Recycling Center, 1310 West A Street.

All paper shredding will be performed on site by Midwest Fibre Sales Shredding Division. Large amounts of paper can be shredded quickly and witnessed via an interior camera. Volunteers will be available to help unload boxes.

Funded in part by Region M Waste Management District and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the event is open to every resident in the Joplin metropolitan area. Please no commercial or business documents.

Midwest Fibre Sales is a secure service provider and is fully compliant with industry standards and regulations. All paper will be shredded, mixed with other recycled paper, pulped, then used in the manufacture of new products.

For additional information, contact the Recycling Coordinator at 417-624-0820 ext.1-501.

Get involved with your community by joining a Board or Commission

Interested in helping your community? Join a City Board or Commission to get involved in an area of interest. The City has over 25 organizations in which citizens may serve. Each Board represents a specific area of City government, and citizens may designate which board(s) they are applying to offer their service. These groups serve in diverse roles, including assessing needs; review of plans and policies; making recommendations to City departments and providing guidance on projects and programs. Applicants must be a registered voter of the State of Missouri.

Currently, the City Council is seeking applicants to fill the following board openings:

**ADA:** (1 opening) To advise the City of Joplin on compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

**AIRPORT:** (2 openings) Acts in advisory capacity regarding operations; makes budget recommendations to the City Council; assists in planning of airport programs.

**BUILDING BD. OF APPEALS:** (2 openings) Considers variances to the Building Code pertaining to specific construction practices and conducts “finding of fact” hearings as required under the Dangerous Building Ordinance relating to condemnation of dangerous structures.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION:** (3 openings) To provide a vehicle for the preservation of historical buildings and sites within the City; to provide technical assistance to citizens restoring historic or architecturally significant structures, and to render decisions regarding the renovation, rehabilitation or demolition of designate structures.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY:** (2 openings) Administration of 275 dwelling units owned by the Housing Authority and the provisions of 532 vouchers for rental subsidies to privately owned properties

**JOPLIN RE-DEVELOPMENT CORP.:** (1 opening) Its goal is to reduce blight and promote economic redevelopment.

**JOPLIN SPORTS AUTHORITY:** (2 openings) Promotes economic development through recreational sports events.

**LIBRARY:** (1 opening) Its goals are to appoint a director, control expenditures of library funds, supervise care and custody of library, and determine rules and policies of library.

**TAX INCREMENT FINANCING COMMISSION:** (2 openings): To review applications for Tax Increment Financing projects

**TRAFFIC:** (1 opening) Makes recommendations to the City Council regarding traffic matters, such as speed limits, placement of traffic signals, parking or removal of parking along city streets, traffic flow on city streets, and placement of stop signs.

Joplin citizens are eligible to submit applications to serve anytime during the year. Citizens must be a qualified voter in the City or the state of Missouri. Some boards may have specific requirements for its members. The City Council makes appointments to these organizations annually or on an “as needed” basis.

Those interested serving on City Boards and Commissions may apply through the City’s website or by email at bgollhof@joplinmo.org. For more information, contact the City Clerk’s office at 417-624-0820, ext. 220 or 221.

A full listing of the boards and commissions is available on the City’s website, www.joplinmo.org.
Fire Chief Jim Furgerson was honored to accept a donation from CFI, Inc. recently with the funds dedicated to purchasing a rescue boat for use in their swift water rescue program.

Mary Anne Phillips, Recycling Coordinator, received the Recycle Award given by the Missouri Recycling Association. She was noted for managing Joplin’s recycling program for more than 20 years and accepting the widest variety of items in the area which demonstrates her passion as a “Green Warrior” in our community. She coordinates several annual programs and services for citizens, including Tree Limb Drop Off, Community Paper Shred and Tire Drop-off opportunities.

Joplin’s WIC Program was recently recognized by U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) with the Loving Support Awards of Excellence, a prestigious award established to recognize local agencies that have provided exemplary breastfeeding promotion and support activities.

Joplin WIC received the Gold Premiere honor, noting that the program meets all of the required core components of the FNS Loving Support Model for a successful peer counseling program. It also includes additional evidence-based best practices and showed increases in the percent of exclusively breastfed infants over the past year.

Joplin WIC Division of the City Health Department has 13 staff members. Clinics are held in both Joplin and Carthage, with a monthly caseload of 2886.

Many mothers find success in breastfeeding through education and support from breastfeeding peer counselors and lactation consultants, and providing these resources to mothers is a crucial part of Missouri’s Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

Kudos, Congrats, &

E-cigarette products under review by health agencies

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), state and local health departments, and other clinical and public health partners are investigating a multistate outbreak of severe pulmonary disease associated with e-cigarette product (devices, liquids, refill pods, and/or cartridges) use. This investigation is ongoing and has not identified a cause, but all reported cases have a history of using e-cigarette products.

E-cigarettes are devices that deliver an aerosol to the user by heating a liquid that usually contains nicotine, flavorings, and other chemicals. E-cigarettes can also be used to deliver marijuana or other substances.

E-cigarettes can contain harmful or potentially harmful ingredients, including nicotine, heavy metals (e.g., lead), volatile organic compounds, and cancer-causing chemicals. Additionally, some e-cigarette products are used to deliver illicit substances; may be acquired from unknown or unauthorized (i.e., “street”) sources; and may be modified for uses that could increase their potential for harm to the user.

Youth, young adults, pregnant women, as well as adults who do not currently use tobacco products should not use e-cigarettes, regardless of the ongoing investigation.

Cases of lung illness associated with the use of e-cigarette products report similar symptoms and clinical findings including:

- Cough, shortness of breath, or chest pain
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Fatigue, fever, or weight loss
- Elevated heart rate

Some patients reported their symptoms developed over a few days, while others said their symptoms developed over several weeks. A pulmonary infection does not appear to be causing the symptoms, which have generally not improved with antibiotic treatment alone.

The investigation has not identified any specific substance or e-cigarette product that is linked to all cases. Many patients report using e-cigarette products with liquids that contain cannabinoid products, such as tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

While investigation continues, consider refraining from using e-cigarette products. If using e-cigarette products and you experience symptoms noted above, seek medical care promptly. E-cigarette products should not be bought off the street (such as e-cigarette products with THC or other cannabinoids). You should not modify e-cigarette products or add any substances to these products that are not intended by the manufacturer.

If you need help quitting tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, call Missouri Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)

Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, www.health.mo.gov
Santa Train coming to Joplin on December 15

The Kansas City Southern’s Holiday Express train is coming to Joplin on Sunday, December 15. The six-car train will bring Santa Claus for a visit with kids, and will pull into the Joplin Union Depot, 201 North Main Street, at 4 p.m. They will open to the public shortly after their arrival, and remain open until 8:30 p.m. To access the Union Depot, the public should enter from “B” and North Main Street.

The Holiday Express is complete with cheerful displays, lights and music. Children can climb aboard the train, visit with Santa and receive a bag of seasonal goodies. This event is free and open to the public.

Spiva Park Lighting & Downtown Celebration set for November 25

Everyone is invited to Main Street for the Downtown Lighting Celebration on Monday, November 25. This year, there are numerous activities planned with Main Street closed from 2nd Street to 7th Street for people to enjoy a fun evening with their friends and family.

Festivities begin at 5 p.m., with Parks and Recreation staff hosting crafts for the kids at Spiva Park, 4th and Main Street. Enjoy holiday music, cookies and cocoa, while waiting for Santa’s arrival at 5:30. Take a picture with Santa or strike a pose at a festive photo spot.

Gather near Spiva Park for the official lighting at 6 p.m. A wonderful light show set to music will illuminate the park and spread holiday cheer. Other activities continue the evening’s fun as you stroll along Main Street, with progressive holiday festivities taking place from 4th to 7th Street. At 6:30 p.m. a holiday-themed movie will be shown on Main Street near City Hall at 6th Street.

A holiday window decorating contest, hosted by Downtown Joplin Alliance (DJA), also kicks off that evening, so be sure to pick up a map and ballot for the Holiday Window Display Contest between participating downtown merchants. These will be available at Spiva Park. These also serve as a “passport” and can be stamped by downtown restaurants and shops you visit. Some of these will be open late that evening for shopping and dining during this holiday event. After your passport is completed, it can be turned in for a prize, offered through DJA.

Enjoy progressive holiday festivities as you stroll down Main Street and view the windows to note your favorites for the contest. Ballots and passports can be turned in at the main lobby of Joplin City Hall, also a participant in the contest this year. City Hall will be open 6:30 8:30 p.m.

Children and adults are encouraged to pause for some holiday coloring, list making and cocoa and cookies as you drop off your items, and then head out to the movie on Main Street. This holiday evening celebration will conclude at approximately 8:30 p.m.

For more information, www.visitjoplinmo.com or call the Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau at 417-625-4789.

Note: window ballots will be accepted until December 13 and can be turned in at Joplin CVB at City Hall. Online voting also available.

Christmas Parade will feature ‘Through the Decades’ theme

Come downtown to enjoy the Annual Christmas Parade on Tuesday, December 3. Starting at 6 p.m. the parade follows Main Street, beginning at 15th Street and ending at 3rd Street. This year’s theme is “Christmas Through the Decades”.

The link to register is https://joplinchristmasparade2019.eventbrite.com and any questions can be emailed to joplinchristmasparade@freemanhealth.com. For more information about placing an entry in the parade, contact Freeman Health Systems, coordinator of the event, at 417-347-3962.

CLEAN UP AND RECYCLING REMINDERS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Document Destruction Day on November 16 (see page 4 for more info)
- Recycling Center Holiday Closings:
  - Thanksgiving Weekend: November 28 & 29
  - Christmas: December 25
  - New Year’s Day: January 1
Step back in time for a glimpse into turn-of-the-century Joplin with a Holiday Homes Tour of nine private historic homes. Decorated homes are in Historic Murphysburg District on South Sergeant Ave.; North Heights Neighborhood southwest of Columbia Elementary; and the heart of downtown.

The tour begins at Unity of Joplin, 204 N. Jackson Avenue. Purchase your ticket or exchange your pre-purchased ticket for the commemorative booklet that includes addresses of homes and a map. The doors at Unity open at 12:30 pm. Formally the Woman’s Club, this building is a local historic landmark also available to tour that day.

The event is presented by Historic Murphysburg Preservation, Inc., a non-profit organization that implements charitable and educational activities, which promotes and stimulates historic awareness throughout Joplin.

This is another great event funded in part by the Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Home for the Holidays . . . in Joplin Saturday, December 14, 1 to 6 p.m.

Enjoy Fall and Holiday Events offered through Parks and Rec

Kick off the fall and then head into the holidays by attending the fun activities planned by Joplin Parks and Recreation. For more information about any of these postings or to register, call Joplin Parks & Recreation at 417-625-4750 or visit www.joplinparks.org.

Adult Futsal & Volleyball Leagues Start in November

Registration is now open for the Joplin Parks and Recreation adult recreational sport leagues. Anyone can form a team from work, church, social group, or neighborhood.

Current league offerings are volleyball and futsal. Leagues are filled on a first-come first-served basis. Adult volleyball will play Tuesday evenings, beginning October 22, and futsal will play on Sunday afternoons, starting October 27. Adult volleyball costs $240/team and futsal costs $310/team. All games are played at Memorial Hall located at 212 W. 8th Street.

Win a Thanksgiving Turkey at the Annual Shootout

Children enrolled in kindergarten through 8th grade are welcome to test their basketball skills at the annual Turkey Shootout at Memorial Hall. During this free throw contest, children compete to win a turkey and gift cards from the event sponsor, Academy Sports and Outdoors.

Set for 6:30 p.m. on November 15, registration is free but required by November 14.

Letters From Santa Campaign Begins November 15th

Hey kids, let Santa Claus know how good you’ve been this year! Write a letter to Santa and drop it in Santa’s Mailbox at the Joplin Parks & Recreation Department or at Academy Sports & Outdoors and we’ll deliver it to the North Pole, Polar Express style!

Santa’s Mailbox will be available November 15 to December 9. Santa will write to each child who writes him a letter, provided all letters are in by Monday, December 9!

Please be sure the child includes their full name, wish list, and a RETURN ADDRESS so the Jolly Old Gent can write them back!

Please address letters to:
Santa’s Workshop
9 Reindeer Road
North Pole

More info: 417-483-3116 or murphysburg@gmail.com
Advance tickets are not available at Unity Tour headquarters.

21st Annual Breakfast with Santa

Santa is making a special stop at Memorial Hall to have breakfast with all of the good little girls and boys! Join us from 8 to 10 a.m., Saturday, December 7 to enjoy pancakes, sausage, and biscuits and gravy breakfast with Santa Claus himself! After breakfast, children will have a chance to tell Santa what is on their wish list!

Cost is $6/person and open to all ages; 2 and under are free. Please register by December 4.

Candy Cane Hunt

The Annual Candy Cane Hunt is at 6 p.m. on December 13. This year’s hunt will be held at the Joplin Senior Center, 2616 S. Picher.

Santa’s helpers will spread candy canes around Mercy Park for the children to find, and following the hunt, children can participate in a craft activity while enjoying hot chocolate.

Recommended ages for the hunt is 3 to 10 years old, with the cost $6/child. Pre-registration is required by December 5.
Community Alert - New pedestrian signal on West 26th installed

Citizens may notice a new HAWK in southwest Joplin - although they shouldn’t look up in the sky to see it. This one is the new HAWK signal that allows pedestrians to safely cross 26th Street between Cunningham Park and Mercy Park.

A HAWK or High-Intensity Activated CrossWalk signal is a federally approved signal that provides a safe and effective crossing for pedestrians in busy roadways. Located near Annie Baxter Avenue, drivers should use caution when approaching the area and watch for the possibility of a traffic stop.

The signal is only in operation when it is activated by a pedestrian pressing the crosswalk button which maximizes the flow of traffic while also ensuring the safety of pedestrians as they decide to cross.

Upon activation, a HAWK signal will go through a six step process shown below.

Signal Off - Cars Proceed with Caution through Crossing, Pedestrian Presses Pushbutton
Flashing Yellow - Cars Start to Slow Down
Solid Yellow - Cars Prepare to Stop
Solid Red - Cars Stop, Pedestrians Start Crossing
Flashing Red - Cars Stop, then Proceed with Caution if Clear, Pedestrians Finish Crossing
Signal Off - Cars Proceed With Caution if Clear

If not you - then who?
Pass it along...

The Joplin Police Department serves the fourth largest metropolitan area in Missouri, and is the retail, manufacturing and medical hub for a surrounding area encompassing parts of four states. With a population of 50,000 residents, the daytime population of the city expands to approximately 250,000. Joplin is consistently rated as one of the lowest costs of living areas in the United States.

We are currently looking for qualified individuals looking to make a difference in the community. We offer a competitive benefits packet including paying for qualified individuals to attend a police academy, tuition reimbursement, and a multitude of policing positions within our agency. Please visit: http://www.joplinmo.org/464/Employment or contact the Joplin Police Department at 417-623-3131 for more information.