



MARCH/APRIL  
2007

# SPRINGFIELD

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Information Provided by the Springfield Office of Public Works

*Timothy J. Davlin, Mayor • K. Michael Norris, Director*

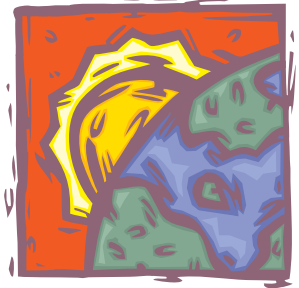
**Branch collection** – Free branch collection for fallen branches and brush is provided by Public Works crews from spring through November each year. There is no need to call to receive service – simply place your branches and brush in a pile between the sidewalk and street in front of your house. There is no way to tell exactly when crews will be by your house. If you have a really large branch pile, call to turn this in at the Public Works garage at 789-2246. (Note: “Branches” means any tree limb, stick or brush larger around than a pencil; anything smaller should be placed in yard waste bags for disposal.) City crews will not pick up yard waste bags.



**Free yard waste bag collection** – Public Works provides a month of free yard waste collection during April and November each year. Watch the media for announcement of exact dates. No stickers are required during this time and there is no need to call to receive service. Place your yard waste bags or containers clearly labeled “Yard Waste” in letters large enough to be seen from the street, in the area between your sidewalk and street. This collection is intended for leaves, grass clippings and brush/sticks the size of a pencil or smaller. Sweet gum balls may be placed in the trash, or may be placed in yard waste bags. Yard waste in plastic bags will NOT be collected.

**City’s Southwest Facility closing** – the Public Works Southwest Facility located at 1100 Recreation Drive will be closed as of the first of March. Branches and brush may no longer be dropped off at this location. Beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, Springfield city residents may drop off their branches or brush free of charge at Evans Yard Waste Recycling, 2100 J. David Jones Parkway. Hours are Mon - Fri, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm, Sat 7:00 am – 2:00 pm. Call the Waste & Recycling Division for details at 789-2327.

**Earth Day celebration** – The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Awareness Fair will be held: Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007 IL State Fairgrounds Exposition Building, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Free admission to this event includes many activities presented by organizations with an environmental message to share. This year’s Fair will include a program by the Illinois Raptor Center, with its bald eagle named Kenny and a flight during the program by their barn owl, Banshee. Environmental games, free baby trees, a recycling collection and free shredding of secure documents will also be available. Join us for a fun, educational day!



**Household hazardous wastes** – such as paint/paint products, cleansers, solvents, hobby or pool chemicals, used motor oil, antifreeze, old gasoline, fluorescent bulbs, household batteries and mercury thermometers will be collected, free of charge, in an event co-sponsored by Sangamon County, the IEPA and Springfield Office of Public Works.

Saturday, April 22, 2006 8:00 am – 3:00 pm (sharp!)  
IL State Fairgrounds (enter Gate 11)

The collection is only for materials generated at home, no business wastes will be accepted. Please bring materials in a leak proof container in the trunk of your car or truck bed. For safety, please label materials, if contents are known. For details, call the Division of Waste & Recycling at 789-2327.

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## Neighborhood

### Clean-ups —

Public Works will again offer free dumping for material gathered at neighborhood association clean-ups. Full clean-up guidelines and requirements are available by calling 789-2260.



### Digging in Springfield —

Planning a landscaping or other project that will involve digging? First call JULIE (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators) at 1-800-892-0123. JULIE will arrange for representatives from your utility service providers (electricity, water, cable, gas, telephone) to come to your property and mark the location of each underground service. If you dig without calling JULIE first, not only could you be putting your life and property in danger, you can be held financially liable for any damages occurring to utility property.



## Adopt-a-Street —

This program, part of the Springfield Green beautification effort, allows volunteer groups and businesses to be responsible for periodic litter clean-ups for a selected 1/2 –mile to 2-mile section of roadway in Springfield. Signs identifying the group and the area they are responsible for are placed in designated areas to recognize those volunteers for their hard work. Safety vests and trash bags are supplied to each group and Public Works picks up the trash-filled bags to facilitate clean-up efforts. For details visit [www.springfield.il.us/green](http://www.springfield.il.us/green) or call the Adopt-a-Street coordinator at 789-2116, ext. 533.

### Tree trimming/ Tree planting —



Spring is a great time of year for tree trimming and for some tree planting. The City of Springfield owns all the trees that are planted in the parkway, between the sidewalk and street, and attempts to trim and maintain these 40,000+ trees. However, if a resident wishes to trim the trees in front of their house on their own, they are welcome to do so with a permit from the City Arborist. Likewise, if a resident wishes to remove a city-owned tree, this may be permissible, as long as a (free) removal permit is obtained first from the City Arborist, and the tree is replaced with another tree. Call the City Arborist at 789-2428 for answers to your tree questions, or to obtain a brochure by the Springfield Tree Commission listing the Top 10 recommended trees to plant in Springfield.



Questions on waste and recycling programs? Call 789-2327

*Need information on our city that you cannot find in this newsletter?*

Check out our city website at: [www.springfield.il.us](http://www.springfield.il.us). If you still cannot locate the answer to your question, call the City's information hotline at 789-2468.