



CITY OF ELLISVILLE TRAILBLAZER

SPRING
2025

VISIT SHOPELLISVILLE.BIZ

From the Mayor's Desk



Hello Friends and Neighbors,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The song, "It's the most wonderful time of the year" by Andy Williams has been bouncing around in my head this holiday season, and I hope it has spent some time in yours as well! This truly is the most wonderful time of the year. This is the time of year we reflect and reset. It is a time that we look back at all the memorable events that have transpired and the accomplishments we have achieved. We do this with gratitude, and we optimistically look forward with new goals in mind as we look forward to all the possibilities for the upcoming year.

The most exciting thing Ellisville must be thankful for is our NEW GOVERNMENT CENTER Renovation Project. It is still a

"work in progress", but our administrative staff has been moved in for a while and it has been open for day-to-day business since September. We had to raze the old building to complete the parking lot before we could plan any public meetings. Throughout the project our Parks Department has done an amazing job hosting our Public Meetings and the Municipal Court. The project is almost complete, and we will be hosting our First Council Meeting in the new building on Wednesday, January 15th which will of course be open to the public. There will be some ceremony on this day, but our official Ribbon Cutting, Grand Opening and Open House is targeted to take place in March once we are operating at 100% and have all the landscaping in place. PLEASE, in the interim, visit us regularly at www.Ellisville.mo.us or follow us on Social Media and/or sign up on our website for email or text notifications to stay updated!

Ellisville certainly has much more to be grateful for this past year as well! We continue to be one of the safest cities to LIVE, PLAY, SHOP and DINE. The amount of POSITIVE FEEDBACK we receive about our POLICE DEPARTMENT continues to be extremely impressive to me. Our

Parks Department continues to receive grants for ongoing improvements, and we are poised to see some welcomed improvements at Bluebird Park. We have experienced steady and balanced NEW DEVELOPMENT as we are seeing more and more of our long-term vacant properties get earmarked for exciting new projects and businesses. The Ellisville Community continues to grow, and we welcome all our new incoming Citizens. Last, but not least, we have been blessed financially. We are forecasting to close out 2024 below budget and our reserve fund investments have outperformed expectations thanks to our partnership with the Missouri Securities Investment Program (MOSIP). MOSIP manages Ellisville's reserve funds investing on our behalf within Missouri statutes and has delivered the best performance in this area that we have ever experienced.

*Yours Truly,
Mayor Mike Roerman*

WWW.ELLISVILLE.MO.US

Synapsory Training for Police

The Ellisville Police Department makes strides towards understanding autism By Sgt. George Corless

My first encounter with a non-verbal, autistic teen took place at the busy intersection of Clayton Road and Clarkson Road. The teen was trying to walk into traffic and would not get back into his parents' vehicle. The kid was in crisis. The kid would not listen to, or could not understand, verbal commands given to him by myself and other officers. He wanted to escape from the small circle that myself and two other officers had formed around him. We had little choice... we had to go hands on. Did I mention that the kid was big and beyond mom's control?

We were able to use muscling techniques and soft hand control and eventually forced the kid back into the vehicle. I forced a scared, overstimulated teenager into a car. I hope I didn't hurt him. He couldn't tell me if I did. That day will forever be one of my most unsuccessful, successful days on the job. The object was achieved, but at what cost? Will that kid always have a negative impression of the police, or others in uniform? Did I make every encounter that much more difficult for first responders that get called to assist him in the future? Policing, like everything else, is perfectly flawed and requires constant revisions of how we perform our duties. I may have lost a little sleep over that day.

Years ago, the department received a donation of Calming Kits from The Synapsory, a non-profit organization that provides 1st responders with kits designed to distract, calm, and de-escalate situations with over-stimulated individuals. On that day I met Terrie Deslodge, my now good friend and the founder of The Synapsory. A few months later, two of our officers successfully used a calming kit to de-escalate a situation where an autistic child was destroying the inside of his house. The kit did exactly what it was designed to do. Distract, de-escalate, and calm the body.

After seeing how important and how effective these kits are, I made a training video with The Synapsory for 1st responders that outlines the importance of distracting individuals away from destructive or harmful behavior.

A few months after we made our training video, Ballwin Police received a report of an autistic child that had wandered away from his residence and was last seen walking towards Chesterfield. (Nearly 50% of those diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder wander away from safe environments. Of that, the vast majority, around 85%, gravitate towards water. This means autistic children are 160 times more likely to drown than other children.) Shortly after Ballwin Police received their report, Chesterfield Police received a report of a child that was naked and swimming in a pool that didn't belong to him. This was within a close proximity to the Ballwin report. Drawing on decades of training and experience, I concluded that the swimming child and the missing child were one and the same and I responded to the Chesterfield address.

Once again, the Calming Kit did its job and I was able to successfully distract the child away from the harmful behavior without going hands on and most importantly, without getting wet! The child got out of the pool, dried off, got dressed, and began to inspect the contents of the Calming Kit while we walked to the waiting Ballwin Police car.

This is why this training is paramount in law enforcement and fire/EMS rescue and why a large part of what I do is to educate other law enforcement officers. These facts aren't taught in the academy and during the event is not the time to research what to do.

If you would like to know more about The Synapsory, visit www.thesynapsory.org.



The EDGE Aquatic Center

Early Bird Special - Begins Feb. 17!

Memberships will go on sale Monday, February 17 and will be sold at a 10% discount through Friday, May 23. Memberships are available online at ellisville.recdesk.com or in person at the Park Administration Center in Bluebird Park. For more information visit ellisville.mo.us or call (636) 227-7508.

Meeting Room Rentals

The Park Administration Center has the room to meet your needs, whether it be a meeting, birthday party, or training seminar. All rentals include set up and take down, tables, chairs, screen, and easel. Contact us at (636) 227-7508 for more information.



Gators Swim Team

Ages 5-18 (as of May 31, 2025) are invited to join the Ellsville/Wildwood Gator Swim Team. The team will compete against other municipal teams in the St. Louis County Area. Emphasis is placed on sportsmanship and learning basic skills while having fun! Please note that swim team is NOT a substitute for swim lessons. Please contact Meghan Fadler at mfadler@ellisville.mo.us or (636) 227-7508 for more information.

Electronic Recycling in Bluebird Park The City of Ellsville partners with Adonis Recycling to provide electronic recycling events on the first Thursday of each month, February – November from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (excluding May when it will be held Saturday, May 3 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) Adonis provides a large truck and workers to assist with the unloading of items. Their truck will be in the parking lot of Bluebird Park for each event. Visit ellisville.mo.us to find out what items they accept and the cost to recycle certain items.



Summer Employment Applications are available at the Park Administration Building in Bluebird Park Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or download an application at www.ellisville.mo.us. All applicants must be 16 years of age or older. Seasonal Openings: • Day Camp Counselors • Summer T-ball Coaches • Tiny Tot Soccer Coaches • EDGE Aquatic Center Concessions • EDGE Aquatic Center Cashiers For more information, please call (636) 227-7508.



Bluebird Ball Field Rentals Conner Field and Field #2 are available on an hourly basis, Monday through Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. starting Monday, March 10, 2025 through Friday, October 31, 2025. Registration begins January 2, 2025 for Residents and January 21, 2025 for Non-residents. • Online reservations! www.ellisville.recdesk.com • Teams may reserve a maximum of (2) hours per week. • Conner Field is located by the Bussmann Pavilion and is considered the upper field. • Field #2 is considered the lower field. **Fee:**
\$9.00/hour Resident
\$10.00/hour Non-Resident

SPLASH PARTIES - Plan your summer birthday party at THE EDGE!! Standard Splash Party: Use of room for 1.5 hours and 20 pool passes for your guests to swim for the day. You are welcome to bring your own party refreshments (allowed in the party room but not in pool area) or purchase food and drinks at the concession stand. Resident: \$160 Non Resident: \$215 - Deluxe Splash Party: Use of room for 1.5 hours, 20 pool passes for your guests to swim for the day, plates, forks, cups, napkins, for 20 people, 1 table cloth, 4 large 1 topping pizzas, and (3) 2 liters of soda. Additional pizzas may be purchased with advanced notice for \$10 each. Resident: \$230 Non Resident: \$285 - - Refunds will not be given for Splash Parties unless the Aquatic Center closes due to inclement weather. Please contact Amber Peper at apeper@ellisville.mo.us or (636) 227-7508 for availability.

Spring Tennis Lessons

Spring Tennis Lessons April 7 – April 30 Mondays & Wednesdays Future Stars 5:00-6:00 p.m. Beginner 6:00-7:00 p.m. Intermediate 7:00-8:00 p.m. April 8 - May 1. Tuesdays & Thursdays High School 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fee: \$110 (\$105 resident)

Arbor Day Ceremony

2025 Marks the 44th consecutive year that the City of Ellisville has been a Tree City U.S.A. Attendees will receive a seedling from the Department of Conservation. Date: Friday, April 25 Time: 1:30 p.m. Location: Bussmann Shelter

Half Cent Sales Tax Storm Water Improvement Project Update

In the fall of 2024, the City of Ellisville completed concrete street replacement in the Oaks at Kiefer Creek Subdivision. Streets removed and replaced included Kiefer Oak Court on both the north and south of Pierside Lane, Bluff Meadow Court, Morning Oaks Court on the north side of Pierside Lane and sections of Bluff Meadow Drive. For 2025, the City has street replacement projects planned in the Cherry Hill West Subdivision. The City plans to replace Cherry Hill Drive, along with small sections of Bridgeport Drive, Pawtucket Drive, Mallow Drive and Providence Road that are adjacent to Cherry Hill Drive. The existing road will be completely removed and a new concrete street will be constructed. These projects are scheduled to begin in the spring and be completed by summer. The City will contact all residents impacted by these projects to provide information regarding the proposed improvements and schedules for completion of the work. These projects are being completed under the half cent sales storm water improvement tax. The City of Ellisville would like to thank all of the residents impacted by the projects for their patience and cooperation during these improvements. If you would like additional information on these projects, please contact Mike Hartwig, Assistant City Engineer, at (636) 227-9660.



Want to partner with the Ellisville Parks Department? We are asking businesses for their help, and in return, your business will receive the opportunity for additional promotion through sponsorship signs, banners, social media, flyers, website, etc. What better way to promote your business throughout the community than to have your business name listed as a sponsor for one of our events? If you are interested in learning more about our sponsorship program, please contact Meghan Fadler at (636) 227-7508 or at mfadler@ellisville.mo.us

The Lucky Leprechaun Hunt

Children 9 and under come out to Bluebird Park's coin hunt. A leprechaun has hidden his gold coins around the park. When you find all your coins come inside and enjoy some refreshments and a craft. Dress for outdoor weather. Date: Saturday, March 15 – Time: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. – Fee: \$6:00/child (Pre-registration is required) Location: Bluebird park

Hip Hop Hurray Hunt

The Easter Bunny will leave a trail of eggs in Bluebird Park on April 12, 2025. Have your Easter baskets and cameras ready! Meet the Easter Bunny! Children 9 and younger will hunt for colorful eggs full of candy and prizes. Saturday, April 12 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Lions Shelter, Bluebird Park PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! Register online or call (636) 227-7508.

Spring Tennis Lessons

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Job Opening Announcements for Local Businesses

The City of Ellisville would like to help our local businesses get the word out that they are looking to fill immediate employment positions. If you are a business located within the City of Ellisville, send us your job opening announcements and we'll post them on our City website. Please send your job postings to: AJ Jones at: ajones@ellisville.mo.us



Interested in Having Your Ellisville Business Spotlighted?

We understand the hard work, dedication, and passion of running a business, and we want to help you share your story. The Ellisville Business Spotlight is a dedicated ad on the City’s homepage, giving your business prominent visibility for a minimum of two weeks—often longer. It’s a free opportunity for your business to reach new customers, build community connections, and celebrate what makes your business special.

How to Participate

Participating in the Business Spotlight is a fantastic opportunity to increase visibility and connect with the community. If you’re interested in having your business featured, we invite you to submit a video that highlights what makes your business special. Please email your video submissions to ahood@ellisville.mo.us.

Video Submission Guidelines

To ensure your submission is ready for the spotlight, please adhere to the following requirements:

- Duration: Videos can be up to 5 minutes long.
- File Size: Up to 3GB.
- Frame Rate: Maximum of 30fps.
- Resolution: Minimum width of 120 pixels.
- Format: MP4 or MOV.
- Aspect Ratios: Supported from 16:9 (horizontal) to 9:16 (full portrait).

Effective January 1, 2025, the yard waste program in the City of Ellisville is an optional/subscription program.

The yard waster sticker program will be discontinued on December 31, 2024.

Optional/Subscription Yard Waste Program Detail effective January 1, 2025:

- Yard waste collection day will continue on Wednesdays
- Service is a weekly collection, provided all year long
- Maximum weekly collection limited to eight containers
- Biodegradable paperbags
- Personal containers up to 35-gallons and marked with an “X”
- Bundles of branches/twigs up to four feet long and no more than two feet in diameter, tied with twine/rope
- Leased yard waste cart from Republic Services
- Maximum weight of any container is 50lbs



Participation/Enrollment:

- Residents contact Republic Services to enroll in the program and to discontinue participation
- (636) 947-5959
- CityofEllisvilleYW@republicservices.com
- Information needed to enroll in the program
- Name / Address / Phone number and email address / Effective date you want to begin yard waste service
- Minimum enrollment is three months
- Residents wanting to stop their participation after their three months, must contact Republic Services

Cost/Billing:

- January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025: \$11.55/month
- Residents enrolled in the subscription yard waste program will be invoiced quarterly by Republic Services (\$34.65/quarterly)

Effective Wednesday, January 1, 2025, sticker yard waste containers placed curbside will not be collected.

Promoting Ellisville's Commercial Real Estate Opportunities.

The City of Ellisville partners with Catylist, an advanced technology platform, to highlight the City's attractive commercial investment and leasing opportunities. Catylist serves business owners, corporate site selectors, and commercial real estate professionals exploring potential operational sites.



This national tool not only tracks available properties for lease or sale, but also monitors real estate transactions across regional markets throughout the U.S.

Why List on Catylist?

Many development and investment organizations rely on **Catylist's comprehensive database** to identify the best development, sales, and leasing opportunities. Ellisville encourages local commercial property owners to promote their properties through Catylist, which offers a public-facing platform enriched with detailed market insights.

Best of all, *listing properties on Catylist* is free and accessible to Ellisville property owners, Ellisville investors, Ellisville developers, Ellisville brokers, and Ellisville real estate agents. It's an invaluable resource to share information about available properties, upcoming developments, or leasing prospects in Ellisville.

Do You Have a Property for Sale or Lease?

We invite you to connect with Ada Hood at ahood@ellisville.mo.us or reach out to the **Catylist** research team at stl@catylist.com to get your property listed. You can submit your property details by sharing flyers, brochures, or a brief email describing the property and its availability. We'll ensure your listing stays accurate and visible for as long as it's available!



Easter Egg Garden: Decorating Contest

Help us grow our Easter Egg Garden in Bluebird Park! Register – Pick up your wooden egg beginning March 21 at the Parks Administration Building – Get Creative – Decorate your egg – Return your egg to the Parks Administration Building by April 10th. Winner will be announced on April 14! The eggs will be outside so we suggest using exterior paint and waterproof materials. Fee: \$5.00

Mad Science – “Make It” Camp

Grades K-5, spend your Spring Break week with us for non-stop science fun! Roll up your sleeves, put on your maker's cap, and get ready to create. Enter the Mad Science chemistry lab and mix, mash, and brew concoctions! Assemble and control pulleys, levers, catapults, simple machines, and megapinchers!

March 17-21 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Park Administration Building. Fee: \$250

FBI National Academy

Lt. Nick Lawrence was recently selected to attend the FBI National Academy held in Quantico VA. Lt. Lawrence will leave in late March for the 10 week session.

To be accepted to the FBI Academy is a huge honor, especially since it's a rare opportunity and a very small number of law enforcement officers nationwide get selected. While at the Academy, he plans to take investigative and behavioral analysis classes that will enhance his skills, help him solve crimes more effectively, and contribute to crime prevention efforts in our community. The cost for the entire experience is paid for by the FBI.

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy offers ten weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Instructors at the FBI academy include special agents and other staff with advanced degrees, most of whom are internationally recognized experts in their fields. The National Academy started in 1935 and since that time over 50,000 graduates have attended. While that sounds like a great number of graduates, it actually represents less than 1% of law enforcement leaders nationwide. The City of Ellisville is blessed to have four other graduates actively serving the community including Chief Steven Lewis, Captain Andy Vaughn, Lt. Kelly Murray and Reserve Officer Tim Fitch. In fact with Nick's successful graduation, the ratio of active FBINA graduates to the agency is the largest in the region.



Adult Dance Classes

Dance classes offered by St. Louis Community College Continuing Education and Ellisville Parks and Recreation will begin the week of February 3rd at the Park Administration Building in Bluebird Park. Instructor Karen Merlin will be teaching a variety of dance classes including; Ballroom Dance, Swing Dance, Easy Line Dance for Seniors, Adult Line Dance, and Easy Social Dance Register online at: stlcc.edu/CE



American Red Cross

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

Blood Drive

Tuesday,

March 25 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Bluebird Park Administration Building To schedule an appointment visit: www.redcrossblood.org

Coupon Marketing Program

In the City's ongoing efforts to champion our businesses, we're excited to give you the chance to showcase your business to all our new residents. How? By including a special coupon or voucher in our New Resident Welcome Packets.



Here's How It Works

Every month, the City grants roughly 40 residential permits. That's a stream of 40 new households, each a budding customer for your business. All we need from you? Enough vouchers or coupons to slot into each Welcome Packet. You decide the frequency of the coupons – be it monthly, quarterly, or every six months. There's zero cost to join this program. Your only investment is in crafting those enticing vouchers or coupons.

Once you drop off your materials at our Government Center, we'll manage the rest. Make sure all your business contact information is included. Just remember, every voucher or coupon must offer something free. To add a personalized touch, we suggest penning a warm welcome to our City and your business name on the voucher.

Drop your coupons off at our Government Center:

1 Weis Avenue, Ellisville, MO 63011
Attention: Economic Development
Open: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Coupon/voucher may be sized up to 5" by 8" maximum



Ellisville Dog Park **Ellisville Dog Park** Memberships are currently on sale for 2025.

Memberships are \$40 per year for up to 3 dogs in a household. Proof that your dog is spayed or neutered and current Rabies and Bordetella vaccinations are required. You can purchase a membership online at ellisville.mo.us or in person at the Park Administration Building. Free Bark In The Park Event! Saturday, May 3 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. It's a great chance to try out the Dog Park before becoming a member. There will be a raffle for a free Dog Park membership for those who attend. Take photos with your dog in our kissing booth plus enjoy other activities. If you aren't a member of the Dog Park, proof of vaccinations is required.



2025 BLUEBIRD BUSINESS AWARDS

Mark your calendars for a night of
recognition and celebration!

Save the Date!

Join us for the 2025 Bluebird Business Awards on Thursday, November 6, 2025, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Celebrate an evening of excellence, recognition, and networking with the Ellisville business community.

Location: TBD

Nominate Your Business for the 2025 Awards

Stand Out as a Leader: Don't miss the chance to have your business recognized as one of Ellisville's finest. Show your commitment to excellence and shine in front of the community.

Nomination Period: December 1 – October 1

How to Apply: Visit the Bluebird Business Awards section on our website and follow the nomination instructions for your category

Self-Nomination Perk: Businesses that nominate themselves will receive two complimentary tickets to the event!

Become A Sponsor:

Enhance your visibility in the Ellisville business community by becoming a sponsor of this significant event. Sponsorship not only supports the celebration of business excellence but also positions your brand in the spotlight. The deadline for sponsorship is October 15, 2025:

Bluebird (Platinum Level): \$2,500

Cardinal (Gold Level): \$750

Robin (Diamond Level): \$1,500

Mockingbird (Silver Level): \$500

Award Categories

<p>Community Spirit/Support Award: For actively creating a positive impact on the community, their workforce and/or the environment.</p>	<p>Beautification Award: For most improved/maintained storefront.</p>
<p>Ellisville Project of the Year Award: For a project or endeavor that significantly enhances the City of Ellisville and helps create lasting value.</p>	<p>Special Recognition for Non-Profits: For Non-Profit organizations serving our businesses.</p>
<p>Ellisville Business of the Year Award: For demonstrating pride and commitment to its clientele.</p>	<p>New Entrepreneur Award: For demonstrating a level of entrepreneurial spirit, leadership, perseverance, innovation and determination.</p>
<p>Big Business of the Year Award: This award recognizes a business or organization that makes significant contributions to the City of Ellisville. Winners contribute in “BIG” ways to our community!</p>	<p>Legacy of Ellisville Award: For longevity, quality products and/or services, and community service.</p>



Whether you're nominating your business, attending the event, or becoming a sponsor, the Bluebird Business Awards is an excellent opportunity to engage with and support the Ellisville business community. Join us in celebrating the achievements and entrepreneurial spirit that define our City!

L.O.A.P. Lafayette Older Adult Program
Are you interested in making new friends, hearing great speakers and musicians, going on exciting day trips, or playing bingo and cards? If you are 55 plus, this is a great group for you! LOAP is a cooperative partnership between Ellisville, Ballwin, Chesterfield, Manchester, Wildwood, Winchester, and the Parkway and Rockwood School Districts. Fee includes: Entertainment, coffee, soda, and dessert, you just need to bring a sack lunch. Occasionally, special luncheons require a reservation and pre-payment at a higher fee. We also offer several day trips throughout the year. For more information, call Meghan Fadler at (636) 227-7508. Date: 2nd & 4th Monday of the month (Sept. - May) Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Fee: \$2.00 per person Location: Ballwin Golf Course

City of Ellisville
1 Weis Ave.
Ellisville, MO 63011-2192
www.ellisville.mo.us

City Council Directory

Mayor Mike Roemerman
16273 Autumn View Terrace Dr.
(314) 479-8988

District 1: Council Members

Marilyn Niebling
531 Triton Way
(314) 602-5113

Rob Compton
1209 Fairview Dr.
(636) 394-1762

District 2: Council Members

Mick Cahill
42 Covert Ln.
(314) 742-1340

Greg Sanborn
445 Bluff Meadow Dr.
(636) 220-7801

District 3: Council Members

Curt Boggs
1527 Virginia Dr.
(636) 484-4343

Amy Hildebrand
1340 Virginia Dr.
(636) 288-7767

Recycling in Ellisville

The City provides at no charge, weekly recycling services to all single family residences. Collection of recyclable goods is every Wednesday. Recycling containers are provided and are available by contacting the City. Although most household items are acceptable, please note the following will not be accepted in the recycling bins: motor oil, insecticide, herbicide or hazardous chemical containers, hardcover books, plastic shopping bags (these should be returned to your grocery or department store), plastic sheets, tarps or wrap. Monthly electronic recycling is on the first Thursday of each month at Bluebird Park.

What's Happening in Ellisville? *Subscribe to City News!*

Did you know you can sign up to receive email notifications from the City? Perhaps you'd like to know when the City Council will be meeting next or what's on an upcoming meeting agenda.

Just visit our website at www.ellisville.mo.us and click on "Notify Me" on the right hand side of our home page.

From there you can subscribe to whatever notifications you'd like to receive! You can also sign up to receive text messages from the City.