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## 2010 Census

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released census numbers for Missouri. While the state grew at a 7.0% rate, Missouri's growth was less than the national average resulting in the loss of one congressional seat.

Des Peres population declined for 2010.

	2010	2000	Change
<u>Des Peres</u>	8,393	8,592	-2.5%
<u>Average City</u>	7,458	7,636	-2.3%
<u>Median City</u>	2,856	3,145	-9.2%

Population changes may impact ward boundaries, decrease state shared revenues and increase the sales taxes being shared by Des Peres.

Des Peres' population loss was not unexpected as our population continues to age leaving more empty-nesters and smaller household sizes. Interestingly, if The Quarters in Des Peres had been fully occupied by April 1<sup>st</sup>, the city's population would have increased slightly. Demographic data should be received by mid-year showing our age distribution.

## Sewer Lateral Repair Program

The City has had a sewer lateral assistance program in place since 1999. The program helps residents with repairs to their sewers in the area between their outside foundation wall and the public MSD maintained sewer. If the cleaning service that maintains your sewer cannot get your line open, or if it has to be cleaned more than every 2-3 months, then you probably have a problem that needs more investigation and possibly repairs.

Application forms are available on-line or in the Public Works Office. After application submittal, along with payment of the \$150 deductible fee, the City will have a video inspection made of your sewer and the problem spots will be marked. The maximum dollar amount of repairs has recently been raised from \$5,000 per year per home to \$7,500 per year.

For more information on the Sewer Lateral Program, contact the Public Works Department at (314) 835-6130.

## LETTER FROM MAYOR RICK LAHR

As I write this article, we are in the middle of the changeover from winter to spring. Snow is (hopefully) an event in the past and we now face the possibility of bad weather in the form of thunderstorms. Fortunately, the new early warning weather sirens approved by voters last November are in the process of being installed county-wide.

The severe winter storm with ice, sleet and snow on February 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> created quite a public relations stir. Weather forecasters saw the potential for a storm of the century with snow forecasted to exceed 12" and the media and government agencies responded appropriately. Des Peres doesn't have a communication bunker and didn't request National Guard assistance but we did activate our emergency plan that has served us well over the years. Public Safety put all of our 4-wheel drive vehicles into patrol service and had additional manpower on duty. Street and park crews were put on 24 hour shifts and deployed 11 pieces of snow removal equipment on streets with three working around the clock on public buildings-especially at The Lodge to keep it safe and open. No one went home for nearly 60 hours sleeping at the garage to keep our crews fresh and safe.

The Street Department has developed a priority plowing schedule based on traffic volumes, hillsides and number of homes. Obviously, cul-de-sac's and dead-

end streets (like my own) are the lowest priority. The snow removal process is not without casualties-we had two minor vehicle accidents and heavy snow being plowed to the side of the street knocked over a few mailboxes (which the Street Department replaced). Nearly \$30,000 was spent on overtime, salt and calcium, gasoline and equipment combating the three day snow.

Snow removal is just one example of the multitude of services provided to residents by the City. 2011 has been declared "Year of the City" to raise public awareness of what city's do. In each newsletter this year we will highlight a department providing information on how they impact your daily life. Des Peres is blessed with employees dedicated to providing high quality services with a smile! They do a great job whether in Public Safety, at The Lodge, in Streets or City Hall. Thank them if you get the chance.

Census data was just released and Des Peres' population declined by 2.5% from 2000. The county's population declined in a similar fashion (-1.7%) and cities as a whole in the county declined by -2.3%. There were some areas of growth located primarily in outer ring suburbs like Eureka, Wildwood and Chesterfield and major growth occurred in St. Charles County. Census data impacts Des Peres' revenues. As a result of the census, we expect state-shared revenues to decrease by nearly 10.0% and the

amount of sales tax revenue we share with the county to increase from the current 30% level. Des Peres' population loss was not unexpected given the continuing aging of our resident population, the increase in the number of empty-nesters and senior citizens and our high number of students away at college (who count in their college town, not in Des Peres). Interestingly, had The Quarters in Des Peres been open and fully occupied on April 1, 2010, we would not have experienced a 219 person decrease in population and would have been close to breaking even!

New recycling containers are being distributed as we go to press. Studies have shown that the new containers, coupled with single stream (mixed) recycling, dramatically increases the volume of materials being recycled. We know that change is difficult but please GIVE IT A TRY! The environment, your children and your grandchildren will thank you!

Rick



## FREE RESIDENTIAL SHREDDING EVENT

A free resident document shredding event that is sponsored by Carrollton Bank is scheduled on Saturday, April 16 from 10:00 A.M. to noon (or until truck reaches capacity). This event will be located at Des Peres City Park at 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri 63131. A maximum of three bankers boxes will be allowed per car. No hanging files or binder clips.

So what should you keep and how long should you keep it? Here's a list of types of documents and suggested retention times from the Better Business Bureau:

- Tax returns and supporting documents should be kept for eight years.
- Records on contributions to individual retirement accounts should be kept permanently.
- Brokerage statements should be kept until you sell the securities. Sale and basis records should be kept with tax returns for eight years.
- Insurance policies should be kept for the life of the policy.
- House records-such as purchase price and the cost of permanent improvements should be kept permanently, or until seven years after you sell the house.
- Paycheck stubs should be kept until you get your W-2 form. If the form matches your stubs, shred the stubs unless there is other information you need for taxes.

## MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

The Board of Aldermen Meeting Schedule at Des Peres City Hall, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Monday, April 11, 7:00 P.M.
- Monday, April 25, 7:00 P.M.
- Monday, May 9, 7:00 P.M.
- Monday, May 23, 7:00 P.M.

The Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting Schedule at Des Peres City Hall, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, May 11, 7:00 P.M.

The Board of Adjustment Meeting Schedule at Des Peres City Hall, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Wednesday, April 27, 6:30 P.M.
- Wednesday, May 25, 6:30 P.M.

The Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Schedule at The Lodge, 1050 Des Peres Road, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Thursday, April 7, 7:00 P.M.
- Thursday, May 5, 7:00 P.M.

The Public Safety Commission Meeting Schedule at Public Safety Department, 1000 N. Ballas, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Monday, April 4, 7:00 P.M.
- Monday, May 2, 7:00 P.M.

The Municipal Court Schedule at Des Peres City Hall, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Monday, April 4, 6:30, P.M.
- Monday, May 2, 6:30, P.M.

The Finance Commission Meeting Schedule at Des Peres City Hall, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, Missouri:

- Monday, April 18, 4:30 P.M.
- Monday, May 16, 4:30 P.M.

Get Hopping Easter Egg Hunt, Des Peres Park

- Hop on over to Des Peres Park for the annual Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 A.M. on April 23<sup>rd</sup>! Children, ages 3-6 years old, will be able to participate in the scramble. Our special guest will be the Easter Bunny so don't forget your camera. The event is free and reservations are not required. Thank you to our sponsor Coldwell Banker Gundaker. Thanks also to Boy Scout troop 313 for their assistance.

## LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

### CHIEF KEITH KRUMM

The Des Peres Department of Public Safety was originally formed in 1958 as a paid fire department with three paid members and twenty-seven volunteers. At that time, the City had a Town Marshal and decided to study the feasibility and possibility of combining the two functions of fire and police services.

Established in 1962, the Des Peres Department of Public Safety is an innovative approach that has proven extremely successful in providing the community with quality Police, Fire and Ambulance services at a reduced cost when compared to separate traditional police and fire departments. The Director of Public Safety serves as both Police and Fire Chief. Each of the thirty-nine Public Safety Officers are highly trained to fulfill these diverse functions. He or she is a licensed Police Officer in the State of Missouri, a graduate of the St. Louis County and Municipal Fire Academy and a licensed Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic.

These Public Safety Officers are supplemented by three Firefighter/Paramedics to insure that there is at least one Paramedic and one Emergency Medical Technician manning the ambulance at all times. Eight civilian employees round out the department. These include the Assistant to the Director, a Record Room Clerk, a Clerk/Dispatcher, a Dispatch Supervisor and four full-time and one part-time Dispatchers.

When you call for a member of the police department to assist you, you are getting assisted by not only a police officer but also a person certified as a firefighter and Paramedic or E.M.T. (Emergency Medical Technician).

If you call for an ambulance, usually the first person to arrive is a police officer. In Des Peres, that means you are not just getting a police officer but also a certified Paramedic or E.M.T. who can start a medical evaluation and advise the incoming personnel of the patient's condition. Police officers also carry an emergency medical bag and automated external defibrillator (A.E.D) in their cars.

On a fire call, the first arriving police officer can give a scene size-up to the incoming fire units and provide valuable information that can assist in the overall success of the call.

The cross-training of our officers has paid off for the City of Des Peres on many occasions and in many incidents. It takes a unique individual to perform all three tasks that are required, along with the enormous amount of necessary training. The Public Safety Officer System works in Des Peres, giving you and your community outstanding services on an economical basis.

Chief Keith Krumm

The Des Peres Department of Public Safety will again join Town and Country, Creve Coeur, Olivette and Frontenac Police Departments to present the Citizens Police Academy. The Academy will give citizens in our communities the opportunity to learn about law enforcement through practical training and exercises. The goal of the academy is to promote understanding between the residents and its police officers regarding their respective needs and problems. By promoting this relationship citizens and police can work together to make the entire community a safer place to live. Topics covered in the academy will include Constitutional and criminal law, the "use of force", criminal investigations, traffic safety and much more. The Citizens Police Academy will begin on April 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:00 P.M. and continue to meet on Tuesdays for nine weeks with a graduation ceremony on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The academy is open to all residents, as well as non-residents providing that space is available, who are 18 years of age or older. The Academy is also free of charge. For more information, contact Community Services Officer Brandon Elzinga at (314) 835-6286. If you wish to enroll online please visit our website at [www.desperesmo.org](http://www.desperesmo.org), click on the Citizens Police Academy Application tab at the bottom of the page.

REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE  
**GO GREEN!**



### New Recycling Containers Being Delivered!

Using grants obtained from the St. Louis County Department of Health, the city has obtained new 64 gallon wheeled recycling containers for each household in the City.

We encourage all residents to give recycling and the new containers a try. You will be surprised by how much of the household waste you generate can be recycled, how quickly these new containers will fill up and how little trash you generate.

Des Peres has been an advocate of recycling as a means to both improve the environment and extend the life of area landfills since creation of a Solid Waste Task force in 1990. This year represents the 20<sup>th</sup> year that Des Peres has offered free curbside recycling as a part of our solid waste management contract.

90% of the cost of this project has been funded from a grant received from the St. Louis County Department of Health using funds received from a tipping fee surcharge at the landfills. Containers are being provided to residents free of charge-one per household.

The new containers are part of a county-wide program to increase the volume of recycling. Our goal is to divert 40% of solid waste from disposal in landfills into recycling. This would double our current effort at a 20% recycling rate or 800 tons of recycling during 2010. Recycling has come a long way since the early days when residents were required to sort materials. We now use **Single Stream Recycling** which allows residents to co-mingle materials which are later sorted at the recycling facility. The only suggestion for Single Stream is that newspapers be kept dry which suggests that they be placed in the top of the container on recycling days.

The following items can be recycled:

- Paper-Anything that tears! Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, paperback books, phone books, office paper, cereal boxes, corrugated cardboard (flattened and broken down into 2' by 2' or smaller). No heavily soiled cardboard.
- Plastic bottles-Any items marked #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 or #7 (located on the bottom of the bottle). This includes beverage containers, milk and juice jugs, laundry and liquid soap bottles. All items should be rinsed prior to being placed into the container.
- Glass-Food and beverage containers. No light bulbs, mirrors, ceramics, dishes or drinking glasses.
- Aluminum and Steel Cans-Foil, food or pie trays, metal food cans, empty aerosol cans. Items should be clean and not soiled prior to recycling. Paint cans and scrap metal may not be recycled.

City Of  
**Des Peres**

12325 Manchester Rd.  
Des Peres, MO 63131

[www.desperesmo.org](http://www.desperesmo.org)

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City Hall	(314) 835-6100	The Lodge	(314) 835-6150
City Hall Fax	(314) 835-6101	Des Peres License Bureau	(314) 909-1514
Public Safety	(314) 835-6200	Des Peres Post Office	(314) 966-3437
City Clerk	(314) 835-6111	Des Peres Hospital	(314) 821-5850
Public Works	(314) 835-6130	IESI (Trash Service)	(636) 321-2100
Municipal Court	(314) 835-6118	City Web Site	<a href="http://www.desperesmo.org">www.desperesmo.org</a>