



52nd Annual Columbus Days Festival

The 52nd Annual Columbus Days Festival & Hot Air Balloon Regatta will be held Friday, October 8th thru Sunday, October 10th. The event features for this year are:

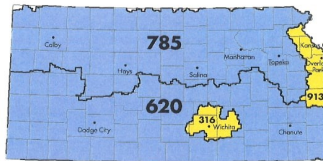
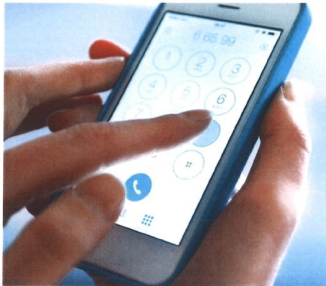
Friday: Scarecrow Contest, Art Exhibit, Quilt Show, Bean Feed, Little Mr. & Miss Columbus Crowning, and Hot Air Balloon Glow (glow begins around 6:45 pm).

Saturday: Hot Air Balloon Regatta, 5K run-all ages, Parade, Car & Motorcycle Show, Art Show, Children's Corner, Live Music, Old Timer's Day, Quilt Show, Petting Zoo, Inflatables, Arts & Crafts Fair, Corn Hole Tournament, and Tractor Pull.

Sunday: Hot Air Balloon Regatta, Mini Rods & Garden Tractor Pull, Midwest Pullers, and Art Show.

A one-time parking fee of \$5.00/per vehicle will be collected. The pass can be used for all three days of the event. For the full schedule of events, please visit www.columbusdayballoons.com or call (620)429-1492.

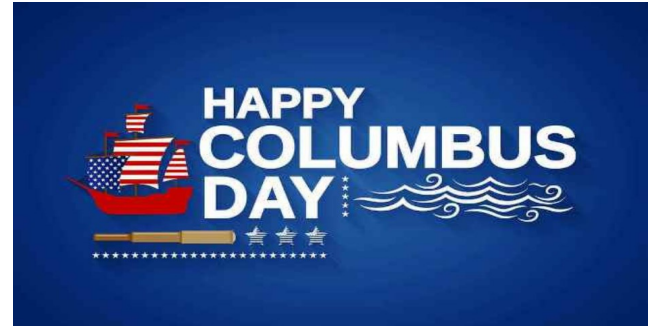
Ten things to know about 10-digit dialing



- On July 16, 2020, the Federal Communications Commission approved 988 as the new abbreviated dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Similar to 911, the new dialing code will provide an easy to remember number for anyone facing a mental health crisis.
- Telecommunication companies are working now to complete any network changes necessary to make the new 988 number available starting July 16, 2022.
- To prevent problems with reaching the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, any area code that uses the 988 prefix in telephone numbers will be required to adopt 10-digit local dialing (area code + telephone number). As a result, 82 area codes in 36 states will switch to 10-digit dialing.
- In Kansas, the area codes affected are 785 and 620. Every customer in these area codes will change to mandatory 10-digit dialing for local calls. Example: 785-XXX-XXXX or 620-XXX-XXXX.
- It will take time to get in the habit of using 10-digit dialing. Callers are encouraged to begin using 10-digit local dialing on April 24, 2021. If you forget and dial just 7-digits, the call will still go through during this "practice" period.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed. Callers will dial 1 + the area code + telephone number for all long distance calls.
- When dialing from a multi-line telephone system (i.e. office, hotel), callers will still need to dial a prefix such as 9. All services and automatic dialing equipment will need to be reprogrammed to use 10-digit numbers. Examples include life safety systems, medical monitoring devices, security systems and fire alarms, speed dialers, mobile phone contact lists, and call forwarding settings.
- Be sure to check your contact information on all personal and business items, including pet tags, to be sure the area code is included.
- Beginning July 16, 2022, dialing 988 will route your call to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Until then, callers must continue to dial 1-800-273-8255 (TALK) to reach the Lifeline.



October 2021 Updates



City Offices Closed October 11th

In observance of Columbus Day, City offices will be closed Monday, October 11th. Garbage collection scheduled to run in Ward 1 on Monday will run on Tuesday.



Fall Leaf Pickup Dates

The City of Columbus will be providing leaf pickup October 25th thru November 5th & December 6th thru December 17th. Please place your leaves as close to the street as possible by 7:30 am. Each ward will get 2 days of pickup only. **The pickup is for LEAVES ONLY, if any trash, debris, sticks, or logs are in the leaf pile it will not be picked up.** These items can cause damage to the street sweeper. We appreciate your cooperation. For any questions, please contact City Hall at (620) 429-2159.

Blood Drive

The Community Blood Center of the Ozarks will be hosting a blood drive on Monday, October 18th from 1:00 - 5:30 pm at the Community Building.

FIND US ONLINE

www.columbusks.gov



Did You Know?

Did you know the City has three certified water and sewer operators? Certified operators are a critical part of providing an adequate and safe supply of water. Operators are typically responsible for a variety of tasks centered around operating and maintaining a water system. They typically work in a selection of capacities: water treatment, distribution, water collection, or wastewater. They oversee 46 miles of water and 34 miles of wastewater lines!

We are excited to announce that recently two of our City employees obtained their certification. Justin Graham received his Class I Wastewater Operator Certificate for Wastewater Treatment Facility and David Spatafora received his Class I Water Operator Certificate for Water Systems. Justin and David work in conjunction with Scott Bennett, Utilities Director, who possesses both a Class II Water Operator and a Class I Wastewater certifications.



For more information regarding drinking water and/or careers as an operator, visit www.awwa.org/professional-development.

Sidewalk Cost-Sharing Program

Are you interested in upgrading the sidewalk in front of your home? The Columbus City Council established a sidewalk cost-sharing program in 2018 whereby the City will pay up to 75% of the reasonable and customary costs of the sidewalk repairs.

We recently approved this sidewalk application that improved a long stretch of sidewalk in town. Applications are available at www.columbusks.gov or Columbus City Hall.



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