



St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment Health E-News

FEBRUARY 1, 2005

1650 BOONE'S LICK ROAD, ST. CHARLES, MO 63301
COMHEALTH@SAINTCHARLESCOUNTY.ORG

PHONE 636-949-7400
WWW.SCCHEALTH.ORG

Helpful Phone Numbers

Division of Public Health
636-949-7400

Health Education
636-949-7401

Vital Records
636-949-7558

STD Prevention/Treatment
636-949-7401

Environmental Health
636-949-7404

WIC
(Women Infants Children)
636-949-7402

Division of Emergency
Management
636-949-3023

Division of Environmental
Services
636-949-7415

Recycling Center
636-7900 X4267

Recycle Works
636-949-7900 x4271

Division of Humane
Services
636-949-7387 (PETS)

Animal Control
636-949-7347

Welcome To Earthquake Country!

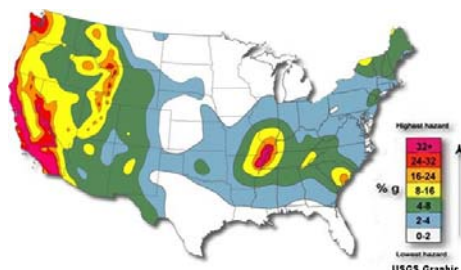
January 30 – February 5 is Earthquake Awareness Week

By Ina McCaine-Obenland, Public Information Officer, Division of Emergency Management

Residents of St Charles County, like those throughout the rest of Missouri, have experienced their share of natural hazards. Missouri's history includes heat waves, blizzards, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes...

Earthquakes? Missouri?

Absolutely, say the experts. Of the estimated 39 states considered earthquake risks, Missouri is one of the highest risk areas east of the Rocky Mountains. In fact, the largest earthquake in the continental United States was in Missouri, on the New Madrid Seismic Zone. And every year, Missouri experiences over 200 seismic events. That's right; Missouri.



A Helpful Service from the Public Health Division Vital Records are available

Certified copies of birth records are available for just \$15.00 each. Certified copies of a death record ordered at the same time for the same person are \$13.00 for the first copy and \$10.00 for each additional copy.

Only family members may be issued birth certificates. Copies of death certificates may be issued to immediate family members or to persons with a valid business interest in the estate. Photo identification is required. Cash, money orders and checks, with proper identification, are accepted. Applications are also available online at www.scchealth.org

The purpose behind Earthquake Awareness Week is to focus attention on the earthquake hazard in Missouri. There will be exhibits and activities across the state. Locally, exhibits at St Louis Science Center, including hands-on activities for the kids, will be open to the public. Groups from government, industry, and research organizations will also meet to discuss the latest information and the best ways to use it to increase public safety.

The St Charles County Division of Emergency Management is taking this opportunity to remind residents that, during an earthquake, the greatest danger is from falling objects. The best way to save lives and reduce injuries is to Duck and Cover. Most quakes last less than 30 seconds, so quick action is critical. When an earthquake starts:

- Stay calm; if inside, don't try to run outside.
- Duck under a desk or sturdy furniture for cover
- Use your arms to protect your head and hang on
- If no sturdy furniture is available, move against an interior wall and protect your head with your arms.
- If outside, move away from buildings, and clear of overhead objects

To find out more about natural hazards visit online at www.ready.gov.

**Looking for a new friend?
Look no further than the
St. Charles County
Pet Adoption Center**

Friendly, furry dogs and cats of many breeds, sizes and ages are available at the Pet Adoption Center for just \$30.

While other centers charge adoption fees of \$100 or more, the St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center adoption fee is an outstanding value at just \$30 and includes a thorough health examination, initial vaccinations, spay or neuter service, temperament education and a microchip for identification purposes.



The St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center serves St. Charles County through sheltering and adopting animals, providing owner education, animal control services and investigation of incidents involving animal cruelty and neglect.

Visit the St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center at 4850 Mid Rivers Mall Drive, Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm.

For more information call 636-949-PETS (7387) or visit www.scchealth.org.



**Spring Household
Chemical Collection
Free to County Residents!**

By Jamie Salvo, Environmental Program Educator, Division of Environmental Services

Most of us have leftover paint and old cans of chemicals sitting around the house or garage...up to 100 pounds of it in fact, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Division of Environmental Services now offers innovative solutions for county residents. Appointments are now being accepted to bring your leftover chemicals to Recycle Works. A \$75,000 grant from the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District is helping the County purchase and install a state-of-the-art storage building for household hazardous waste (HHW).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency indicates that Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste per year. Improper disposal of leftover chemicals (down the drain, in storm sewers, on the ground, or in your trash) can be especially harmful to the environment and pose a public health risk.

Handy HHW disposal guides are now available to help you determine the toxicity, proper disposal, and safe substitutes for common household products. Visit Environmental Services online at www.scchealth.org/docs/es for recipes of safer alternatives. Call (636) 949-7415 to request an HHW Guide or for information on other recycling opportunities.

Appointments and proof of residency, such as a driver's license or tax bill, will be required. Collections are for St. Charles County residents ONLY. Limits may apply to certain materials. Businesses are prohibited by law from participating.

ACCEPTABLE MATERIAL: Paint, stain, varnish, pesticides, herbicides, poison, gasoline and other fuels, solvents and strippers, aerosols, fluorescent tubes, household and auto batteries, brake and transmission fluids, pool chemicals and other acids and bases, wood preservatives, driveway sealant, and mercury-containing items (thermometers, thermostats). Later this summer, oil and anti-freeze will also be accepted.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS: Explosives and ammunition, radioactive waste, medical waste, pressurized gas cylinders, household trash, and tires. Materials from business, commercial, non-profit, and government organizations are also prohibited.

*Collection by appointment only: (636) 949-7900 ext. 4271
Recycle Works - 60 Triad South Drive - St. Charles, MO 63304*

**St. Charles County
Department of
Community Health
& the Environment**

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www.scchealth.org

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