



Carbondale Communiqué

March - April, 2006

City of Carbondale

www.ci.carbondale.il.us

Haven't You Heard...

Carbondale to Implement City-Wide Community Clean-Up Program

Mayor Brad Cole proposed in his November 8, 2005 State of the City Address a program to clean-up residential neighborhoods in Carbondale. During the January 17, 2006 meeting, the City Council approved the City-Wide Community Clean-Up Program. The program is being designed to remove junk items and materials from yards as well as remove brush and clean fence rows. In addition, the program will create summer jobs for the youth in the Carbondale community.

A community clean-up program on this scale requires proper planning and preparation before the actual clean-up work begins. The City has begun the planning and preparation for the summer program and in the coming months will be identifying the properties to be cleaned, executing agreements with the property owners, and hiring the workers.

The Community Clean-Up Program is planned to be organized as follows: twenty (20) clean-up crews consisting of five (5) persons with one person being the lead worker; two (2) area foremen responsible for

ten (10) crews; and one (1) Program Administrator. All of these positions will be temporary, with the workers and foremen working approximately ten (10) weeks in the summer while the Program Administrator will work approximately six (6) months. The Program Administrator will report to the Maintenance and Environmental Services Manager.

The identification of the properties for the Community Clean-Up Program will be a function of the Building and Neighborhood Services Division. Once properties are identified, property owners will be required to sign agreements containing the scope of work to be performed and waivers of liability. Work crews will be assigned to properties for the clean-up activity. An existing Public Works Maintenance crew will operate the dump trucks, end loader and refuse truck needed to dispose of the materials.

For more information about the Community Clean-Up Program contact the Building and Neighborhood Services Division at 457-3237.



Join us for the Earth Day Ceremony and Sculpture Dedication at Friendship Plaza on April 21, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.

Council Approves Lease to African American Museum of Southern Illinois

The Carbondale City Council approved unanimously the lease of the former Attucks School property to the African American Museum of Southern Illinois. The museum has been located in the University Mall for nearly five years. Although dates have yet to be set, volunteers hope to have the museum up and running at the new site within three years.

Located on one of Carbondale's busiest roadways, this building which was once a symbol of segregation is now becoming a community project which will save the historic site to be of use for the benefit of future generations. The City is leasing the building to the African American Museum of Southern Illinois for \$1 a year. Space within the building will also be made available to the Carbondale Convention and Tourism Bureau and the City of Carbondale, for displays and distribution of other community information.

"This brings the building full-circle for

the community", said Mayor Cole. "From its beginning as a segregated school to its future place as a center-piece for the entire region as a permanent museum celebrating the African-American contributions to Southern Illinois, this is terrific".

"We have been working on saving this historic property for a long time, and I am ecstatic about finally reaching this point with the property owner and the African-American Museum of Southern Illinois", said Cole. "This is a great example of collaboration between the private and public sectors".

The building was purchased at its appraised value of \$151,000 as approved by the Carbondale City Council at its June 21, 2005 meeting.

For more information about activities sponsored by the African American Museum of Southern Illinois, contact Mrs. Donna Haynes, President of the museum Board of Directors at 457-2217.

From the Mayor's Desk



Mayor Brad Cole

One of the questions I am frequently asked as Mayor is, "why don't we have XYZ Store?"

Of course there is no real XYZ Store, or at least I don't think so, but the point I am making is that people often ask why Carbondale doesn't have a particular brand store, or when we will get one. The question is both legitimate and appreciated, but the answer is usually complicated and misunderstood.

The question brings with it some excitement about the future of our community. When will we get an Abercrombie & Fitch, for the young people? Why don't we have a Brooks Brothers, for the adult males? Why can't we have a Nordstrom, for the ladies? Shouldn't we have a "whatever?" The fact that people are asking shows that they believe in the community and want to stay here, with opportunities to shop and have a taste of the bigger cities right here at home.

The same is true for restaurants that many people favor when traveling in metropolitan areas.

Unfortunately, the process of enticing a national restaurant or new retail development like those mentioned, or any others of significance, usually only comes after months (if not years) of work and due diligence on the part of the property developer, the retail corporation, the city government, and many others. It just isn't as simple as "going and getting" a new multi-million dollar investment.

As Carbondale grows and maintains its position as the retail center for the region, we will naturally attract more developments that someone might see in St. Louis or Chicago or Memphis. And as a city government we will do so with as much planning and foresight as is possible. One of the worst things that could happen is to develop a new store and then have it fail because the proper market studies weren't performed or there wasn't adequate assessment of the needs of all involved parties. Having the necessary incentive tools available is also important and we are sometimes unable to compete with neighboring cities or states when trying to attract a new retail development, simply because the playing field is not level and all sides aren't playing by or within the same rules.

But keep an eye out for many good things to come to Carbondale. Take note the next time we announce a new investment, whether it has a local connection or is a national brand name, and realize that it probably took months or years to see the idea materialize from concept to completion. And please keep asking the questions, it helps us stay in touch with the market's direction and where we should be planning.

Brad Cole, Mayor

Primary Election March 21, 2006

There will be Primary Elections throughout the State of Illinois on Tuesday, March 21, 2006. In Carbondale, offices listed on the ballot include: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Representative in Congress - 12th District, State Central Committeewoman 12th District (Democrat only), State Central Committeeman 12th District (Democrat only), State Senator 58th District, Representative of General Assembly 115th District, Jackson County Clerk and Recorder, Jackson County Treasurer, Jackson County Sheriff, Regional Superintendent of Schools (Jackson and Perry Counties), Members of the County Board, Precinct Committeeman, 5th Judicial District (to fill the vacancy of Hon. Gordon E. Magg), and 1st Judicial District (to fill the vacancy of Hon. Paul S. Murphy).

The propositions included in this election are:

- Jackson County Public Safety Tax
- Giant City Community Consolidated

School District #130:

Proposition to increase maximum annual educational tax rate.
Proposition to issue \$1,800,000 school building bonds.

Voter Registration in the City Clerks' Office closed on February 21. However, due to a change in Illinois voting laws, early voting will be available in the County Clerk's Office in Murphysboro from Wednesday, February 22, through Thursday, March 16. Persons may register to vote and take part in early voting during this period. Persons who wish to register to vote but who do not want to take part in early voting must wait until Thursday, March 23, to register. Absentee voting will also take place in the County Clerk's Office through Monday, March 20, 2006.

On election day polling locations will be open from 6:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. If you do not know your precinct number, call the City of Carbondale at 549-5302 or the Jackson County Clerk's Office at 687-7366.

Carbondale Polling Places

Precinct	Polling Place
1	Carbondale Community High School, 1301 E. Walnut Street
2	Carbondale Middle School, 1150 E. Grand Avenue
3	Senior Citizens High Rise, 300 S. Marion Street
4	Housing Community Center, 207 N. Marion Street
5	Eurma C. Hayes Center, 441 E. Willow Street
6	Senior Adult Services, 409 N. Springer Street
8	Church of Christ, 1805 W. Sycamore Street
9	Carbondale Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue
11	Carbondale Towers, 810 W. Mill Street
12	Church of the Good Shepherd, 515 Orchard Drive
13 & 14	Epiphany Lutheran Church, 1501 Chautauqua Road
15	Parrish School, 121 N. Parrish Lane
16	Grace United Methodist Church, 220 N. Tower Road
17	Dunn-Richmond Economic Dev. Center, 150 E. Pleasant Hill Road
18	Carbondale Community High School, 1301 East Walnut Street
19 & 20	Lakeland Baptist Church, 719 S. Giant City Road
21	University Hall, 1101 S. Wall Street
22 & 23	Grinnell Hall, SIU Campus
24	Evergreen Terrace, Activity Room, 150 Evergreen Terrace
25	Lentz Hall, Thompson Point, SIU Campus
26	Carbondale Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue
27	Southern Illinois Airport, 665 N. Airport Road
28	Senior Citizens High Rise, 1425 Old West Main Street
29	Carbondale Middle School, 1150 E. Grand Avenue

Neighborhood Groups Work to Promote Community Relations



Community members gather for a Neighborhood Alliance Meeting to encourage networking within and among Carbondale's neighborhoods.

The recent Neighborhood Alliance Meeting was considered a great success by all who attended. The event was sponsored by the Housing and Neighborhood Action Groups, citizens working together to strengthen Carbondale neighborhoods. The goal of the day was to encourage networking within and among neighborhoods. More than fifty people signed in and got acquainted with neighbors, both old and new.

Community members gave reports on their neighborhoods and discussed issues of city-wide concern. In a written survey, attendees described what they like about their neighborhoods, what

they would like to change, and ideas for making changes. Officials from City government were on hand to answer questions.

Reports highlighted recent efforts and progress made in bringing neighborhoods together around issues of concern to their residents. Issues discussed included efforts in the Oaklawn and Morningside Street neighborhoods to keep neighbors informed, recent efforts by Tatum Heights residents to determine the feasibility of a stop light at Walnut Street and Cedarview Street, and an update on the significant accomplishments being made in the Arbor District. Other reports raise awareness of

current programs and pending issues, which included a report by the recently formed Northwest Committee to Save Hickory Lodge Park.

Saving Carbondale's historic homes and neighborhoods is a current topic of the Housing and Neighborhood Action Group, which meets the first Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. For more information or to become involved in a Carbondale neighborhood group, contact the Study Circles Office at 549-5302 x 386 or e-mail studycircles@ci.carbondale.il.us.

Incentivos disponibles para construcción de nuevas residencias

Carbondale es una comunidad bonita, dinámica y creciente y queremos que usted la convierta en su hogar. En meses recientes la Ciudad de Carbondale ha dado pasos significativos para estimular el crecimiento a través de la eliminación de impuestos de propiedad, construcción y expansión de instalaciones escolares, y ahora la Ciudad ha dado pasos agresivos para reducir el costo del desarrollo de una nueva subdivisión en la Ciudad y está suministrando incentivos para la construcción de casas nuevas a través del Programa de Vivienda Propia de la Ciudad de Carbondale.

El Programa de Vivienda Propia suministra incentivos financieros para el desarrollo de nuevas subdivisiones y para la construcción de nuevas estructuras residenciales en lotes existentes dentro de o adyacentes a los límites de la Ciudad. El programa consta de dos componentes:

- Subvención para el Mejoramiento de Infraestructura - Designada a ofrecer incentivos para desarrollar nuevas subdivisiones en la Ciudad para la construcción de unidades habitacionales para ser ocupadas por sus propietarios.

- Subvención para la Construcción de Casas Nuevas - Destinada a la construcción de casas nuevas en subdivisiones existentes y en propiedades de relleno en la Ciudad al ofrecer incentivos a constructores y a futuros dueños de viviendas.

La Ciudad de Carbondale ha establecido el Programa de Mejoramiento de Infraestructura para suministrar incentivos financieros a urbanizadores que vayan a construir nuevas subdivisiones y nuevas estructuras residenciales unifamiliares. Estas nuevas casas pueden ser construidas en cualquiera de las nuevas subdivisiones o en las subdivisiones existentes y en los lotes de relleno en cualquier parte de la Ciudad.

La Subvención para el Mejoramiento de Infraestructura ofrece a los urbanizadores de nuevas subdivisiones \$5,000 por lote mejorado. Para efectos de la subvención, un lote mejorado debe consistir de una estructura residencial de hasta cuatro unidades

de vivienda dependiendo de la clasificación de zonas del terreno. Además, cualquier permiso de construcción o los cargos del certificado de zona que la Ciudad de Carbondale cobra se eximen, una vez que una estructura residencial nueva se construya en los lotes. Los cargos de agua y alcantarillado también se eximen bajo esta subvención.

Hay expectativas razonables para que en un plazo de tres años se logre la meta de construir 200 viviendas nuevas en Carbondale. La inversión de la Ciudad en este nuevo Programa de Vivienda Propia será de más de \$1 millón, creando el programa de construcción de viviendas de más empuje de la región.

También existen lotes ya desarrollados a lo largo y ancho de la comunidad que están disponibles para la construcción de casas nuevas y estamos animando a los residentes de Carbondale y de las áreas circundantes a que construyan casas nuevas en estos lotes como también en las nuevas subdivisiones.

La Subvención para la Construcción de Nuevas Casas ofrece a los constructores un pago de \$3,500 al completar la construcción de una estructura residencial nueva. Todos los cargos por construcción y certificado de zona, así como también los cargos por el agua de la Ciudad y el alcantarillado se eximen bajo esta subvención.

La construcción de nuevas casas es una prioridad en todas las áreas residenciales de la comunidad. Estos incentivos se ofrecen por la Ciudad como un medio de acelerar rápidamente el desarrollo para satisfacer las demandas del mercado. Aunque las tasas de interés de las hipotecas han estado subiendo ligeramente en las semanas recientes, todavía nos encontramos en el mercado más ventajoso para la compra de casas que se haya visto en los últimos 40 años. Unase a nuestra comunidad y realice su mudanza a Carbondale.

Para más información sobre el Programa de Vivienda Propia, póngase en contacto con Beth Ponce, Director de Servicios de Desarrollo de la Ciudad de Carbondale, al 457-3235.

Housing Rehabilitation and Homebuyer Assistance Funds Available

The City of Carbondale has received approval from the Illinois Housing Development Authority for federal HOME program funds. The most recent grant will assist lower-income persons with the cost of rehabilitating their owner-occupied homes.

The Single Family Owner Occupied Rehabilitation (SFOOR) program assists lower-income owner-occupants with the rehabilitation of homes in three parts of the City: Northeast Carbondale; Tatum Heights; and the part of Northwest Carbondale east of Little Crab Orchard Creek and south of the former rail line to Murphysboro. The assistance is in the form of a forgivable loan at zero percent interest. Based on the amount of assistance provided, if the person owns and occupies the home between five and ten years, the loan will be completely forgiven. If the home is sold or vacated sooner, the amount to be paid back will be pro-rated based on the length of time the home was owned and occupied.

Eligibility for the SFOOR program is limited to persons who

live in and occupy their home in one of the target areas and who have low- and very low-incomes. Income limits set by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for participation are based on the number of persons in the household. Currently, the income limits are: 1 person-\$27,650; 2 persons-\$31,600; 3 persons-\$35,800; 4 persons-\$39,500; 5 persons-\$42,700; 6 persons-\$45,850; 7 persons-\$49,000; and 8 persons-\$52,150. These income limits may increase slightly in the near future.

Persons who are interested in the housing rehabilitation program should contact Tracy Hays at 457-3237 or visit the Building and Neighborhood Services Office in Room 204 of the City Hall/Civic Center to be placed on a mailing list to receive application materials. Questions about the SFOOR program can be addressed to Marilyn James, Housing Programs Administrator at 457-3246. It is anticipated that applications will be taken beginning in April 2006. The SFOOR funding was approved for a two-year time. This means

that the only time applications will be taken for this program for the next two years is this year.

The City still has funds available from the HOME Program's Homebuyer Assistance Program. This program assists lower-income persons with the purchase and rehabilitation of a home located within Carbondale city limits. The City can provide funds toward the down payment and closing costs of the home. The maximum the City can assist with the purchase and rehabilitation of the home is \$40,000. The assistance provided is in the form of a forgivable loan as described above. The home purchaser must provide at least \$1,000 towards the purchase price, and qualify for and obtain financing from a participating lender. The same income limits apply to the Homebuyer Assistance Program as to the SFOOR program as listed above.

Persons interested in applying for the Homebuyer Assistance Program should contact the Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council at (618) 965-3193.

Wanted: Housing Rehabilitation Contractors

The City is seeking additional contractors to work in the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Contractors experienced in building and renovating homes are encouraged to contact the Building and Neighborhood Services

Division at 457-3237 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.

License Required to Conduct Raffles in the City

On September 6, 2005, the Carbondale City Council approved an ordinance amending and clarifying the City's gambling regulations. Under the City's revised gambling ordinance, raffles conducted in accordance with the Illinois Raffles Act are legally permitted.

The City's Raffle Ordinance is based on state law. If your organization conducts a raffle in Carbondale or an organization conducts a raffle at your place of

business, a raffle license must first be obtained from the City of Carbondale. The fee for a one-time raffle license is \$20.00 and the fee for an annual license which permits an unlimited number of raffles is \$200.00. There are no provisions in the ordinance for the fees to be waived.

The ordinance limits the amount of a raffle to \$100,000.00 and a single raffle ticket to a maximum of \$200.00. The raffle

manager is required to provide a fidelity bond in order to assure that the organization will be reimbursed in the event of loss or theft of raffle money and/or prizes.

To request a copy of the Raffle Application please contact the City Clerk's Office at 457-3280. The application and fee for a raffle license should be submitted to the City Clerk, City of Carbondale, 200 South Illinois Avenue, Post Office Box 2047, Carbondale, Illinois 62902.

Carbondale Bikeway Maps Available

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.

Each year the City of Carbondale recognizes the community service contributions of its youth. The City invites you to nominate a youth who has gone above and beyond expectations. The City is looking for youths who represent a healthy lifestyle, are committed to serving others, and who serve as a role model, making a difference through their actions, and 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 2, 2006, 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 March 31, 2006. To obtain a nomination form contact Deborah McCoy at 457-3227.

Haven't You Heard...

Downtown Facade Improvement Loan Funds Available

The City of Carbondale has funds available for businesses in the downtown district to improve and update the look of their store fronts. Improvements to existing facades and the facade portion of additions to existing buildings are defined as that portion of the building facing a public way. Improvements to the facade include structural and non-structural repairs and maintenance in keeping with the style of the original structure. Eligible facade improvements are installation of canopies and awnings, inclusion of energy efficient windows and doors, and reconstruction and refinishing of all surfaces and other related architectural appurtenances of the facade. The improvements as determined for this program are to be in keeping with the historical continuity of the area.

The City will fund up to 100% of the facade improvement at an interest rate set at 3 points below the prime rate with a maximum rate of 7% and a minimum rate of 3%. The interest rate shall be established on the date the loan agreement is signed and shall remain constant through the entire term of the loan which shall not exceed 10 years. The maximum amount of the City loan is based on \$40 per surface square foot of facade or \$20,000.00, whichever is less. The City Manager shall have the authority to approve a loan in excess of these amounts when there is a change in ownership or use of the building, when there are

special circumstances related to the number or size of the facade(s), or an increase improvement cost due to special materials or historic preservation. The City's loan cannot exceed the total facade improvement cost. Loans are secured by the City obtaining a mortgage on the property and a personal guarantee of repayment from the applicant. Loans will be granted on a first come, first served basis within the limits of available resources.

Interested applicants must submit a completed application with facade drawings, cost estimates and financial statements to the City of Carbondale Development Services Department for consideration. Improvements proposed are subject to existing City codes and ordinances and the responsibility for permits and approvals rests with the applicant. Applicants are encouraged to consult with the Preservation Commission for buildings that are listed on the Commission's inventory of historic properties.

For more information about the Downtown Facade Improvement Loan Program and to obtain an application, contact the Development Services Department at 457-3248 or stop by its office in City Hall at 200 S. Illinois Avenue. Property owners are also encouraged to contact Carbondale Main Street at 529-8040 for additional incentive programs for facade improvements.

Carbondale Action Groups Encourage Volunteers

Carbondale Conversations for Community Action now has four action groups working on issues related to Community and Police Working Together. The projects were selected at the Action Forum on November 5, 2005 and the groups are encouraging additional volunteers who are interested in attending a monthly meeting and contributing their ideas. The four action groups are Continuing the Dialogue, Education, Youth Involvement and Police Recognition.

Participants in the Continuing the Dialogue Action Group want to encourage discussions about community and Police relations by engaging people in dialogue on an individual level. This group identified as helpful and empowering the simple process of

speaking openly, being heard, and listening to others. Especially appreciated was the informality of the dialogue with Police and community members whom they might not otherwise meet. This group hopes that discussions will grow in popularity and involve more people.

Another group is working on Youth Involvement. As a first step, it wants to raise awareness about negative influences on youth and build a community-based effort to provide more supervised activities for youth.

The Education Action Group is preparing a public presentation to be scheduled in April 2006, starting with the topic of "What to do when stopped by the Police". Participants involved in the discussions are interested in

making citizens better informed in police protocol.

The Police Recognition Action Group is looking at ways to show appreciation to the Police for their work. This group is making plans for a recognition event to be scheduled in May 2006 in the Civic Center. Carbondale Conversations for Community Action is a volunteer program. Citizen participation is encouraged.

For information about these groups or to find out about upcoming meetings or events, contact the Study Circles Office at 549-5302 x 386 or e-mail studycircles@ci.carbondale.il.us.

Carbondale Conversations for Community Action is a program of the Carbondale Human Relations Commission.

Refuse and Recycling Collection Holiday Schedule

Following is a list of 2006 holidays which the City will observe:

Friday, April 14	Good Friday
Monday, May 29	Memorial Day
Tuesday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, September 4	Labor Day
Friday, November 10	Veterans Day
Thursday, November 23	Thanksgiving Day
*Friday, November 24	Day After Thanksgiving
Monday, December 25	Christmas Day

When a holiday occurs prior to the regular refuse and recycling collection day, collection will be occur one day later than normal.

*Refuse and recycling scheduled for Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Day) will be collected on Friday, November 24 even though this is a scheduled City holiday and City offices will be closed.

If you have any questions concerning this schedule, please feel free to call the Maintenance and Environmental Services office at 457-3275.

Seasonal Employment Opportunities Available With the City of Carbondale

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 positions are posted at City Hall, are available on the City's Web site at www.ci.carbondale.il.us under Job Opportunities and on CityVision 16 (Mediacom Channel 16). In addition, ads are also run in the Southern Illinois 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 457-3328.

Flood Protection Information

The Carbondale area has a number of creek systems which are susceptible to flooding during or soon after heavy storms. These creek systems include the Little Crab Orchard Creek, Crab Orchard Creek, Piles Fork Creek, Plum Creek, Glades Creek, and Drury Creek. Flooding in Carbondale is relatively infrequent, however there is potential for flooding and road closures in low lying areas from overflows of these creek systems.

The City of Carbondale Planning Services Division can assist property owners, lenders, insurance agents and real estate agents in determining flood hazards for individual properties within the City and within the City's mile and one half zoning jurisdiction. The Planning Services Division can be reached at 457-3235. Flood maps and flood protection references are also available at the Carbondale Public Library.

There are several things you can do to reduce flood hazards in the community.

- Do not dump or throw anything into the ditches or streams. Even grass clippings and branches can accumulate

and plug channels. A plugged channel cannot carry water and when it rains the storm water is likely to flood adjoining areas.

- If your property is next to a ditch or stream, please do your part and keep the banks clear of brush and debris. The Public Works Maintenance and Environmental Services Division also has a stream maintenance program which may help remove major blockages such as downed trees. To report illegal dumping or debris in ditches and streams you should contact the Building and Neighborhood Services Division at 457-3237 or the Maintenance and Environmental Services Division at 457-3275.

- Always check with the Planning Services Division before you build on, alter, regrade, or fill on your property. A Flood Plain Development Permit may be needed to ensure that flood plain development regulations are met. It is important to report unapproved construction activity within designated flood plains to the Planning Services Division at 457-3235.

FLOOD SAFETY

Do not walk through flowing water. Drowning is the number one cause of flood related deaths, mostly during flash floods. Currents can be deceptive, six inches of moving water can jolt a person off their feet.

Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don't drive around road barriers, as the water levels may be higher than expected and/or the road or bridge may be washed out.

Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. The second highest cause of flood related deaths after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to the Ameren CIPS or Egyptian Electric Cooperative. Don't use appliances or motors that have gotten wet, unless they have been taken apart, cleaned and dried. If flooding is imminent, turn off the electricity at the main electrical panel.

Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles,

lanterns, or open flames unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated. If flooding is imminent, turn off the gas at the gas meter or propane tank.

FLOOD INSURANCE

If you don't have flood insurance, talk to your insurance agent. Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. However, because the City of Carbondale participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This insurance is backed by the federal government and is available to everyone, even for properties that have been flooded.

The City of Carbondale has been designated by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System as a Class 9. The Community Rating System classification applies flood insurance premium credits to help lower the cost of flood insurance for property owners within the Carbondale community, based on the City's efforts to exceed minimum NFIP requirements for flood plain

management and public information activities.

FLOOD PROOFING

Many houses, even those not in the flood plain, have sanitary sewers that may back up into the basement during heavy rains. A backwater valve can be installed in a floor drain and sanitary sewer drain to prevent backflow into a building. A licensed plumber should be consulted for the installation of a backwater valve.

Other ways to protect a building from flood damage are to make your walls waterproof and place watertight closures over the doorways. If flooding is imminent, sand bags can be installed around doorways and basement windows to prevent storm waters from entering a building. In addition, you may keep the water away by regrading your lot to direct water away from your building. Contact the Building and Neighborhood Services Division for additional information on flood proofing and retrofitting flood prone structures at 457-3237.

Carbondale City Calendar

March

Date	Meeting	Time
The Following Meetings Are Televised LIVE On CityVision 16		
Tuesday - 7th	City Council	7:00 pm
Wednesday - 1st & 15th	Planning Commission	7:00 pm
Thursday - 9th	Park District Board	6:00 pm

Other Scheduled Meetings At The City Hall/Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue

Monday - 6th	Human Relations Commission	6:30 pm
Monday - 20th	Preservation Commission	7:00 pm

Scheduled Meetings At Other Locations

Wednesday - 8th	Library Board, 405 West Main St.	4:30 pm
Thursday - 16th	CCHS School District #165 1301 E. Walnut - Cafeteria	7:00 pm
Thursday - 23rd	Elementary School District #95 801 S. Lewis Lane - Lewis School	7:00 pm

April

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
Thursday - 13th	Park District Board	6:00 pm

Other Scheduled Meetings At The City Hall/Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue

Monday - 3rd	Human Relations Commission	6:30 pm
Monday - 13th	Information & Telecommunications Commission	7:00 pm
Thursday - 20th	Energy & Environmental Advisory Commission	7:00 pm
Monday - 17th	Preservation Commission	7:00 pm

Scheduled Meetings At Other Locations

Wednesday - 12th	Library Board, 405 West Main St.	4:30 pm
Thursday - 20th	CCHS School District #165 1301 E. Walnut - Cafeteria	7:00 pm
Thursday - 27rd	Elementary School District #95 925 S. Giant City Road - Administrative Center	7:00 pm

THE OFFICES OF CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED ON: Friday, April 14, 2006, for the Good Friday holiday. The City's refuse collection schedule will not be affected.

Notice of Spring Clean-Up

The City of Carbondale will conduct a residential SPRING CLEAN-UP beginning April 28, 2006. The program serves single family dwellings up to 4-units inclusive. The clean-up will address household items and general rubbish generated from the residence being served. Items will be collected from curbside only. Collections are scheduled on Fridays by zones, and subsequent Saturdays as volume requires.

Monday's City Refuse Route (ZONE #1) • Friday, April 28

All residences east of the Canadian National Railroad (CNRR) tracks.

Tuesday's City Refuse Route (ZONE #2) • Friday, May 5

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 Route (ZONE #3) • Friday & Saturday, May 12 & 13, and May 19 & 20

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 Route (ZONE #4) • Friday, May 26

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.

Only Household Rubbish Please. No Contractor's Remodeling or Construction Debris. **The Following Items Cannot be Collected: Tires, Yard Waste, White Goods.**

Please Cut Household Lumber to Five Feet or Less. Place trash at curbside **NO EARLIER THAN FIVE (5) DAYS** prior to your zone's collection day and **NO LATER THAN 8 a.m. on collection day.** Do not inhibit or obstruct drainage or block sidewalks. Placing and allowing items to remain at curbside outside these times 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.

Be Prepared in the Event of Severe Weather

We cannot prevent severe weather, nor can we predict where or when it will strike, but there are some precautions that we can take to minimize danger to people and property. As severe weather season approaches, we need to be informed and prepared. Know the difference between a watch and a warning when it is issued for your county.

A **watch** means that conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop. This is the time you should consider where you will take shelter if severe weather should occur. During a watch you should also pay close attention to weather broadcasts for a change in weather conditions.

A **warning** means severe weather

is occurring and you should take shelter immediately. Take a battery powered radio and flashlight with you.

With a little planning you can prevent unnecessary panic and confusion if severe weather strikes:

- Learn the sounds of the outdoor warning sirens and take shelter.
- Have a NOAA Weather Alert Radio that will alert you to severe weather.
- Make a severe weather kit and place in a water tight container. Your kit should include a battery operated radio, flashlight, extra batteries, first aid kit, emergency tools, special items for the elderly or infants, and extra eye glasses.
- Make an inventory of your possessions for insurance purposes

and keep the list or video tape in a safe place away from your home.

Flying debris and lightning are the greatest hazards during severe storms. When seeking shelter, always keep away from windows and go to a basement or interior room. Crouch next to the wall covering your head. If you are caught outdoors, try to get inside. If there is no place to take shelter, lie down in a ditch or squat down as low as you can and don't get under a tree. Lightning is known to seek out the tallest objects, so don't be that object and don't get under one.

This is a message from the City of Carbondale Emergency Management Services. For more information contact 457-3245.

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.

Weekly Refuse and Recycling Services Available

The City offers curbside refuse and recycling collection service throughout the residential community. Refuse is collected weekly for a small fee by the Refuse and Recycling Division. All residential garbage and refuse must be collected at least weekly by the City or by a licensed private refuse hauler. All garbage and refuse stored outside must be in a rigid metal or plastic container with a tight fitting lid. Refuse placed at curbside for collection may be placed after 6:00 p.m. the evening before the collection. Refuse bags are allowed to be placed at curbside for collection provided the bags are at least 1.2 mils thick and the bags are placed at curbside no sooner than 6:00 a.m. on collection day. To schedule service call 457-3625 or stop by the City Hall Revenue Office at 200 South Illinois Avenue. Questions

concerning the storage of garbage and refuse may be directed to the Building and Neighborhood Services Division at 457-3237.

Monday Route: All residences east of the Canadian National Railroad (CNRR) tracks.

Tuesday Route: 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 Route: 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 Route: 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.

**** Note:** In the event that a holiday is on a week day, trash will be collected on the day following the regularly scheduled day.

The City also operates a Landscape Waste Collection Program and a convenient Recycling Program. For more information about these programs contact the Maintenance and Environmental Services Office at 457-3275.

Just a Reminder...

Love that historic building down the street?
Nominate it for a Historic Preservation Award!

Historic Preservation Award Nominations are due March 10, 2006

Nomination forms are available in the City Hall Planning Services Division at 200 South Illinois Avenue or online at www.ci.carbondale.il.us/Historical/index.html



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Lance Jack, Councilman
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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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