



# FESTUS FOCUS

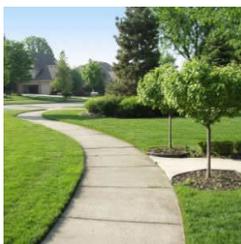
City of Festus  
(636) 937-4694

## July 1, 2018

Festus Focus is also available at  
[www.CityofFestus.org](http://www.CityofFestus.org)

### We Need Your Help!

Many people use city sidewalks everyday so it is imperative that trash and recycling carts are removed from them as quickly as possible so as not to hinder those using them. These carts are a hazard for people with a visual or physical impairment who might not have the ability to safely step off the sidewalk. Section 215.050 of the City's ordinance code does require that sidewalks are to be clean and free of debris.



### Library Fun

#### Big Trucks!

**Thursday, July 12, 10:30 am**

Start inside with a story time and activities featuring trucks, and then head out to the library's parking lot to check out some of our City's trucks and meet their drivers. For all ages.



#### Book Signing and Discussion with author S.A. Bodeen

**Friday, July 13, 12:00 pm**

Author of the 2015 Missouri Truman Readers Award book "The Raft" and other popular books for middle grade and young adult audiences! Books will be available to purchase for signing.



**Council Meeting:** July 11 and 25 at 7pm

**Park Board:** July 19 at 6pm

**P & Z Meeting:** July 19 at 6:30pm

**Library Board:** July 5 at 6pm

**Court in Session:** July 10 and 31 at 6pm

**Board of Adjustment:** July 9 at 7pm

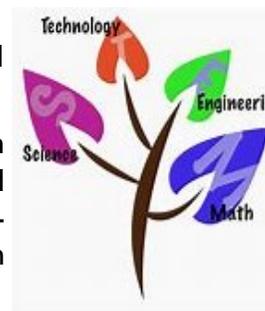
## [www.CityofFestus.org](http://www.CityofFestus.org)

It might be the same old address for the city's website, but it is definitely not the same old website! City employees have been working with CivicPlus for several months to get all information moved to the new site, new pictures by Dan Dill and Dillon Turner uploaded, and key employees trained to manage the new site. The new page was launched June 7. If you haven't visited it yet, please take a bit and see for yourself!

## [www.CityofFestus.org](http://www.CityofFestus.org)

### Summer Reading Finale - STEM Fun and Sno-Cone Social Friday, July 27, 1:00 pm

Be a NASA detective! Create moon craters, investigate with infrared thermometers, and discover magnetic fields. Enjoy Sno-Cones from Tropical Treats! For ages 2-12



**YES WE DID  
AGAIN!**

**100%**

### 2017 Annual Water Quality Report

(The Consumer Confidence Report)

The City has received the results of the annual water report and, as expected, we have passed. If you would like to read the report, it may be found on our website, or hard copies may be picked up at Public Works, the Library or City Hall or by going to this address: [www.dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO6071352.pdf](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO6071352.pdf).



## City of Festus

## Election: August 7, 2018

### -USE TAX-

On April 25th the Festus City Council voted to place a local Use Tax on the August 7th, 2018 ballot. A local Use Tax is a tax that applies to purchases made from out-of-state vendors.

#### Official Ballot Language - "Proposition F"

Shall the City of Festus, Missouri impose a local use tax at the same rate as the total local sales tax, currently at a rate of two percent (2%), provided that if the local sales tax is repealed, reduced, or raised by voter approval, the local use tax shall also be repealed, reduced, or raised by the same action? A use tax return shall not be required to be filed by persons whose purchases from out-of-state vendors do not in total exceed Two Thousand and 00/100 doallars (\$2,000.00) in any calendar year.

**This is not an increase to the current local retail sales tax rate.**

- YES  
 NO

**This proposal will also eliminate the current sales tax advantage that non-Missouri vendors have over Missouri vendors.**

#### Frequently Asked Questions About the Use Tax:

##### I already pay Sales Tax, is this the same thing?

No. The Sales Tax applies to purchases made at retail within Missouri, while the Use Tax applies to purchases made from out-of-state vendors. Purchases cannot fall into both groups and therefore a purchase would not be taxed twice.

##### What is the Use Tax?

The Use Tax is imposed at the same rate as the local Sales Tax rate, currently two percent (2%). If the local Sales Tax rate is reduced or raised by voter approval, the local Use Tax shall also be raised or reduced by the same action.

##### How is the Use Tax Reported?

Businesses report their Use Tax quarterly to the State of Missouri. If the business does not collect the tax, the consumer is responsible for self-reporting purchases subject to the Use Tax exceeding two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) in a calendar year to the Missouri Department of Revenue. Residents self-report annually on their taxes due every April 15. This is not a new reporting obligation imposed by the Use Tax. The reporting requirement is currently in existence for the State Use Tax of 4.225%

##### Why is this important to Festus residents?

Local businesses are required to pay the local Sales Tax. With no local Use Tax in place, consumers have an incentive to purchase items from out-of-state vendors instead of buying locally. This costs the city local jobs and tax revenue because millions of dollars are sent out of state and local economies. **A Use Tax would ensure that if you are already paying tax on items purchased online, that revenue would stay in our community.** The City of Festus needs to maintain this revenue stream for vital City services such as:

- Public Safety
- Roads
- Sidewalks
- Parks
- Emergency Vehicles and Equipment

**Do other Missouri cities have a Use Tax? YES!** Approximately half of all Missouri cities with populations of 2,000 or more already have a Use Tax in place. The City of Festus does not.

Please visit the Missouri Department of Revenue website at: [dor.mo.gov/business/sales](http://dor.mo.gov/business/sales).