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**October 2023 NEWSLETTER**

**October Membership Meeting**

**When: Thursday, October 26, 2023**

**Where: St. Louis County Board of Elections**

**725 Northwest Plaza Dr., St. Ann, Missouri ([MAP](#))**

**Time: 6:30 pm Refreshments**

**7:00 pm Meeting**

**The St. Louis County Board of Elections will host the October meeting. Get an insider's view behind the scenes at the St. Louis County Board of Elections (BOE). The Election Board is a bi-partisan, independent body tasked with protecting the integrity of the voting process by accurately, securely, and efficiently conducting all elections in St. Louis County. The agency serves more than 720,000 registered voters in the county and is working to prepare for the November 7 Special Election and a busy 2024 election season. Hear from Republican Director Rick Stream and Democratic Director Eric Fey, followed by a tour of the BOE office. Whether it is recruiting and training thousands of election judges, tallying and certifying votes, or maintaining an accurate voter database, the work of running elections is a year-round job necessary to deliver free and fair elections. The presentation will also feature a question-and-answer section as well as refreshments.**

**During the regular scheduled meeting, the membership will be asked to adopt the Legislative Priorities for the 2024 Legislative Session. The Legislative Affairs Committee was chaired by Manchester Mayor Mike Clement. Their report will be forwarded by email with the meeting notice.**

## **MML Metro East Meeting**

**The City of Ferguson will host the next MML East Regional Meeting from 11:30am to 2:00pm on Wednesday, November 1, 2023. The location will be the City Community Center at 1050 Smith Avenue, 63135. The topic will be juvenile Detention and Supreme Court Rule 28 Implementations, presented by Pat Kelly, Executive Director, Municipal League of Metro St. Louis. To register click the link below.**

[November 1, 2023 - Ferguson](#)

## MML Distinguished Service Award Winner



**Doug Harms has been a City Administrator for 50 years and is the longest active tenured city administrator in Missouri. Over the past few months, he has been recognized for his dedicated service by his peers, local and state officials and the City of Des Peres where he has been the City Administrator since 1985.**

**Doug started his career in 1973, fresh out of college as the first city administrator for the City of Normandy. In 1979 he was hired by the City of Glendale before taking the position in Des Peres.**

**Doug was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Missouri City Managers Association (MCMA) during their annual conference this past May. In August, the Des Peres Board of Aldermen honored Doug and the Missouri Municipal League presented Doug with the Distinguished Service Award in September during the MML Conference.**

# Legislative Spotlight



**Representative  
Kevin Windham**

**District 074  
Democrat**

**Elected: 2018  
Years Served: 5  
Hometown: Hillsdale  
Counties: St. Louis**

**Representative Kevin Windham Jr. represents 22 municipalities in St. Louis County and portions of unincorporated St. Louis County (District 74) in the Missouri House of Representatives.**

**He was elected to his first term in November 2018 at the age of 25.**

**Prior to his legislative duties, Rep. Windham served the state of Missouri as a staffer in the Missouri Senate and the United States Senate. He is also a FOCUS St. Louis Impact Fellow and CWC Neighborhood Leadership Fellow alum.**

**In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Windham has served as a state committeeman with the Missouri Democratic Party and the interim executive director with the St. Louis County Democratic Central Committee.**

**Rep. Windham is a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University and has served in many organizations including the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, U.S. Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus, Congressional Black Associates, and Normandy Kiwanis Club.**

**Rep. Windham plays basketball for leisure and attributes his passion for politics in large part to his great-grandmother, Rose Simon.**

# Congratulations!

Below are St. Louis area elected officials, staff, and municipalities recognized by the Missouri Municipal League at the September Annual Conference. Officials were recognized for becoming Certified Municipal Officials and the cities for Innovations in local government awards.

- **Alderwoman Marcieta Reed who was elected to the Missouri Municipal League Board of Directors.**

## **Re-elected to the MML Board of Directors**

- **Bridgeton Councilmember Jerry Grimmer**
- **Ellisville Mayor Mike Roemerman**
- **Municipal Attorney Erin Seele from the Cunningham, Vogel and Rost law firm**

## **Recognition of Certified Municipal Officials –**

- **Tom Boeddekker – Charlack**
- **Lauren Edens – Wildwood**
- **Nicole Sander – Moline Acres**
- **Bwayne Smotherson – University City**
- **Robert Smith – Hazelwood**
- **James Thomas – Bellefontaine Neighbors**

## **Advanced Certified Municipal Officials**

- **Celeste McGee - Vinita Park**

## **Innovation Awards**

- **Maryland Heights - Sustainability Center**
- **Outstanding Clerk Award - Deanna Jones, City Clerk, Berkeley**
- **Outstanding Assistant Award - Scott Schaeffer, City Administrator, Frontenac**

- **Excellence in Governance Award - Lori Obermoeller, Finance Director, Creve Coeur**

## Park Commission Grant 2023



# Municipal Park Grant Commission of St. Louis County

**League Staff completed an initial scoring of the 26 park grants that were received in late August. The Park Advisory Board met on September 18, to review, rank and draft a recommendation report for the Park Grant Commission. The Commission allocated \$9.1 million for the grant round. Official grant awards will be announced in late October.**

**The time frame has been moved up to allow for more planning and design work during the winter months so projects could begin construction in the spring. This should reduce project delays due to the weather. The commission also approved an 18-month time frame for completing projects, up from the previous 12 months. With this change, fewer cities will need extensions to complete their projects.**

## Welcome to the New Affiliates



**Binta is a small, growing, black woman-owned business focused on providing the industry a unique vending experience.**



**Founded in 2003, Chameleon is an established firm that provides high-quality IT solutions to public and private sector organizations.**



**The West St. Louis County Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit membership organization of businesses and professional people working together to promote the growth and expansion of commerce in the West St. Louis County area.**

## **UMSL Planning & Zoning Certification**

**Entering its 20th year in 2023, the Fundamentals of Planning and Zoning Chancellor's Certificate at UM - St. Louis has educated hundreds of members of the St. Louis planning community. Fundamentals of Planning and Zoning is taught by a team of senior practitioners, who have extensive knowledge and experience in local government planning in Missouri, Illinois and across the nation.**

**Registration opened on September 7. It is intended for planners, elected officials, municipal leaders, and citizens seeking to become involved in local planning processes. The course covers the fundamentals of planning and zoning and critical components in the work of planning and zoning commissions. Classes start October 19 and are held on Thursdays from 6-9pm. Scholarships are available.**

For more information and registration info, click [here](#).

## November Open House

***Mark Your Calendar!*** The November Membership meeting will be held on Thursday, November 30, at the Maryland Heights Community Center located at 2300 McKelvey Rd., MO 63043, ([MAP](#)), from 6:30 until 8:30 pm.

In lieu of the regular business meeting, the Executive Board has once again elected to sponsor an Affiliate Open House to recognize and thank our affiliate members for their continued support of the League. Last year over 25 affiliate members and 100 guests attended the event. Municipal Elected Officials from St. Charles County will also be invited to join us for this social event.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to support our affiliates, reconnect with old friends and develop new relationships with other elected officials.

## Missouri Department of Conservation

The Missouri Department of Conservation will have a Missouri Conservation Roundtable on October 11-12, 2023. This is an in person event with a goal to provide opportunities for partners to learn, voice perspectives, and foster learning and collaboration, supporting this year's theme, "Sharing the Conservation Journey."

For more information, click [here](#).

## Missouri Department of Conservation



*You're  
Invited*

# STL REGION COMMUNITY CONSERVATION FORUM



TUESDAY  
OCTOBER 17, 2023  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



POWDER VALLEY CNC  
11715 CRAGWOLD RD  
ST LOUIS, MO 63122

**9:00 AM**

Introduction to the forum

- Update on MDC Community Conservation Tier System
- Plenary Speaker: Dan Pearson STL Audubon Bring Conservation Home Program

**10:15 AM**

Round 1 Breakout Sessions: (choose 1 to attend)

- Education & Outreach: The Power of Getting People Outdoors
- Conservation in Urban Areas: Build it and They Will Come
- Equitable Access to Nature

**11:30 AM**

Round 2 Breakout Sessions: (choose 1 to attend)

- Education & Outreach: The Power of Getting People Outdoors
- Conservation in Urban Areas: Build it and They Will Come
- Equitable Access to Nature

**12:30 PM**

**LUNCH PROVIDED**

**1:30 PM**

Community Conservation Partners Facilitated Q&A Panel  
Session with: MDC, STL Audubon, River City Outdoors, USDA,  
and Forest Releaf

**2:45 PM**

**WRAP-UP AND GOODBYES**

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## Upcoming Events

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
October 26, 2023	October League Meeting	Election Board, St. Ann
November 1, 2023	MML Metro East Regional Meeting	Ferguson, Missouri
November 30, 2023	November Open House	Maryland Heights Community Center



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