

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact: Nancy Lee Gomer, Marketing Coordinator

Phone: 636.949.7535 or cell 636.795.1137



Controlled Burn On First Day Of Spring Promotes Growth In Park

St. Charles County, Missouri – The St. Charles County Parks and Recreation Department will be conducting a prescribed burn on this first day of spring, Thursday, March 20, at Towne Park, located at 100 Towne Park Dr., Foristell, MO 63348. Today’s weather conditions are perfect and a contributing factor for managing a park burn. Beginning at noon and continuing through 2 p.m., the northern portion of the park will be addressed. Due to all the snow and wet conditions, there haven’t been many opportunities for burns this season, which are essential to the growth of the natural habitat within the St. Charles County Parks system.

“The controlled burns promote the growth of many grass, sedge and wildflower species that have become suppressed in the dense shade of the overstory canopy and are extremely important for wildlife survival,” said Parks Director Bettie Yahn-Kramer. “The controlled fires also help to eliminate invasive and undesirable species, such as Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*) on park property.”

The Parks Department’s Natural Resource Supervisor, Ben Grossman, is leading the burn and will be accompanied by volunteers and staff.

All necessary precautions have been made and emergency workers with the St. Charles County Sheriff’s Department have been notified of the burn.

Anyone with questions about park prescribed burn activities should contact the St. Charles County Parks Department at (636) 949-7535.

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