

City of Bloomington City Manager's Monthly Report



Cornice molding on the BCPA building

The Mission of the City of Bloomington is to be financially responsible providing quality basic municipal services at the best value. The City engages residents and partners with others for community benefit.

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Upcoming Community Events:

- *Pantagraph Holiday Spectacular, BCPA, December 7,8*
- *Skate with Santa, Pepsi Ice Center, December 15*
- *Mike Birbiglia's My Girlfriend's Boyfriend, BCPA, December 15*
- *Bloomington Blaze Hockey, US Cellular Coliseum, December 14,15*
- *Booker T. Jones, BCPA, January 19*
- *Taylor 2, BCPA, January 26*
- *An Acoustic Evening with Matisyah, BCPA, February 5*

Spotlight Community:

Quality of Life



Upcoming Holiday Events At Miller Park Zoo

See Page 4 for details

City of Bloomington Elected Officials

Mayor: Steve Stockton

Ward 1 Alderman: Bernard Anderson
Ward 2 Alderman: David Sage
Ward 3 Alderman: Mboka Mwilambwe
Ward 4 Alderman: Judith Stearns
Ward 5 Alderman: Jennifer McDade
Ward 6 Alderman: Karen Schmidt
Ward 7 Alderman: Steven Purcell
Ward 8 Alderman: Robert Fazzini
Ward 9 Alderman: Jim Fruin

City of Bloomington Administration

City Manager: David A. Hales
Deputy City Manager: Barbara J. Adkins
Assistant to the City Manager: Alexander S. McElroy
Executive Assistant: Katie Buydos

City Clerk: Tracey Covert
Corporate Counsel: Todd Greenburg
Director of Finance: Patti-Lynn Silva
Director of Human Resources: Emily Bell
Director of Information Services: Scott Sprouls
Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural: John Kennedy
Director of Planning & Code Enforcement: Mark Huber
Director of Public Works: Jim Karch
Director of Water: Craig Cummings
Police Chief: Randall McKinley
Fire Chief: Mike Kimmerling
Library Director: Georgia Bouda

Welcome from the City Manager



The City of Bloomington began the practice of producing the City Manager's Monthly Report in 2009 to provide performance information to the Mayor, City Council and the public on City services and programs. The City utilizes performance data to identify efficiencies and potential inefficiencies for the purpose of improving services, responsible budgeting and enhancing transparency in local government. In efforts to best guide City resources toward the betterment of the community, the Bloomington City Council adopted a strategic plan which identifies goals that focus on outcome-based objectives and potential actions for the projected course of five years. The City Manager's Monthly Report reflects the City's progress toward the accomplishment of these goals and current service levels. The Performance data in this report is compiled internally by each department/division that comprise City Services. The information is then analyzed and organized for presentation by myself and the Assistant to the City Manager.

I am proud of the City's efforts toward becoming more performance driven and the direction in which our community is headed. City staff and I will continue to work diligently to increase efficiencies in City services and achieve the goals established by Council as we proudly serve the citizens of Bloomington.

I am pleased to present to you the October 2012 City Manager's Monthly Report. I hope that you continue to stay informed on City issues and progress.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments and/or suggestions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Hales". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

David A. Hales
Bloomington City Manager
109 E. Olive Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
Dhales@cityblm.org

The Bloomington
City Council meets
every 2nd and 4th
Monday of each
month at 7:00 p.m.
for regular Council
Meetings

Bloomington City Hall
109 East Olive Street
Bloomington, Illinois
61701

Spotlight City: Miller Park Zoo

Miller Park Zoo: What to Look for this Holiday Season



During this time of year, the reindeer at Miller Park Zoo are a popular attraction. One reindeer has become very popular by going digital and starting her own Twitter account. This reindeer named Rikka can be followed @RikkaReindeer.



It should be a busy time for Rikka as she and Ealu, the other adult reindeer at Miller Park Zoo, are a large part of holiday-themed special events. This busy week for the reindeer begins with on December 8 with Breakfast with Santa & the Reindeer. Participants in this event can learn about reindeer, visit with Santa, pose for pictures, and enjoy a breakfast of bagels, cereal and fruit. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult. Pre-registration for this program is required. The cost to attend this program for Zoo Society Family members is \$8 per person (children under the age of 3 are free). The cost for non-members to attend this event is \$12 (children under the age of 3 are free). Two separate sessions are offered with the first lasting from 8:30 am to 9:30 am and the second lasting from 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

This year is the second annual Zoo Wild Lights event. This even will run from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm on December 14 and again on December 15 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. On December 16, at 2:00 pm "Can Reindeer Fly?" is a program that allows patrons to see whether the reindeer are able to pass Santa's exercises to become part of his team Christmas Eve. This program is free with Zoo admission.

"We're always looking for ways to give people an inside look at the animal world and the conservation efforts at Miller Park Zoo," says Zoo Superintendent Jay Tetzloff. "This is prime time for reindeer, who love the cooler weather and have their antlers fully grown out. It's a great time to come to the Zoo and visit."

The Zoo can also be followed on Twitter @MillerParkZoo and posts additional updates and photos on Facebook.

Rikka and Ealu have been at Miller Park Zoo since 2004. The species, also commonly known as Caribou, are native to the world's arctic regions and are called by various names in different parts of the world.

For more information contact Jay Tetzloff at Miller Park Zoo, 309-434-2250 or Steve Fast at Bloomington Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, 309-434-3413



Executive Summary

The following executive summary serves as a brief highlight of the monthly activities, accomplishments, and performance information of the services provided by the City of Bloomington. Further detailed information may be found in the department sections and the subsequent appendix.

Police Department

- The State Drug Trends Report shows a rise in heroin usage; department statistics are in line with this analysis. From January to September, the total heroin seized was 31.80 grams with 8.10 grams purchased. In the month of October, Vice purchased as much heroin as this unit had purchased in the nine months prior. Vice also seized about 33% of the nine month total of heroin in October alone.
- Detectives investigated a shooting on Gettysburg Drive where several people were struck by gunfire with one subject critically injured. Over 30 individuals were interviewed and three people were arrested. This incident demonstrated the dedication, professionalism and cooperation of the division.
- Third shift has 15 officers assigned and averaged 8.32 officers working each night. Approximately 326 traffic stops were made. During the year, 2,921 traffic stops were made compared to 945 during the same period last year. Officers made eleven arrests from self-initiated traffic or pedestrian stops. There were seven arrests for DUI this month which totals 69 for the year compared to 41 last year.
- Officer Albert worked Halloween night to conduct a special sex offender compliance check. Fifteen area child sex offenders were checked during the trick or treating hours. During that time, one offender was found to be wanted on two outstanding warrants; two offenders were decorating for Halloween in violation of state statute; one McLean County probationer was arrested by Normal PD for probation violation; one offender found to be non-compliant and provided an address next to a local elementary school; one offender found to be non-compliant with a felony sex offender registration violation; two offenders' residence searched with no contraband or issues noted and five offenders' addresses checked with no issues noted.

Violation	Month Total	Year Total
Seat Belt/Child	2	26
DUI	17	241
Speeding	274	1,227
All Other Traffic	462	4,807
Total Traffic Citations & Warnings	755	6,301

Fire Department

- During October, the Department responded to 170 fire calls of which 9 were confirmed structure fires. The 170 calls comprised 20% of the volume for the month. These structure fire incidents resulted in a dollar loss estimated at \$13,550.

- Average response time from time of call to arrival for Fire Suppression emergency calls was within the 6 minute benchmark at 4:59 during October. this is a decrease of 86 seconds from the high of 6:25 recorded in October 2010.
- EMS responses for October totaled 694. This represents about 80% of the monthly call volume. From these responses the Department provided aid to 783 patients. The three leading EMS response types during October were Sick Person, Breathing Problems and Fall Victim. Average response time from time of call to arrival for EMS emergency calls was below the 6 minute benchmark at 5:31 during October.

Parks Recreation & Cultural Arts

- Park staff removed and replaced the old wood entrance sign at Miller Park with a new stone and wood sign entrance sign. This sign is designed to match the stone sign that is at the Zoo, Pavilion and new playground restrooms.
- The BCPA welcomed 9,975 people to 68 different events and activities in October. “The Price is Right, Live” marked the BCPA’s second sold-out event of the 2012-2013 season. A cruise to the Bahamas was the biggest prize won at the event.
- During the month of October, City foresters removed 13 Ash trees, bringing the total number of Ash trees removed in 2012 to 336. This month, Forestry staff planted 212 trees consisting of 11 different species and 22 different varieties.



Planning & Code Enforcement

- Construction activity for October was down from October of last year. However, construction value is up 50% since the first of the year.

October 2012 Compared to October 2011	Year to Date
New home starts – up 38%	Up 15%
Building permits – down 35%	Up 13%
All construction permits – down 13%	Up 12%
Fees collected – down 22%	Up 33%
Construction Value – down 35%	Up 50%

- The Code Enforcement division of Planning and Code Enforcement held their semi-annual landlord training session at the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts (BCPA), Saturday, October 13. 87 people pre-registered for the program. Including four walk-ins, 77 actually attended. Nine city staff were also in attendance for purposes. This year, an effort was made to include topics that would be of interest to both landlords and tenants and efforts were made to notify and include tenants

Police Department

Crime Intelligence and Analysis Unit (CIAU)

During the month of October, CIAU staff provided four hours of Nuisance Abatement and tenant background screening training to local landlords as part of the City's annual landlord training program. One analyst attended the National Problem Oriented Policing Conference where he learned what other cities were doing in regards to crime analysis and its role within the philosophy of problem oriented policing.

CIAU staff spent time providing investigative support to cases stemming from a quadruple shooting that occurred on Gettysburg Drive on October 14. CIAU staff provided training and set up several long-term research projects with the newly hired administrative intern. CIAU staff also provided a block of instruction for an undergraduate class regarding international drug trafficking at the request of Illinois State University.

Two members of CIAU underwent basic website management and content provision training provided by the Information Services Department. This training will facilitate future growth in audio/visual content for the Police Department's new website.

Vice

There are four detectives assigned to the Vice unit with an average of 3.9 per day. A total of 14 cases were opened; nine cases closed; 11 defendants charged; four search warrants conducted; \$1,124 seized; \$6,100 property seized; and one vehicle seized. The following drugs were purchased/seized: 6.5 grams of crack cocaine seized; 2.8 grams of crack cocaine purchased; 130 grams of cannabis seized; 249.80 grams of cannabis purchased; 10.60 grams of heroin seized; 7.10 grams of heroin purchased. The State Drug Trends Report shows a rise in heroin usage. Department numbers are in agreement with this analysis. From January to September, the total heroin seized was 31.80 grams with 8.10 grams purchased. In the month of October, Vice purchased as much heroin as this unit had purchased in the nine months prior. Vice also seized about 33% of the nine month total of heroin in October alone.

US Marshal Task Force

The US Marshal Task Force (USMS TF) has two detectives with an average of 1.73 working daily. 25 new felony cases were opened, 14 cases closed, 11 hands on felony arrests, and two self-surrender arrests when the subjects learned that they were being looked for by the task force.

Task Force Officers assisted VICE in arresting two subjects. A repeat offender and his girlfriend were wanted for manufacture/delivery of heroin. Both were arrested.

Task Force Officers from Springfield, Decatur, and Macon County came to assist for three arrest warrants for suspects wanted in connection with a shooting on Gettysburg Drive. All three subjects were arrested within eight hours of the call.

Cyber Crimes

The Cyber Crimes unit, consisting of three detectives, continued to operate in cooperation with the United States Secret Service (USSS) in October. A number of cases the Cyber Crime unit investigates are charged at the federal level with the assistance of the USSS. Prosecution at the federal level allows for penalties not available at the state level.

The Unit has 25 open/active cases including one open/active joint investigation with the USSS. The unit investigates crimes involving but not limited to child pornography, network intrusion and online scams. The unit also assists with other investigations where technology is involved in the commission of the crime or of evidentiary value.

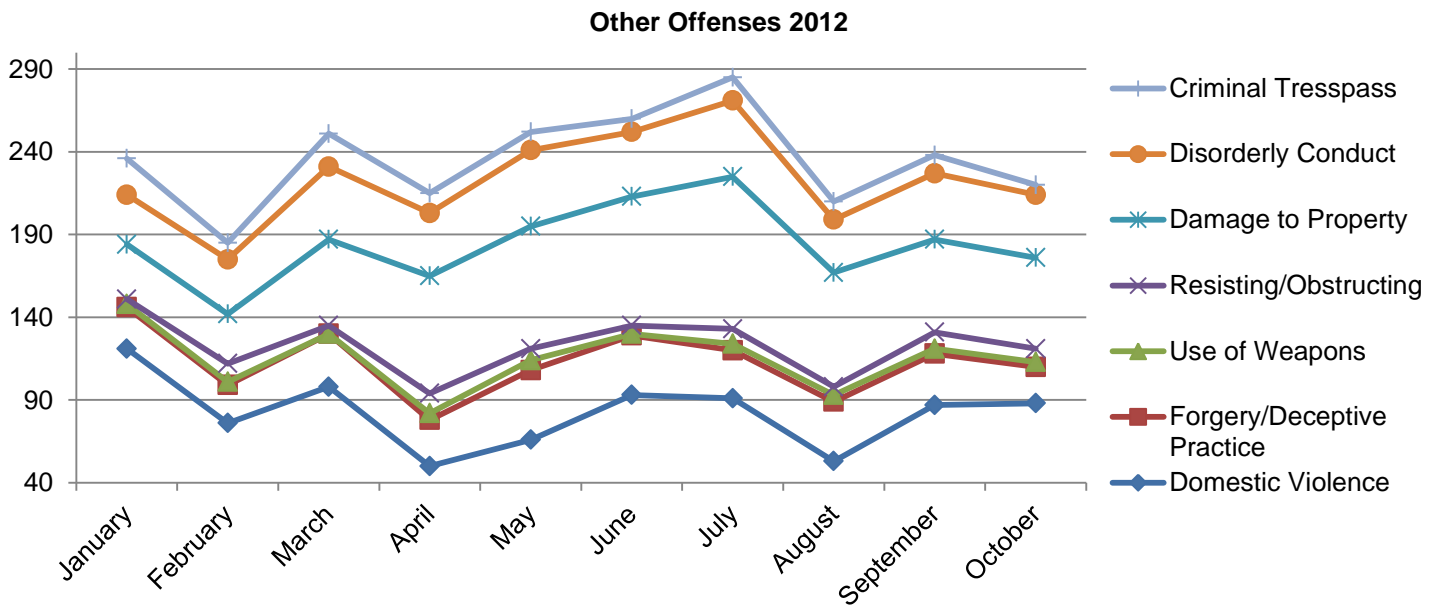
STREET CRIMES UNIT (SCU)

The Street Crimes Unit has seven officers assigned with an average of 6.21 officers daily. The following activity happened in October: three warrant arrests, twelve non-warrant arrests, \$2,750 in tow fees generated, \$1,000 in ordinance violations issued, \$895 in currency seized, one switchblade seized, 36.7 grams of cannabis seized and 12.4 grams of cocaine seized.

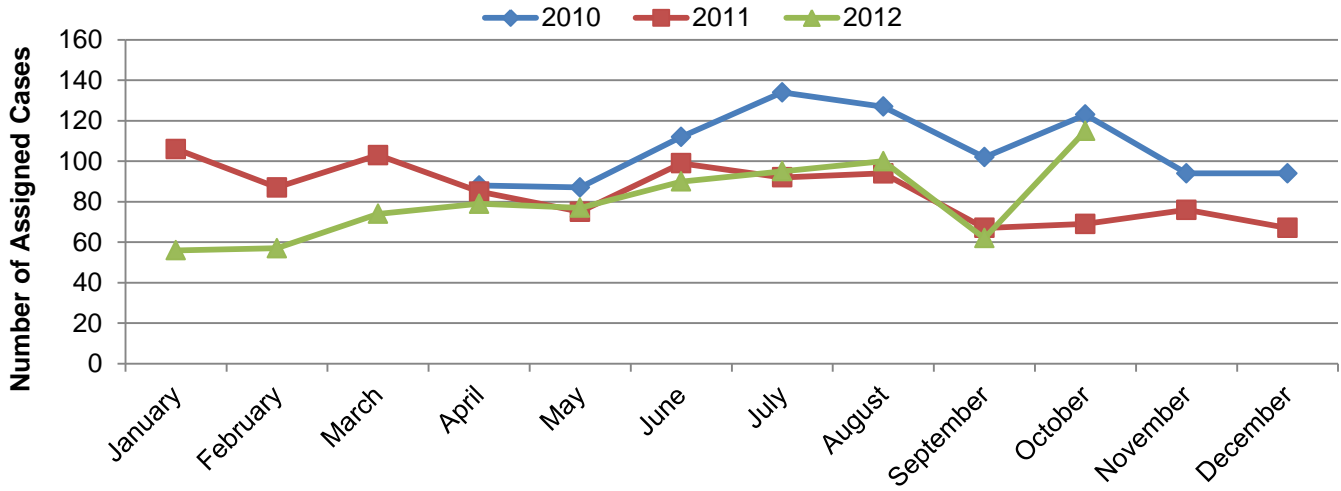
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID)

The Criminal Investigations Division is comprised of 10 general detectives. CID assigned 115 new cases for investigation in October. The case load being carried by CID had the following dispositions: 39 cases were cleared by arrest; 89 were administratively closed, exceptionally cleared or were unfounded and 115 incidents of domestic violence were reviewed. For the month of October, general detectives were assigned on average 13 cases each.

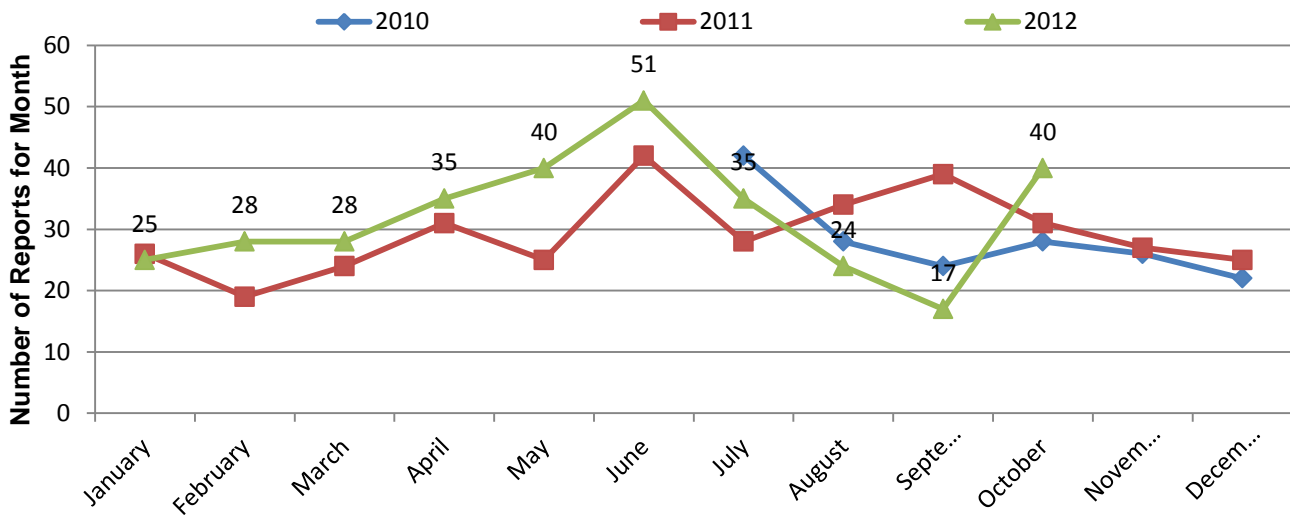
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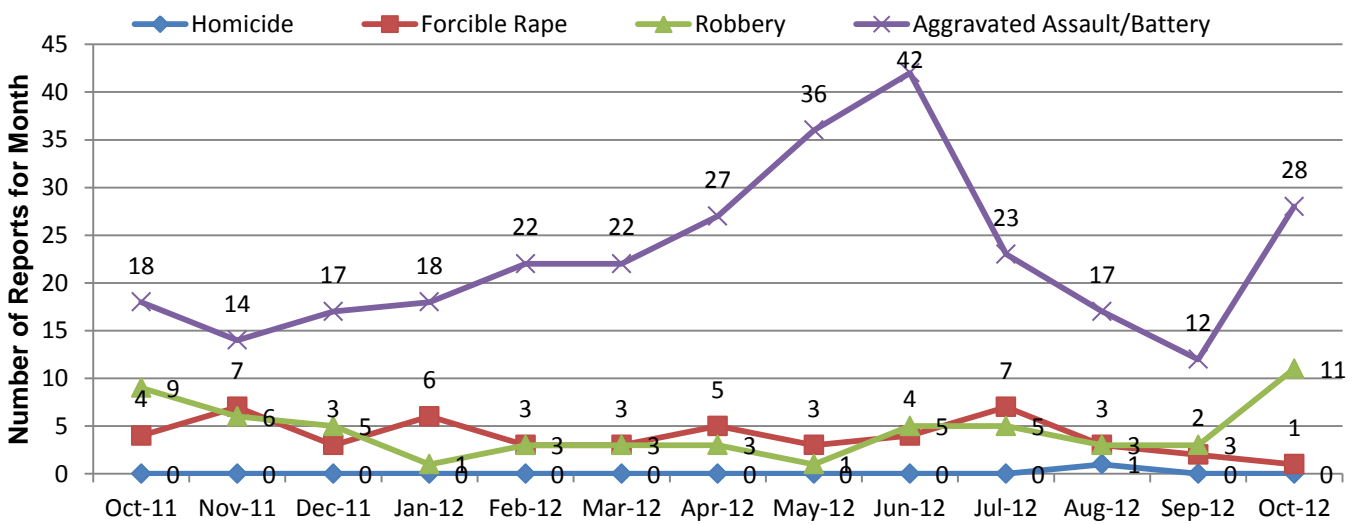
Criminal Investigation Division Assigned Cases Since April 2010



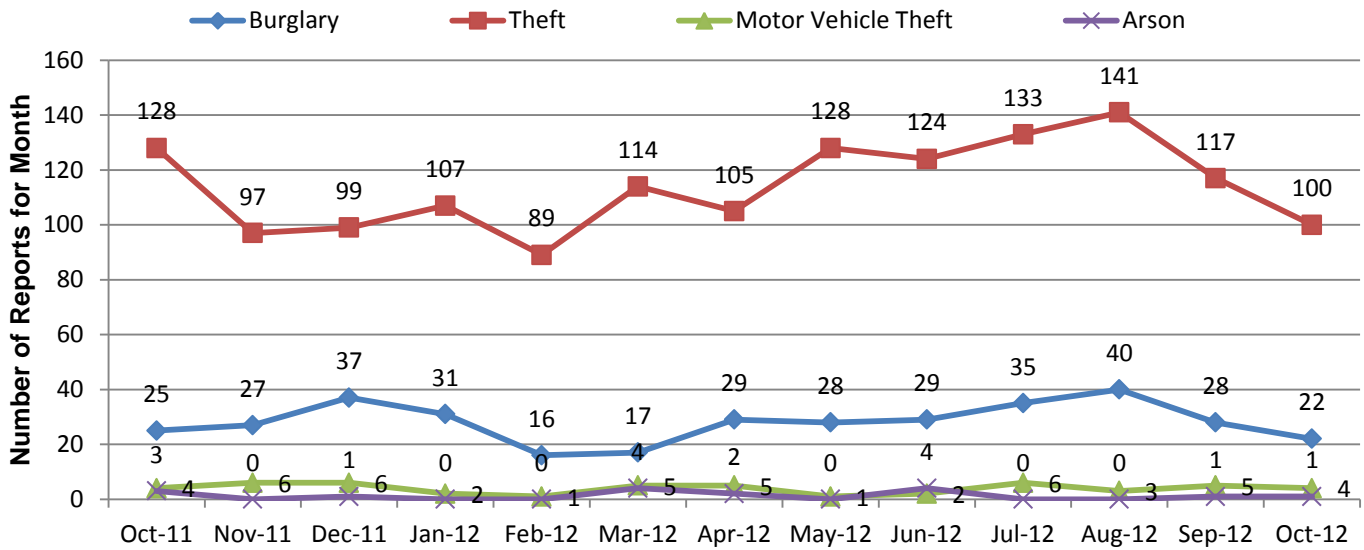
Total Violent Crime Reports by Month Since July 2010



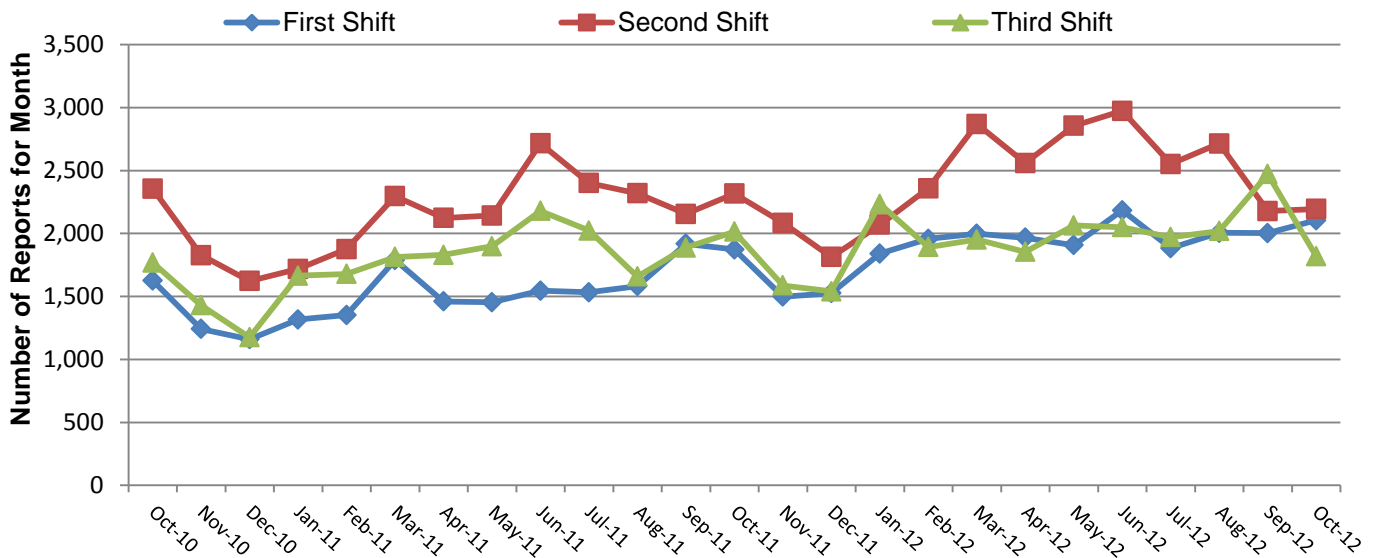
1 Year Violent Crime by Categories



1 Year Property Crime by Categories



2 Year Police Department Calls for Service by Shift and Month



Violation	Month Total	Year Total
Seat Belt/Child	2	26
DUI	17	241
Speeding	274	1,227
All Other Traffic	462	4,807
Total Traffic Citations & Warnings	755	6,301

Communications

Ring Time Ranges (9-1-1 Incoming) – State mandate is 90% answered within 10 seconds

0 to 3 Seconds	4 to 6 Seconds	7 to 9 Seconds	10 to 12 seconds	% of total calls answered within 10 Seconds
61.30%	30.20%	6.50%	1.90%	99.99%

Four thousand five hundred dollars in ordinance violations have been issued in calendar year 2012 to date. There are still open issues with Arrowsmith Tower. Research is being completed on alternative connectivity to tower sites. One seasonal telecommunicator is in training on second shift. Two full time telecommunicators are in training. Both are progressing as expected. Both attended Emergency Medical Dispatch Certification course in Springfield. Manager Wolf attended Illinois Public Safety Telecommunications Association Annual Conference in Springfield. There is one vacant full time position available. Expected interview time is late November or early December.

First Shift (7 A.M. – 3 P.M.)

Day shift is assigned 14 officers. Manpower is still low due to retirements, illnesses, injuries, etc. The average number of officers per day was approximately 7.8. Sixty-three incidents of sex offender related problems were handled on first shift. Five sex offenders were arrested, one was deported to Mexico, and one is being deported to Turkey. Sixteen cases are open and being investigated.

Officer Albert worked Halloween night to conduct a special sex offender compliance check. Fifteen area child sex offenders were checked during the trick or treating hours. During that time, one offender was found to be wanted on two outstanding warrants; two offenders were decorating for Halloween in violation of state statute; one house that was searched was occupied by an IDOC parolee; one McLean county probationer was arrested by Normal PD for probation violation; one offender found to be non-compliant and provided an address next to a local elementary school; one offender found to be non-compliant with a felony sex offender registration violation; two offenders' residence searched with no contraband or issues noted; and five offenders' address checked with no issues noted.

BPD has 122 sworn officers and is allocated 125. There are two officers currently in the FTO program. These officers will complete their training by the end of the year. There are currently two officers on extended military leave with one of those officers scheduled to be gone at least another year and a half.

Second Shift (3 P.M. – 11 P.M.)

Second shift is assigned 18 officers. During the month of October, second shift averaged 8.39 officers per day. Staffing was shorter than eight officers for eight days, due to illness and implementation of new contract requirements. Officers Maurer, Ashbeck, and Massey completed their probation. Two officers were out for the month due to job related injuries. Second shift handled two scout tours in the month.

Second shift officers attended multiple training activities during the month. Officer Krylowicz attended a week-long "Problem Oriented Policing" conference. Officer Luedtke attended a one week course on being a primary investigator.

October continued to have an increase in traffic citations issued. Specific traffic problem locations are handled via the STEP program.

Third Shift (11 P.M. – 7 A.M.)

Third shift has 15 officers assigned and averaged 8.32 officers working each night. Approximately 326 traffic stops were made. During the year, 2,921 traffic stops were made compared to 945 during the same period last year. Officers made eleven arrests from self-initiated traffic or pedestrian stops.

There were seven arrests for DUI this month which totals 69 for the year compared to 41 last year. The increased number of traffic stops and citations issued can be attributed to “explosion” of citizen complaints of speeding vehicles on City streets. For example, in October, officers assigned to a speed detail issued 25 citations for speeding in one hour. All 25 stops were for speeds greater than 13 mph over the posted speed limit. This particular detail was conducted on Veterans Parkway near Commerce. The slowest speed cited was for 58mph in a 45mph zone. The fastest was for 72mph in a 45mph zone.

On Oct. 4, the BassNector Concert was held at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum. One officer was injured and countless concert-goers were transported to hospitals for drug induced reasons. On October 12, a person overdosed on heroin. Consent to search the apartment was obtained. The victim later died. On October 14, shots fired with three suspects hit. A female was shot four times in the chest, a male was shot in the face, and another male was shot in the back. This call consumed almost all officers for the rest of the shift. On October 25, a vehicle pursuit began at Washington and Lee. The vehicle continued north on Lee at a high rate of speed. A short time later, the vehicle crashed at Lee and Division. Driver was arrested for DUI, reckless driving, fleeing and eluding.

Fourth Shift (8 p.m. - 4 A.M.)

Fourth shift is made up of six officers, including four patrol and two K-9 officers. The shift averaged 4.04 officers working each shift. Approximately 35 traffic stops were made with a total of 640 for the year compared to 531 during the same period last year.

School Resource Officers

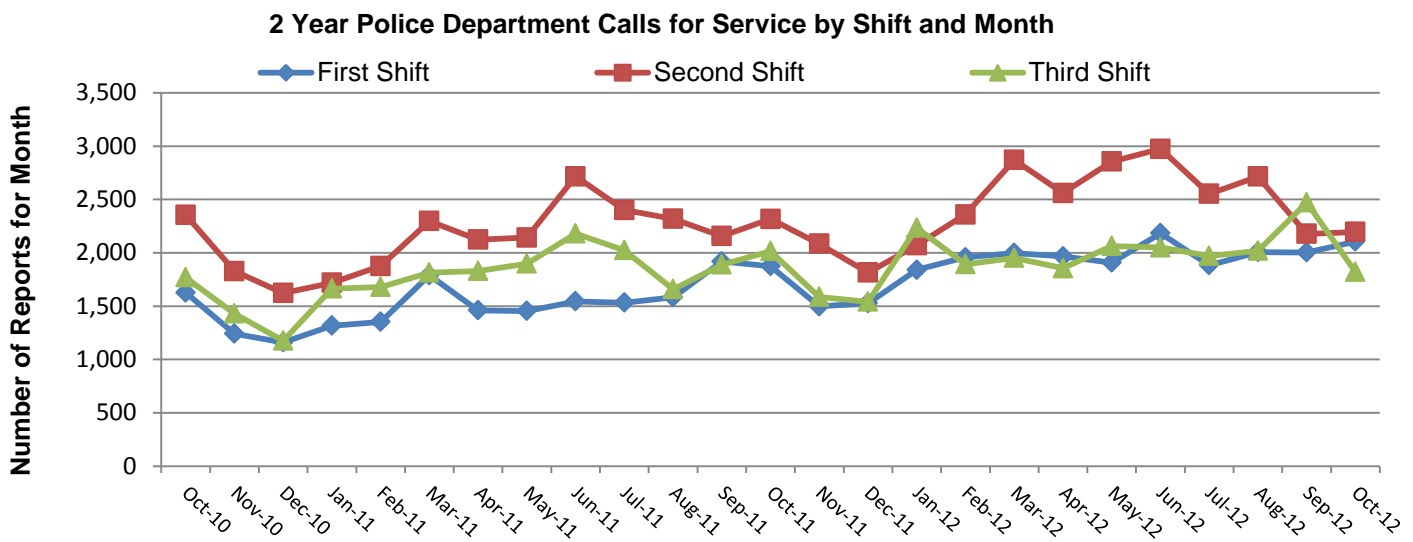
School Resource Officer (SRO) Arnold completed seven reports including four thefts, two battery, and one aggravated battery. He made one arrest, transported five students, conducted a crisis drill, and assisted patrol officers with disorderly Bloomington High School students in the 800 block of East Washington.

SRO Evans completed the following calls for service: six theft issues, eight order of protection checks, twenty suspicious vehicles, 27 disorderly conduct issues, eight child custody issues, ten truancy issues, ten fights, ten crisis drills and/or meetings, ten pedestrian and vehicle traffic issues, sixty-plus school visits, twenty extra patrol details, five domestic cases, three criminal damage issues, four child sex offender checks, twelve lock down drills, and four evacuation drills.

SRO Hirsch completed the following: two sexual abuse reports; investigated a subject trying to coax students into his truck; dealt with six incidents of fighting after school; received four calls from citizens on east Walnut and Chestnut regarding disorderly conduct, criminal damage, criminal trespass and fighting; investigated two incidents of criminal damage in the school; investigated four incidents of theft inside of school; removed two aggressive and non-compliant students from classrooms; conducted four locker searches with administration; gave a class presentation on police work to 60 eighth grade students; and located two missing students. Hirsch also spoke to four students regarding classroom behavior and fighting; spoke with seven parents regarding truancy, fighting, bullying, sexual abuse, conducted four interviews with students for class projects regarding law enforcement, and designed maps to be handed out to officers during an emergency at Bloomington Junior High School. Hirsch also met with BJHS administration and several staff to discuss lock down protocol and design information and script cards for teachers to follow during a lock down. The script cards will be added to District 87 Classroom Crisis Procedure handbook. Hirsch also investigated an incident where a girl was shot in the leg with an "airsoft gun" after school. He was able to get the suspect to admit he had the gun at school. School discipline and a report were completed.

SRO Wagehoft completed reports on one battery, one burglary, one theft with arrest, and one runaway. He attended a Youth Impact meeting, assisted Central Catholic High School by leading the homecoming parade to Holy Trinity, assisted SRO Arnold at BHS with the code red drill, assisted students with making a video regarding traffic offenses, attended traffic court from a summer incident, and assisted staff with the following school issues: five disorderly conduct, one battery, seven medical issues, two graffiti issues, seven fights, two truancy, two orders of protection, three locker searches involving gun complaints, and one home visit.

Public Affairs Officer White attended STAC meeting, Explorer meeting, CDN meeting, Washington School Pack meeting, and the Fire Department tower dedication. White completed a scout presentation at the police department, presented a safety talk to Planned Parenthood, conducted a bank robbery class, and passed out candy for Halloween at the Mall.



Incoming Phone Calls

Administrative (non-emergency)	7,965
911 Calls (wireline & wireless) total	2,125
911 Calls - Wireline	415
911 Calls - Wireless	1,715
Total All Calls	10,090

Dispatched Calls

Police	5,984
Fire and EMS	863
Total Dispatched Calls	6,847

Daily Call Averages

Administrative (non-emergency)	257
911 Calls – Wireline and Wireless	69
All Calls per day average	325
Police Dispatches	193
Fire and EMS Dispatches	28
Average Dispatches per day	221

Fire Department

Fire Suppression

Top 5 Fire Response Types for October 2012

Rank	Response Type
1.)	600: Good intent call, Other
2.)	745: Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional
3.)	700: False alarm or false call, Other
4.)	412: Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)
5.)	731: Sprinkler activation due to malfunction

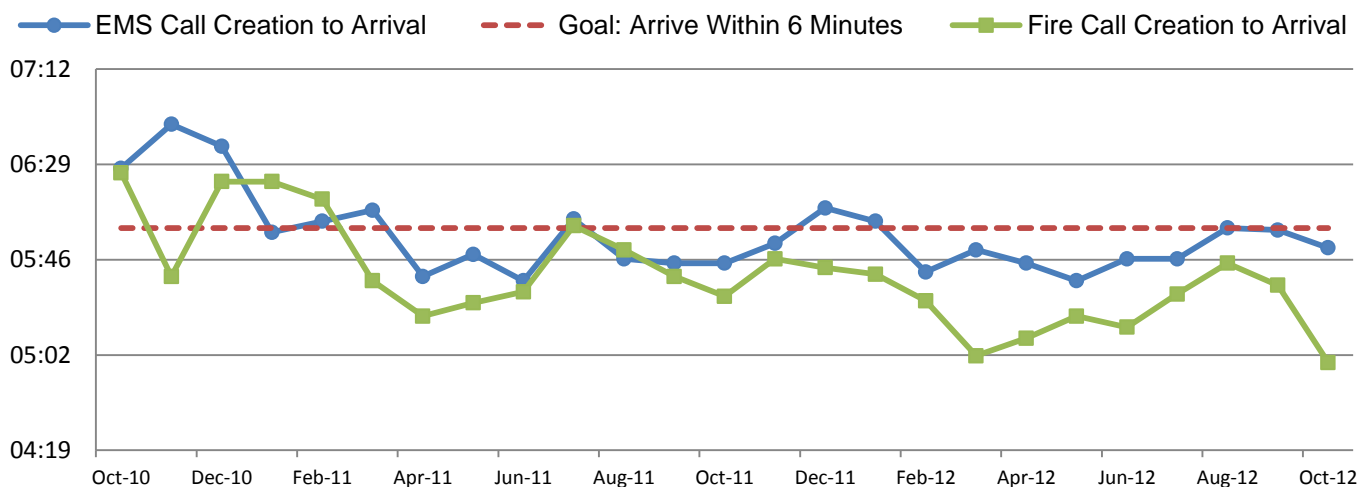
Fire Response Data: October 2012

Fire Response Type	Previous 12 Month Average	October of 2012
Fire Responses	164	170
Structural Fires	9	9
Estimated Dollar Losses (Property & Contents)	\$98,523	\$13,550

During October, the Department responded to 170 calls of which 9 were confirmed structure fires. The 170 calls comprised 19.67% of the volume for the month. These structure fire incidents resulted in a dollar loss estimated at \$13,550.00

Average response time from time of call to arrival for Fire Suppression emergency calls was within the 6 minute benchmark at 4:59 during October

Fire & EMS Call Response 2 Year Analysis



Operations Report

In the month of October, Bloomington Fire Department responded to 864 calls for service and approximately 80% of the calls were for medical service. Dollar loss for Structure fires consisted of an estimated \$13,750. This figure came from one building fire with limited damage and one vehicle fire.

The Pre-Plan program is still active with 12 more completed in October. This brings the CY total to 168 Pre-Plans completed. Two new ambulances have been put into service. Two additional ambulances will be put into service in mid- December and the Engine replacing Engine Six at #6 Station will be picked up the week of November 16th and put into service as soon as possible.

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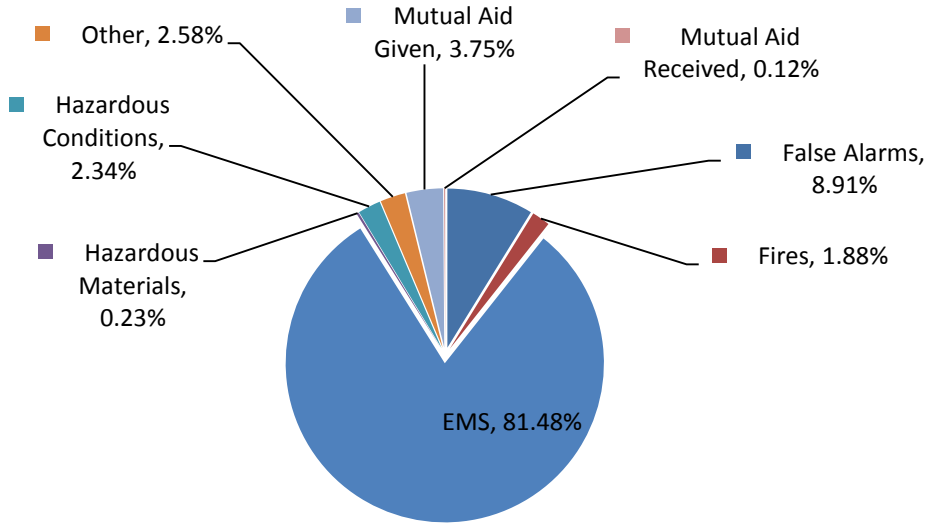
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Activity Summary

EMS responses for October totaled 694. This represents 85.46% of the monthly call volume. From these responses, the Department provided aid to 783 patients. The three leading EMS response types during October were Sick Person, Breathing Problems and Fall Victim.

Average response time from time of call to arrival for EMS emergency calls was below the 6 minute benchmark at 5:51 during October.

Fire Department Types of Calls for Service October 2012



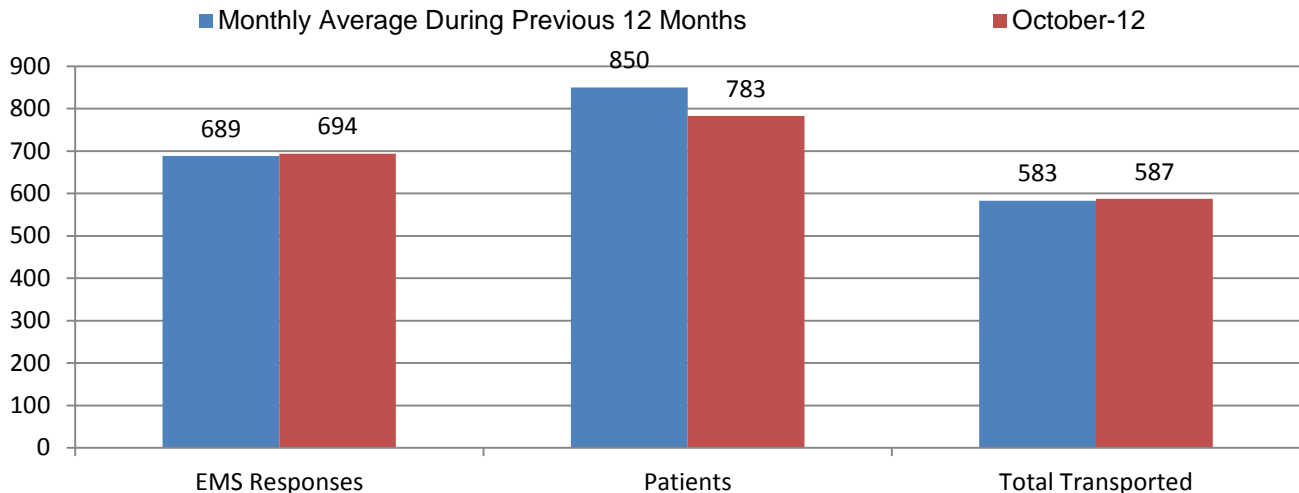
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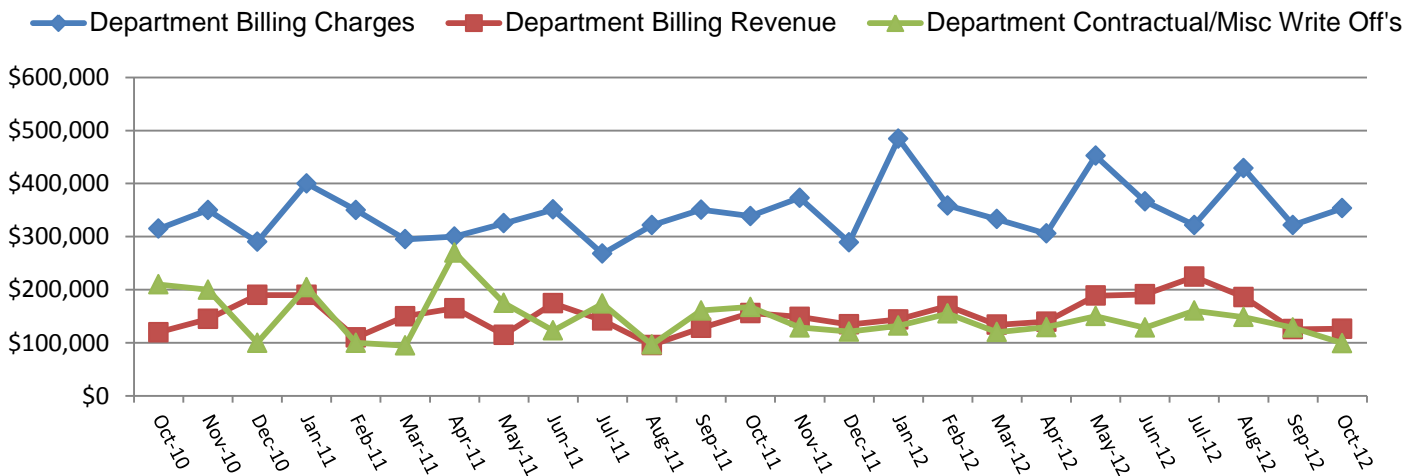
EMS Responses: October 2012 and Previous 12 Month Average



Billing Revenue Summary

Ambulance billing contains three areas, Revenue, Charges, and Contractual-Write offs. Revenue is the actual amount received by the City for the month. Charges are the total amount billed for the month. Contractual-Write offs consist of the portion of the charges not received as a result of either Federal or State carriers (Medicare and Medicaid) not allowing for EMS services, or write offs for financial hardship, bad debt accounts not collected (these are passed to a third party debt collection agency), bankruptcies, etc. The October total for revenue was \$126,441.69. The total October billing charges were \$353,484.95. The Contractual-Write offs total for October was \$99,347.69. Bad Debt transferred to third party collections was \$60,427.02.

2 Year Fire Department EMS Billing



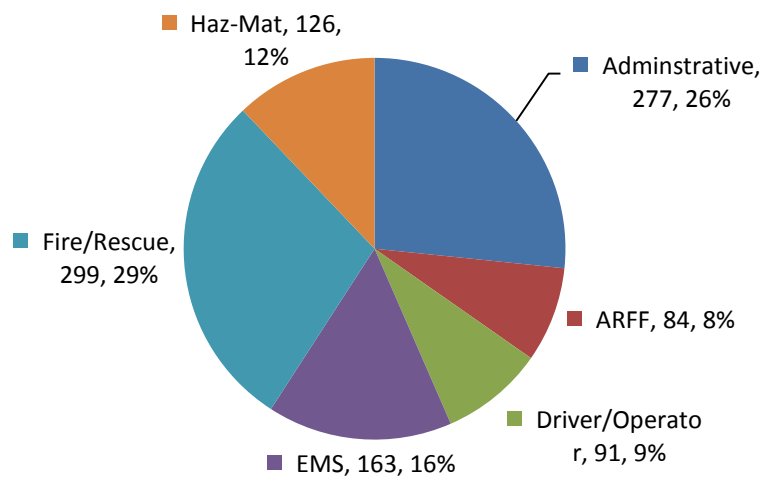
Fire Department Training Reports for October

For the month of October, 2012 the Fire Department held 239 training classes which totaled 1,040 class hours. The class topics have been grouped into six categories. They are Administrative, ARFF, Driver/Operator, EMS, Fire/Rescue, and Hazmat. The charts below represent the proportion of classes held in these six categories and the total number of hours attended in each category for the month of October.

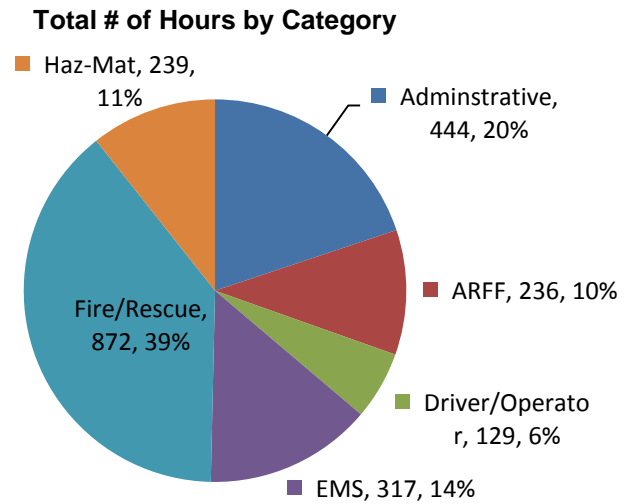
Major training subjects during this month included:

- Driver/Operator
 - Fire Service Vehicle Operator Course
 - Apparatus Familiarization
- Fire/Rescue
 - Vehicle Extrication
 - High Risk Attack

Total # of Training Classes by Category



- Fire Officer Leadership
- Hazardous Materials
 - Advanced Monitoring
 - Haz-Mat Technician Team Drill
- EMS
 - Patient Assessment
 - Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers
 - Advanced Life Support
- ARFF
 - Using Structural Equipment of ARFF
 - Aircraft/Airport Familiarization



The 239 training classes included 2,236.47 participants resulting in a total of 1,040 hours of training during October. This averages to 21.71 hours of training per shift personnel this month. This chart represents the total man hours of training in the six categories.

Fire & Life Safety

Fire & Life Safety Events were held at the following locations:

- Oakland Elementary x 4
- Irving Elementary x 3
- Brigham Early Learning
- Stevenson Elementary
- Holy Trinity Junior High
- Benjamin Elementary x 8
- St. Marys
- Pepper Ridge
- Washington Elementary x 2
- Bent Elementary
- 2nd Presbyterian Church
- University of Illinois Extension Office x 2
- Towanda Fire Department
- K-Mart
- Urbana Fire Department
- Bloomington Public Library
- Miller Park Zoo
- Interstate Center – Career Expo Day
- Scribbles Pre-school
- Katie’s Kids Learning Center
- Bloomington High School

Participants

- 215+ Adults
- 1400+ Children

The following fire & life safety presentations were given:

- CPR/AED Training
- Capt. Mac & Friends Fire Safety Presentations
- Halloween Trick-or-Treat Safety Presentations
- Hazard House Presentations
- Fire Safety for Adults with Disabilities
- Sparky the Fire dog participated in two events

Fire Evacuation Drills

- Oakland Elementary
- Brigham x 2
- Fox Creek Elementary
- Stevenson Elementary
- Sheridan Elementary
- Bent Elementary
- Sarah Raymond School x 2
- North Point Elementary
- Holy Trinity Junior High
- Holy Trinity Elementary
- Illinois Farm Bureau
- Country Financial
- I.A.A. Building

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department

New Miller Park Entrance Sign

Park staff removed and replaced the entrance sign into Miller Park. This project was completed with the help of Horticulture and Utility staff. The old wood sign was replaced with a combination stone and wood sign. The stone that was installed on the pillars matches the stone that is at the Zoo, Pavilion and new playground bathrooms. The sign is consistent with the new signs that have been installed at other Bloomington parks. New lights were also installed for the sign and will help with visibility at night. Staff also installed new outdoor outlets on the sign. This will provide electricity for Christmas lights during the holidays. The caps for the pillars and wall have been ordered and will be installed when they arrive.



New sign installation at Miller Park



A view of the fall colors at Miller Park

Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts

The BCPA welcomed 9,975 people to 68 different events and activities in October.

The Price Is Right, Live

The BCPA's second sold-out event of the 2012-13 season, "The Price is Right, Live" was unlike anything ever presented at the BCPA. Patrons began arriving at the theater in the morning, lining up for the contestant registration process which began at 4:30 pm. At one time, the line extended down the front steps of the BCPA, turned east at the Lincoln statue, and extended all the way to Prairie Street.



The Price is Right, Live! Host Todd Newton signing a patron's T-shirt

The show began at 7:30 pm, with local contestants earning a chance to “come on down” and win prizes, including a new car, a cruise to the Bahamas, cash, and other merchandise. The aforementioned cruise was the biggest prize won that night.

“The Price is Right, Live” was hosted by Emmy Award-winning game show host Todd Newton. The event was presented in conjunction with a sponsorship trade with Illinois State University’s Alumni Association and the school’s 2012 Homecoming Weekend.

Capitol Steps

Following tradition, the Capitol Steps made their fourth appearance at the BCPA on Saturday, October 13. The political comedy troupe has been at the BCPA each national election cycle since the theater reopened in 2006. They attracted an audience of 750 people this year. The performance was sponsored by the Ronda Glenn Law Firm.

Rosanne Cash

Hailing from the first family of American music, Grammy winner Rosanne Cash performed at the BCPA on Saturday, October 20. The show was sponsored by Brian and Anne Boyden and was seen by an audience of approximately 500 people.

We The People

The BCPA continued its Student Spotlight Series with the US history musical “We the People,” with two performances on Tuesday, October 23. A total of 837 K-12 students attended.

Fiddler On The Roof

The BCPA wrapped up the month with an October 27 performance of the Broadway classic “Fiddler on the Roof.” One thousand fifty people attended the performance, which earned rave reviews by all who attended. Added to the evening was a pre-show presentation made by Western Illinois University Professor Matt Bean. Professor Bean, who teaches a musical theater history course at WIU, discussed the history of the musical. He also talked about one of the show’s stars, Colleen Johnson, who had been one of his students at WIU before beginning her professional acting career.

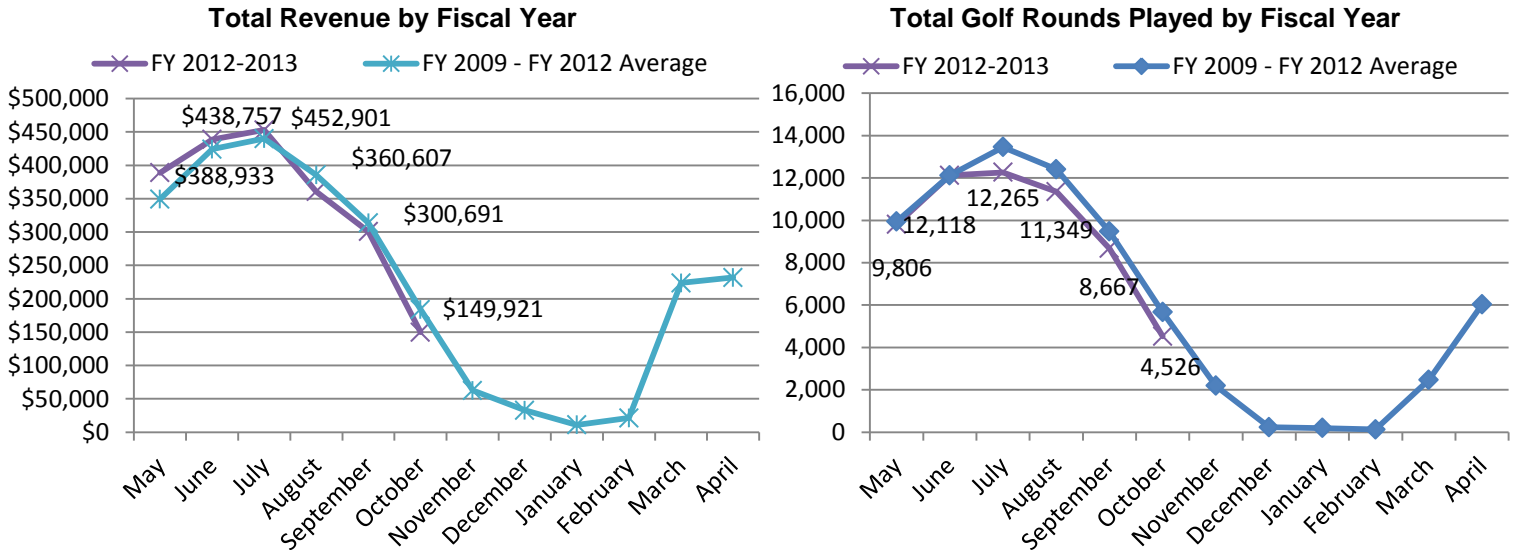
Two post-show activities were also presented. A reception was held for the BCPA’s Arts Partners. Forty-five people attended, enjoying desserts provided through a trade with The Garlic Press and having an opportunity to meet several members of the cast. A second program was held in the BCPA ballroom at the same time as the Arts Partners reception. The performers in the Sullivan, IL, Little Playhouse on the Square production of “Fiddler” arranged to have a discussion with members of the touring cast to ask them questions in preparation for their upcoming performances. The BCPA was more than happy to help accommodate the session, as the group of 30 performers had all purchased tickets to attend the performance.

Golf Division

October Revenue and Rounds

If the mild weather in the spring was a reward for golfers, weather in October seemed to be punishing them. Golf playable hours were down 30% compared to last October with measurable rain on 13 days compared to six days last year. Given the weather, both rounds and revenue were down 24%.

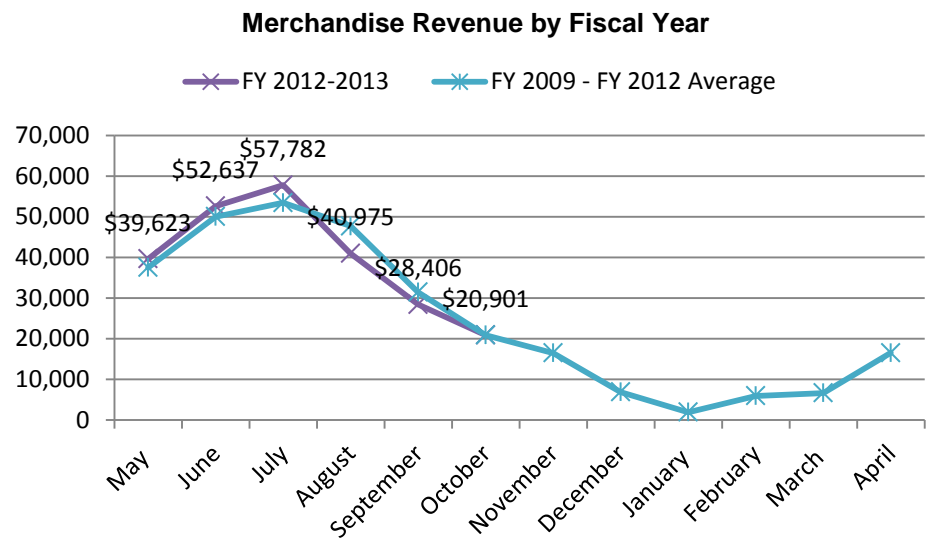
One positive to be taken this month was that the golf division out-performed the weather. Another bright note was merchandise sales per round up 17%, due mostly in part to strong merchandise sales during the IHSA State Finals.



Outings and Groups

Despite the weather, the courses still stayed active during the month as staff hosted the IHSA State Finals at Prairie Vista and The Den. This tournament brings thousands of people into the community from all around the state who see the quality of these courses and community as well. Unfortunately, the weather caused the event to be shortened to just 18 holes which is the first time that has occurred in many years.

In addition to the State Finals, the golf division hosted two fun fall events. The Den hosted the 5th Annual Mission Impossible tournament which had a smaller field of 84 players due to a daytime high that day of just 47 degrees. This event continues to bring players from areas as far as Chicago and the Quad Cities. Prairie Vista hosted the 8th Annual Vista Maze tournament which had a full field of 72 players. These tournaments serve as a great way to finish out the year hosting some fun events for those from the community and beyond.



Parks Maintenance

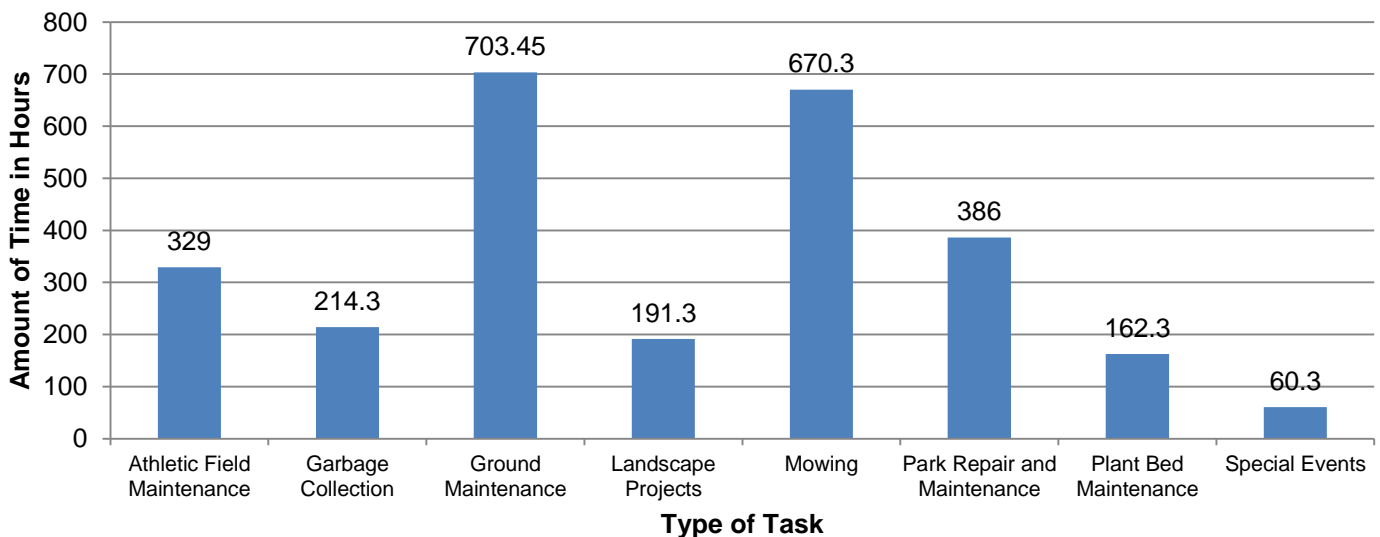
Horticultural Tasks

In October, mowing typically decreases and staff begins to dedicate more time to other turf maintenance. With this additional time, three employees from the parks maintenance department completed weed spraying of all City of Bloomington Park turf. Spraying was also completed on Route 9 and Veterans Parkway. This is the second complete spray of park turf this year. These sprayings will help reduce weeds so that the turf will be healthier and become more established. Staff also began to aerate all City park turf in October. This is a time-consuming process and will be completed sometime in November. Some new growth of grass has been seen at Gaelic Park and Cedar Ridge. These areas were over-seeded in September and are looking much improved this fall.

Park Staff ground maintenance in October increased by 275 hours. This is typical of this time of year. Staff must blow out all irrigation during October to avoid any pipe breaks due to freezing. Staff also begins the trimming back of all perennials and the removal of all the annuals to prepare for next year. One other area that staff devotes a lot of time is to leaf removal. Throughout the month, 20 employees supplemented leaf collections with their other maintenance duties. Park Maintenance works in conjunction with Public Works for some leaf removal. Park staff will blow and rake all the leaves to the curb and Public Works is kind enough to bring their leaf vacuums over and remove the leaves. Park Maintenance does have one crew that has a smaller leaf vacuum on a box truck. This crew is dedicated to leaf removal along fence lines, gutter pans and hard-to-get areas.

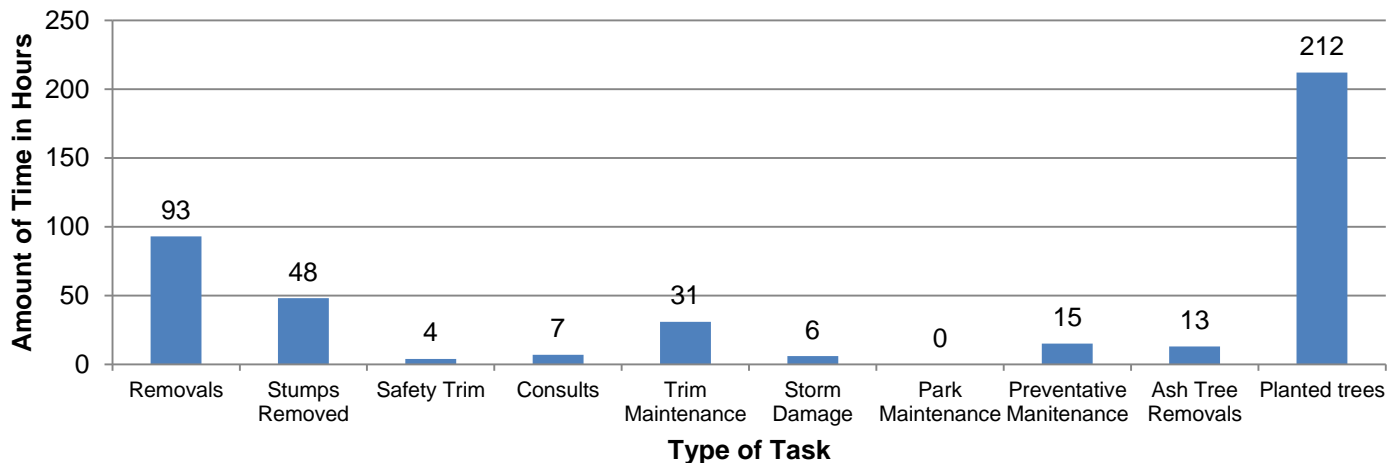
The Horticulture staff worked with the Golf maintenance staff at Prairie Vista in replacing the irrigation at the Sale Barn Soccer Fields. The original irrigation was damaged when the new trail was installed along Hamilton Road. The staff had to replace the main water line that fed the field. Staff installed a new control box and water pump. This system was installed with City water. The old system was eliminated as it drew water from the ponds at Prairie Vista and put a strain on water consumption. This system will be much more reliable and proficient.

Park Maintenance Field Work (hours) October 2012



Forestry Tasks

Forestry Division Trees Worked on by Job Task: October



October is the month that Parks Maintenance foresters begin tree planting. In October, 6 employees were responsible for planting trees. The Maintenance division will replace a tree when a tree is removed. Typically, a homeowner will request the replacement tree or they will leave it up to the forester's discretion. Forestry staff planted 212 trees in the month of October. The total number of trees to be planted (a combination of street and park trees) totals 262. There are 11 different species and 22 different varieties of trees that will be planted.

The number of maintenance trims is down. This is attributed to the forestry staff being short one man due to injury. There are also a large number of removals that were performed in October which require a higher number of man hours.

Recreation Division

Recreation Programs

Fall Festival, held on October 6, had about half the attendance as compared to 2011. This year's cloudy and very cool weather was quite different than the Summer-like conditions in 2011. Families who did attend participated in events including hayrack rides, bounce houses, entertainment, games, refreshments and more. During the 3 hours of the Festival, the Zoo was open with reduced admission. Approximately 500 people attended this event.

The Great Pumpkin Hunt family special event was held for the second year. Participants hunted for pumpkins which were then redeemed for prizes, and cooked s'mores over a fire on the beach. In contrast to the Family Fest date, this year the weather was very warm so it was uncomfortable being near the fire!

Fall programs were in "full swing" in October. Some of the programs held by age group were:
Parent/Tot – Falltime Fun, Tiny Melodies, Parent/Tot Open Gym, Parent/Tot Gymnastics
Preschool – Super Tot Gymnastics, Half Pint Sports, Creative Dance and Autumn Crafts
Youth – Dance, Clay Pottery for Youth, Zumbatomics, Afterschool Volleyball, Tennis
Adults – CoRec Volleyball, No Fear Yoga, Tennis, Zumba
55+ - Zumba Gold, Tanner's Orchard Trip, "Wicked" trip, Conklin Dinner Theatre trip

The youth registration numbers for October are down due to the departure of the contractual dance to the YMCA for a larger facility. Last fall there were over 200 individuals in the dance program. This

year there are 28. Attendance was low for many of the preschool programs in October. Many were canceled due to low enrollment.



Family Fest Event



Afterschool Volleyball

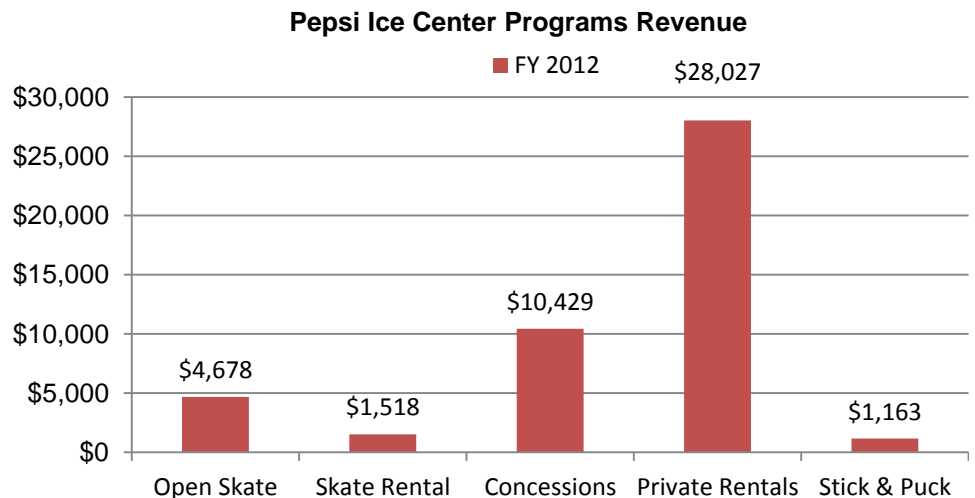
The Afterschool Volleyball program had 197 individuals register. This was up from 2011. The program is offered at all 11 elementary schools in Bloomington. The programs at Fox Creek and Irving schools were canceled due to insufficient registration. The program ended with the last games on Saturday, November 1.

Pepsi Ice Center

Pepsi Ice continued to be very busy, especially with hockey leagues. The ISU club team and the Junior Blaze had many weekend games in addition to all the youth leagues. There are some early mornings for staff and some very late evenings.

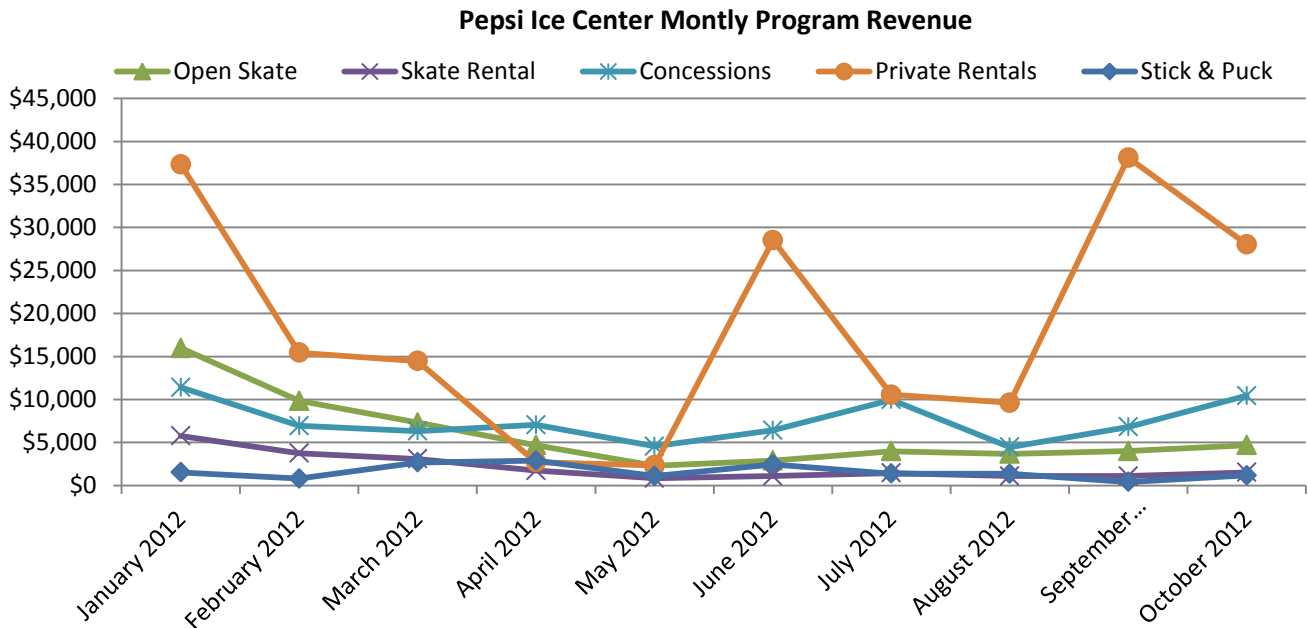
As the weather gets cooler, attendance at open skate sessions usually increases. The themed open skates have very good attendance. Theme nights in October were College Colors on Oct. 5 (which was a partnership with ISU Homecoming) and the Halloween-themed Freaky Friday on Oct. 26.

Total revenue for Pepsi Ice Center is up compared to 2011. Most of the increase can be attributed to youth hockey. This could be due to the timing of payments. Last year the hockey director was in the hospital in October and did not get reminders out about payments being due. Over \$12,000 more in youth hockey payments were collected in October 2012 as compared to October 2011.

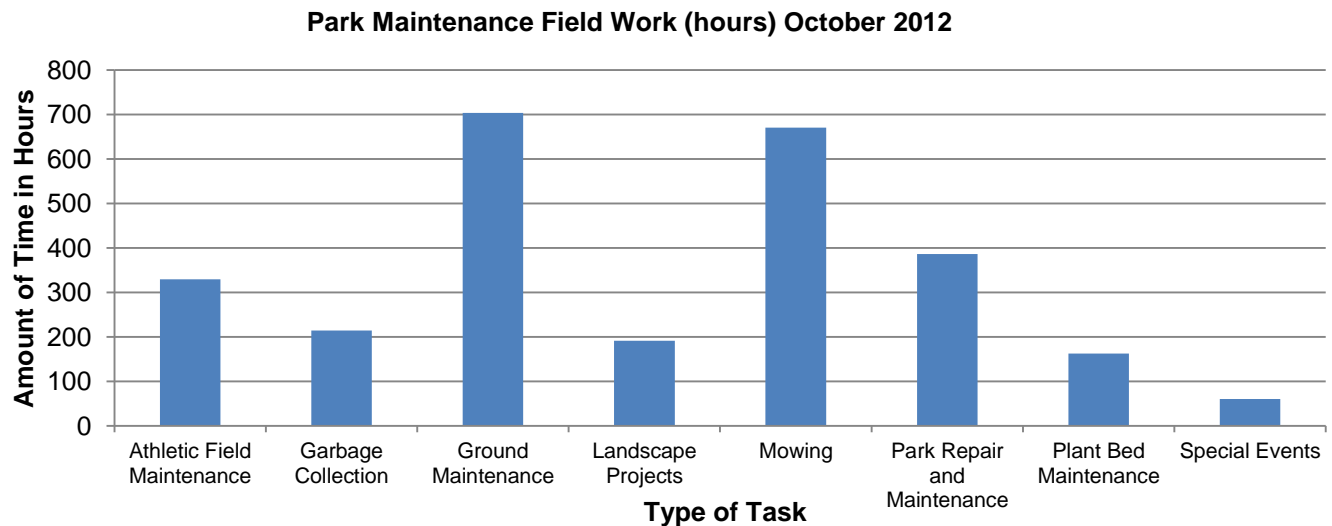


The 2012-2013 budget midpoint revenue is the highest revenue for Pepsi Ice Center at the midpoint since the facility opened. The 6 month figure for this fiscal year is \$430,713. It was \$409,086 for FY12, \$416,193 for FY11, and \$366,972 for FY10.

Fall 2 session classes started for Learn to Skate and Learn to Play. The numbers were down in both areas compared to 2011.



Maintenance and Staff



Golf Division

Maintenance and Staff

The dismal weather conditions created issues for completing scheduled fall aerification work. A good weather month in November is required for staff to accomplish unfinished aerification work. This process is vital to allow the turf to remain healthy during the heat of summer.

In November, two events to look for include the annual merchandise blow-out sale and participating in the Clare House Food Drive. On the courses, staff aims to do as much aerification as possible while also completing other project work as weather allows.

Utility

Utility staff worked in cooperation with Bloomington Fire Department on replacing their deck at Fire Station 1. Park staff removed the existing wood railing and deck. The staff replaced those with a composite material which will not rot or crack. Staff also installed a new wood trellis and skirting around the deck which will deter anyone from going underneath the deck. The horticulture division installed new landscaping around the deck as well as the front of the building. Four ash trees were removed along with a huge White Pine. One tree was replanted in front of the new deck.



Landscaping at fire Station 1

Other Utility projects included:

- Monthly light inspections and repair at all parks and facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspections and repair at all parks and facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspections and repair at the Coliseum and BCPA
- Monthly Park inspections and repair at all City parks
- Installed new bollards and fence on the trail entrances at Forest Park
- Corrected ADA concerns at O'Neil and Holiday Pools
- Shut down and winterized all water spray parks and drinking fountains
- Installed new concrete sidewalk at four different locations in Miller Park Zoo
- Designed and installed new ice break signs within City parks
- Cleaned up and tilled Community Gardens

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN RECREATION (S.O.A.R.)

Special Olympics

Three of the S.O.A.R. Volleyball Teams (two traditional and the two unified) participated in the Illinois Special Olympics Fall Games on October 26 & 27 in Rockford. Each team placed 2nd in their division. Sixty-five individuals registered for the S.O.A.R. basketball program participated in a skills assessment on October 23 & 25. They were divided into six teams, which is an increase of one team from 2011, and started practice October 30.

Weekly Programs

Fall weekly programs that started in September continued into October plus some new programs started in October. The Holiday Performers started practice to prepare for their December show.

The S.O.A.R. numbers were lower for registration, attendance, and service units mainly due to the Central Illinois Down Syndrome Buddy Walk. The event this year was in September. S.O.A.R. was part of Worldwide Day of Play instead of the Buddy Walk. The TGIF program was not able to be offered this year since vans were unavailable.

Special Events

Special events in October included a Pajama Party, Halloween Dance, and trips to an ISU Football Game and to the BCPA to see Price is Right, Live!

Staff Hours

Hours for staff in 2012 were almost identical to 2011. There were 4,138 hours in 2011 and 4,113 hours in 2012.

Volunteer Hours

Area	# Volunteers	# Volunteer Hours
Afterschool Volleyball	2	
Adult Center	18	31
Hockey	49	
Ice Skating	2	
SOAR	54	221

Zoo Division

Overall numbers in October were down compared to October of 2011. This is mostly due to unfavorable weather conditions in comparison with last year.

Revenue from the gate admission was up 11.2% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's revenue. Last year, the revenue raised from admissions broke the all-time record for the Zoo in a fiscal year. Admission prices were raised on May 1, 2012.

Attendance was down 7.2% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's attendance. The fiscal year 2011-12 was the third best year in history. Bad weather (especially on weekends) hurt attendance as well as not allowing free admission at Fall Fest.

Animal Collection

- Acquisitions—animals added to collection by transaction or birth/hatch
 - 2 male Saffron Finch
 - 2 male Red-Capped Cardinal
 - 1 Green Chromis



- 1 Starry Blenny
 - 1 Green Mandarin Fish
 - 5 Peppermint Shrimp
 - 2 Black Sea Urchin
 - 10 Brown Mantella
 - 1 Timor Python
 - 1 male, 1 female Bar-Headed Geese
 - 1 Green Tree Python
 - 1 Thai Bamboo Rat Snake
- Dispositions—animals removed from collection by transaction or death
 - 1 male Alpaca
 - 2 Blue-and-Yellow Poison Dart Frogs
 - 1 female Cotton Top Tamarin
 - 1 Hippo Tang, 1 male, 1 female Clown Fish, 1 female Leopard Wrasse and 1 One-Spot Foxface moved from quarantine tank to the reef tank on exhibit in Zoo Lab.
 - Moved 1 North American river Otter out of quarantine and placed her in the Otter exhibit with the male. The introduction went very well.
 - 1 female Snow Leopard cleared quarantine and was introduced with male. Introduction went well and the pair is doing well together. This forms an SSP recommended pairing.

October Education Revenue

Revenue from Education Program Fees and Rentals were down 23.4% for the fiscal year compared to last year. 2011-12 was the best year in Zoo's history in revenue raised through education and rental programs.

October Carousel and Animal Feedings

Revenue from Concessions, Carousel and Animal food Sales is down 2.7% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's numbers.

Staff

- Worked on animal transactions (12 pending)
- City Council approved Miller Park Zoo Master Plan
- Zoo Superintendent, Jay Tetzloff, gave presentation to Illinois Farm Bureau, Country Financial, and Growmark.
- Zoo Superintendent, Jay Tetzloff, gave presentation to Bloomington Exchange Club
- Hosted monthly meeting for the Miller Park Neighbors. The Neighbors group and the Zoo will partner for a coat, hat, and mittens drive at Zoo's Wild Lights event in December.
- Hosted special event, Reggie Redbird Day at the Zoo. This event is part of Illinois State University's homecoming.

Hosted special event, Zoo Spooktacular. This event used to be called Halloween at the Zoo.

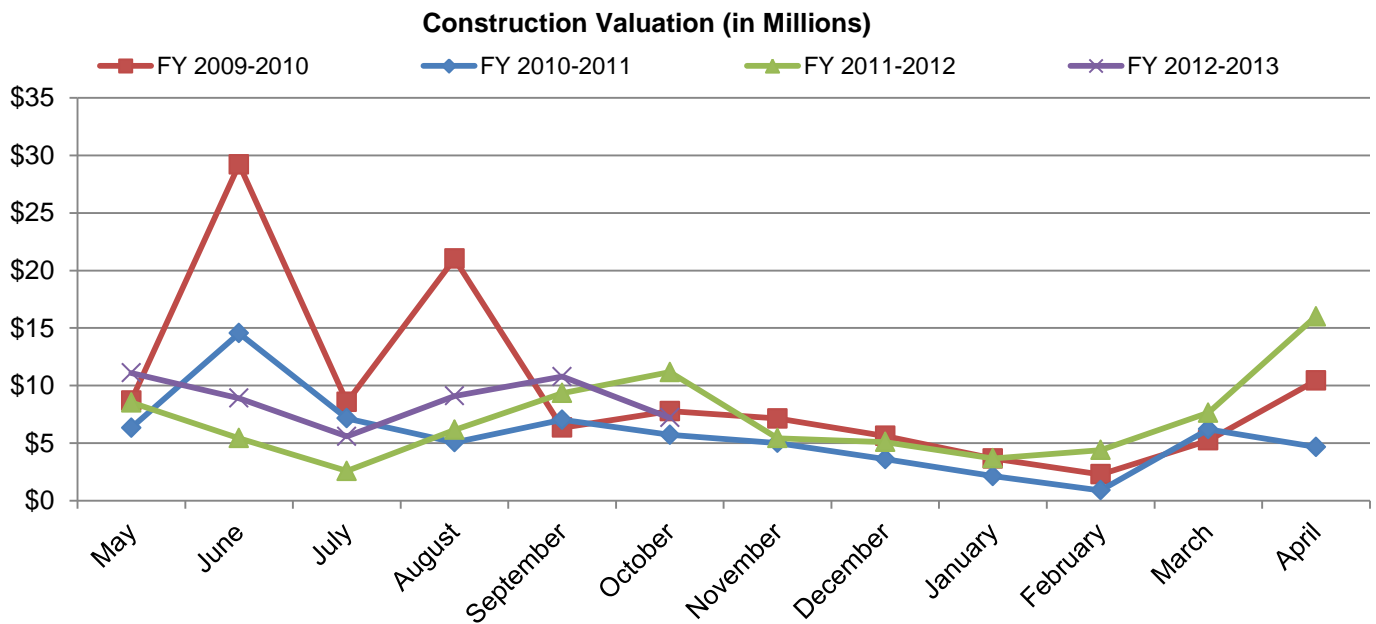
Planning & Code Enforcement Department

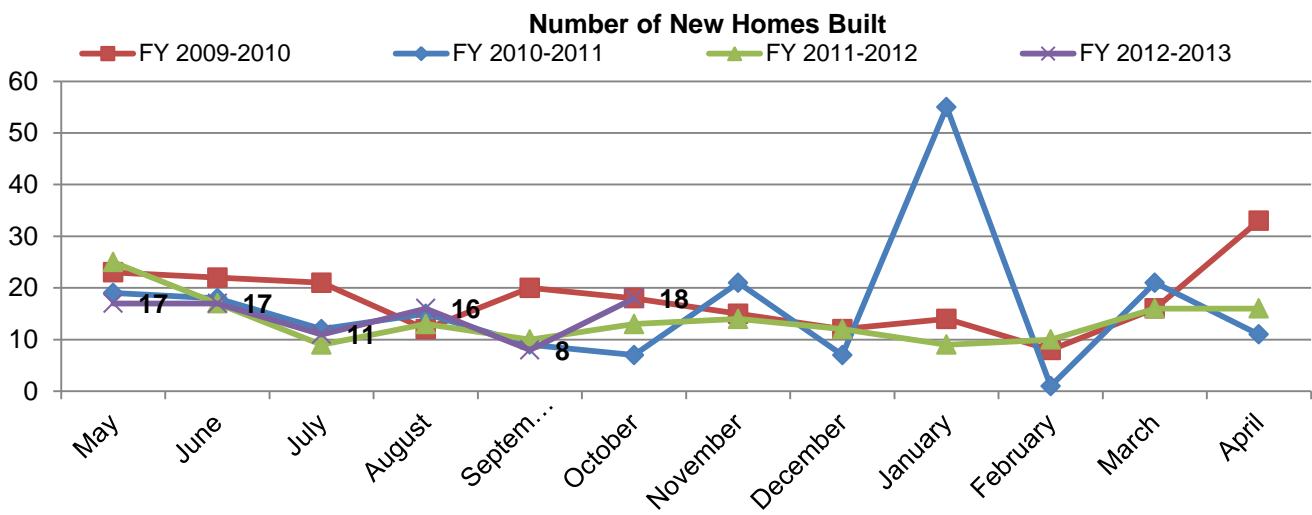
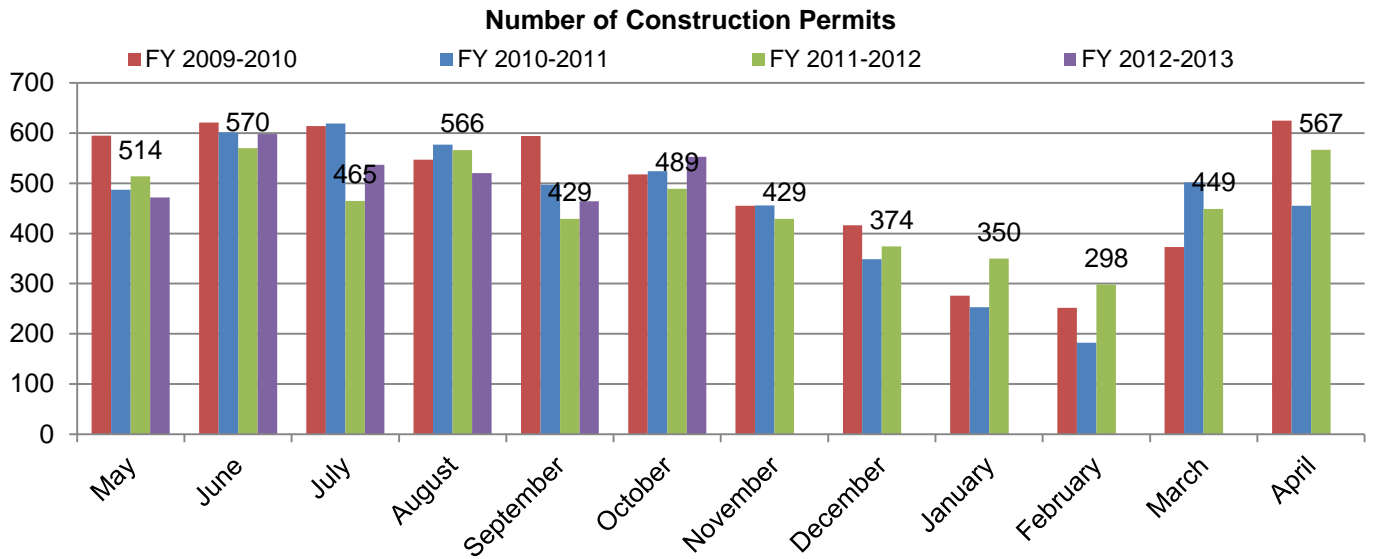
Building Safety Division

Construction value is up 50% since the first of the year. However, overall construction value for the month of October was down by 35% from October of last year. While month-to-month construction value showed a decline, most of the other permitting areas continue to show marked improvements with the year-to-date permit numbers continuing to show a 12-15% increase for the 2012 calendar year. Combined with the higher construction values (50% YTD) and last year's permit fee increase, permit fees are up a healthy 33%.

October 2012 Compared to October 2011	Year to Date
New home starts – up 38%	Up 15%
Building permits – up 35%	Up 13%
All construction permits – up 13%	Up 12%
Fees collected – up 22%	Up 33%
Construction Value – down 35%	Up 50%

Construction Projects \$1,000,000 or Higher		
Building/Project Description	Address	Value
None for October 2012		





The drastic increase of number of homes built in January 2010-2011 may be attributed to the near record warm winter that allowed for construction at a time when most activities are postponed until the spring.

Notable Plan Reviews Received

<u>Building/Project Description</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Value</u>
Vale Community Church	1304 Morrissey Dr.	1,100,000
Hindu Temple	1807 Tullamore Ave.	1,000,000

Items/Activities of Note:

- The City is still in need of board members for the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Property Maintenance Review Board. Please direct citizens to the statement of interest form available on the City's web site.
- Phase 3 of the MUNIS program is continuing. The PACE Department as well as Public Works and the Clerk's office are all involved as well as Permitting and land processes. Phase III of MUNIS is the permitting and inspection portion of the enterprise wide software system. While providing staff with improved controls, reporting and other management tools; it will also

improve customer service for PACE. The public should expect to see on-line activities such as permit applications, inspection requests and complaint intake.

- Review of second quarter financial reports indicate the various PACE divisions are maintaining expenses within their budgets while fee collections from the Building Safety Divisions are well ahead of projections. This is due to increased permit numbers and project values well above the norm. Staff does anticipate that this surplus will likely be reduced as construction activity typically declines during the winter season.

Historic Preservation Activity

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Petitioner and Address</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Action</u>
BHP-23-12	Justin Lee on behalf of Alpha Lambda of Phi Mu Alpha, Inc.	Requested a Certificate of Appropriateness for the west and south porches for the Dr. Mammen House, Queen Anne style, 1897-98, located at 303 E. Chestnut Street in the Franklin Square Historic District.	Approved 6-0
BHP-24-12	Christopher L. and Carol B. Nyweide	Requested a Certificate of Appropriateness for a room addition to the David Davis III & IV House, Georgian Revival, 1872, National Register, and located at 1005 E. Jefferson Street in the Davis Jefferson Historic District.	Approved 6-0
BHP-28-12	Joe and Ruth Haney	Requested an up to \$20,084.00 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of a new roof and painting for the building, located at 407 W. Front Street, in Downtown Bloomington.	Only Roof Approved 6-0
BHP-30-12	Joe and Ruth Haney	Requested an up to \$23,747.86 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of windows, lighting, awnings, doors, stone and stucco for the building, located at 409 W. Washington Street, in the Downtown Bloomington.	Continued to next month

BHP-31-12	Fred Wollrab	Requested an up to \$10,000.00 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of masonry, doors and window work for the Sill Pneumatic Horse Collar Company Building, 1903, located at 315 E Front Street in the Downtown Bloomington National Historic District.	Approved 6-0
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Planning Commission Activity

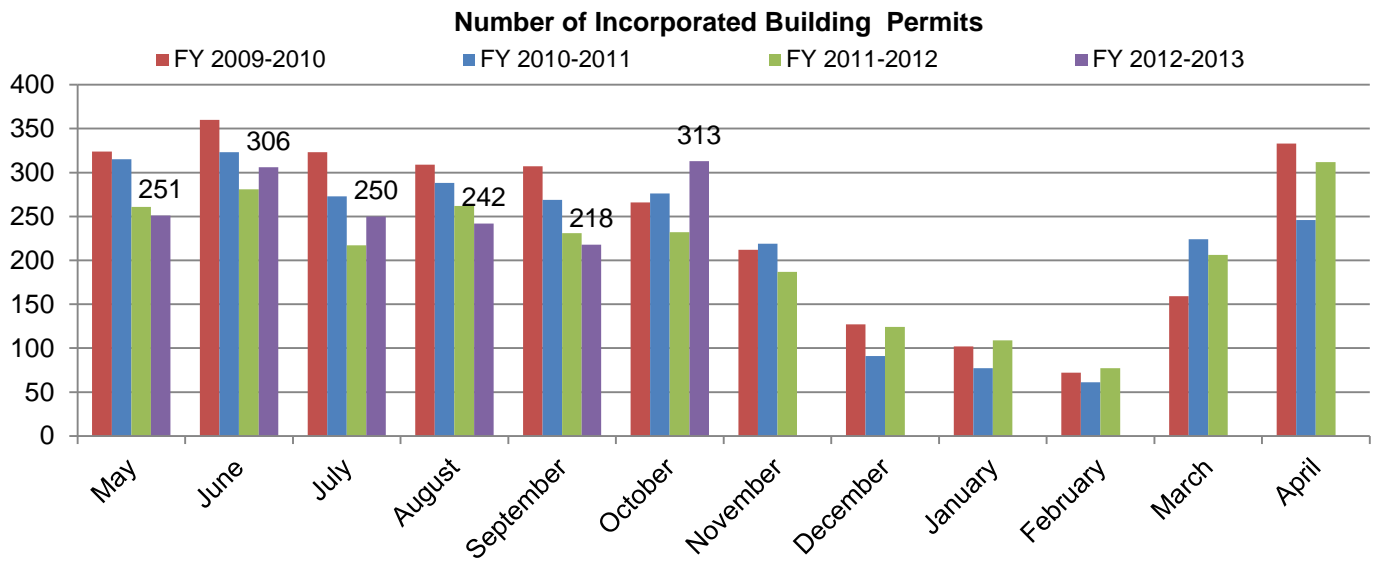
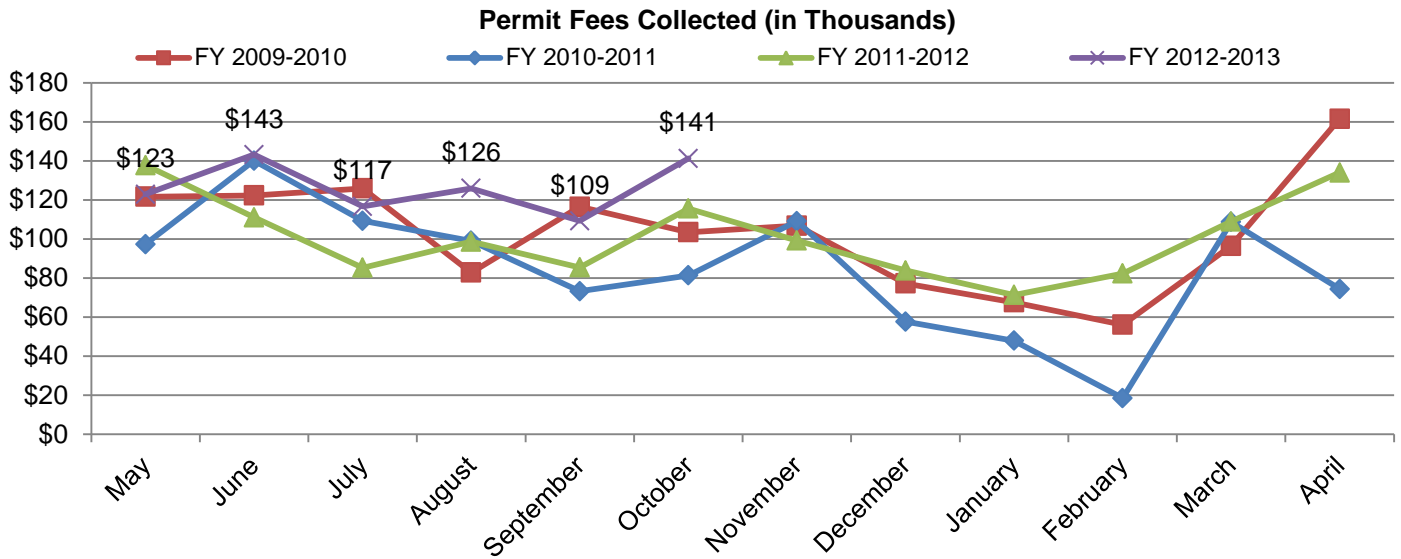
<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Petitioner and Address</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Action</u>
Z-04-12	City of Bloomington	A municipal corporation, requesting the amendment of Chapter 44 (Zoning), that will combine the Sign Board of Appeals with the Zoning Board of Appeals (documents to be provided). <i>Staff anticipates this petition will be continued to a subsequent meeting.</i>	Discussion continued on to next meeting.

Zoning Board Activity

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Petitioner and Address</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Action</u>
Z-20-12	Jeremy Knapp	To allow construction of a detached garage and to allow the following three variances from the Zoning Ordinance: 1) an increase in the maximum allowed square footage from 1,000 square feet to 1,755 square feet. 2) to allow a second story 3) an increase in the maximum allowed height from 14 feet to 23 feet. All are for property located at 3 Moore Road. Zoned R-1A, Single-Family Residential District. (Ward 4).	<i>Approved 5-0</i>

Construction Board of Review

No meetings in October 2012



Landlord Training- Program Summary

The Code Enforcement Division of Planning and Code Enforcement held their semi-annual landlord training session at the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts, Saturday, October 13. Eight-seven people pre-registered for the program. Including four walk-ins 77 actually attended. Nine City staff were also present for logistical and information purposes. This year, an effort was made to include topics that would be of interest to both landlords and tenants and efforts were made to notify and include tenants. While the event was well attended, the number of tenants in attendance was somewhat disappointing but not unexpected.

The morning agenda was filled with presentations and a group of additional exhibitors on relative topics. The primary presentation featured a panel of three attorneys that focused on leases, evictions and related legal questions. The panel consisted of George Boyle, Assistant Corporation Council for the City of Bloomington, representing the City and the Rental Inspection Program; Adrian Barr, Prairie State Legal Services, representing the tenant point of view; and Joe Dehn of the legal firm of DePew & Dehn, representing the landlord's side of the equation.

As part of the program, staff collected a survey form intended to measure the success of the program and topics discussed. In addition, very basic information related to staff interaction with the landlords was collected.

Thirty-four survey responses were collected which represent a 44% return from the attendees. Almost all of the survey responses were very positive, in addition to the many verbal comments that were received by PACE staff during and after the training. 88% of the respondents had a generally favorable response (3 or better out of 5) to the program. Further, 84% - 94% of respondents indicated that they have positive interactions with PACE staff related to the rental inspection program.

Other exhibitor’s topics included:

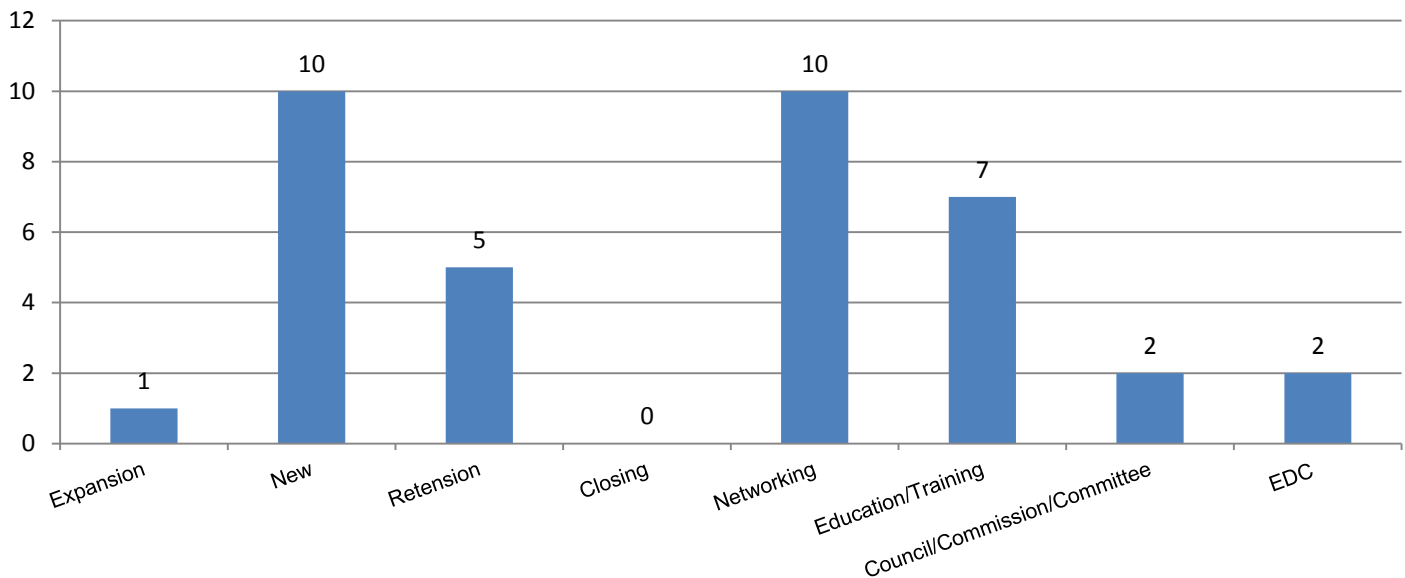
Presentation	Representatives
Fair Housing	Amber Madden
Bloomington Police Department: Nuisance Abatement and Sex Offenders/Screening	Carl Fever, Brad Peterson, Shawn Albert
Planning and Code Enforcement: Rental Program General Questions and Information	Shannon Ramirez, Denny Mallory
Planning and Code Enforcement: Property Maintenance and Code Enforcement	John Langlois, Donna Gerron
Public Health and Safety- Lead Based Paint	Gerald Allison
PATH (Providing Access to Help) 211 Referral Program- Rent & Utility Assistance	Karen Zangerle
McLean County Health Department: Smoke Free Buildings	Jackie Lanier
Country Insurance- Renters Insurance	Mike Rich
Busey Bank: Commercial Lending and 1 st Time Homebuyer Information	Dave Besler and Tom Good
Mid Central Community Action Transitional Housing, Weatherization, Utility Assistance	Perry Mayer

Economic Development

The City's Economic Development Coordinator attended the International Economic Development Council's 2012 Annual Conference in Houston, Texas from September 30 to October 3. In attendance were over 1,500 professionals from economic development organizations around the country. Programming highlighted issues most important to the industry, including how to work with site selectors, downtown redevelopment, tools for redevelopment and evaluating the performance of economic development organizations, just to name a few. Keynote speeches were presented by the Honorable Rebecca Blank, PhD, Acting Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce, Davis S. Ridley, Chief Marketing Officer and Senior Vice President for Southwest Airlines Co. and the Honorable Rick Perry, Governor, State of Texas.

Also attended in October was the Illinois Tax Increment Finance Associations 2012 Fall Conference and Workshop in Chicago, Illinois on October 17 and 18. 161 registered attendees heard from key officials and TIF experts, including the Honorable Judy Baar Topinka, Illinois' Comptroller. Session topics included TIF gap analysis, redevelopment agreements, best practices for conducting joint review board meetings, prevailing wage requirements, proposed TIF reform, master planning, brownfield redevelopment and public-private partnerships for sustainable redevelopment.

October External Meetings Held



On October 19, City Manager David Hales and Economic Development Coordinator Justine Robinson presented to more than 200 public officials at the 2012 Illinois Municipal League Conference in Chicago. Addressing the topic of retail economic development as a way to create revenue for cities, the pair highlighted historical trends pertinent to the Bloomington market, along with tools and strategies for expanding the retail and sales tax base of the community.

In an attempt to serve as a catalyst for the attraction and retention of high quality commercial development, the City of Bloomington adopted a detailed Economic Development Strategic Plan and Incentive Guideline at the October 22 Bloomington City Council meeting. Together, these documents outline the goals and objectives of the Office of Economic Development and also provide a framework for the programs and tools necessary to achieve those goals. For more information on these items, please visit the Economic Development section of the City's website at www.cityblm.org.

Economic Development

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Welcome to the City of Bloomington's Economic Development page. The mission of our office is to enhance the economic viability of our community, businesses and residents through the use of economic development practices and collaboration with other economic driven organizations.

In an attempt to serve as a catalyst for the attraction and retention of high quality commercial development, the City of Bloomington adopted a detailed Economic Development Strategic Plan and Incentive Guideline. Together, these documents outline the goals and objectives of the Office of Economic Development and also provide a framework for the programs and tools necessary to achieve those goals. For more information on these items, please refer to the links provided below:

[Economic Development Strategic Plan](#)
[Economic Development Incentive Guideline](#)

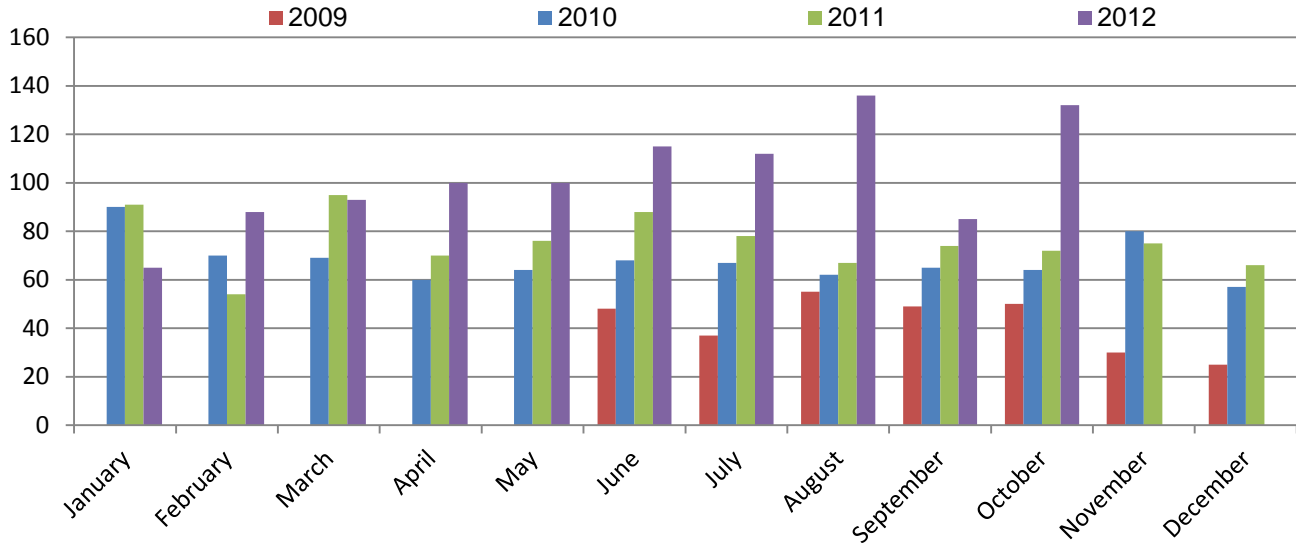
New to Bloomington? This video promotes the unique attractions, accommodations, facilities and events that the Bloomington-Normal Area offers. Produced by the Bloomington-Normal Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, it highlights many great features that our community has to offer.

[Share](#) [More info](#)

Family Fun

City Clerk

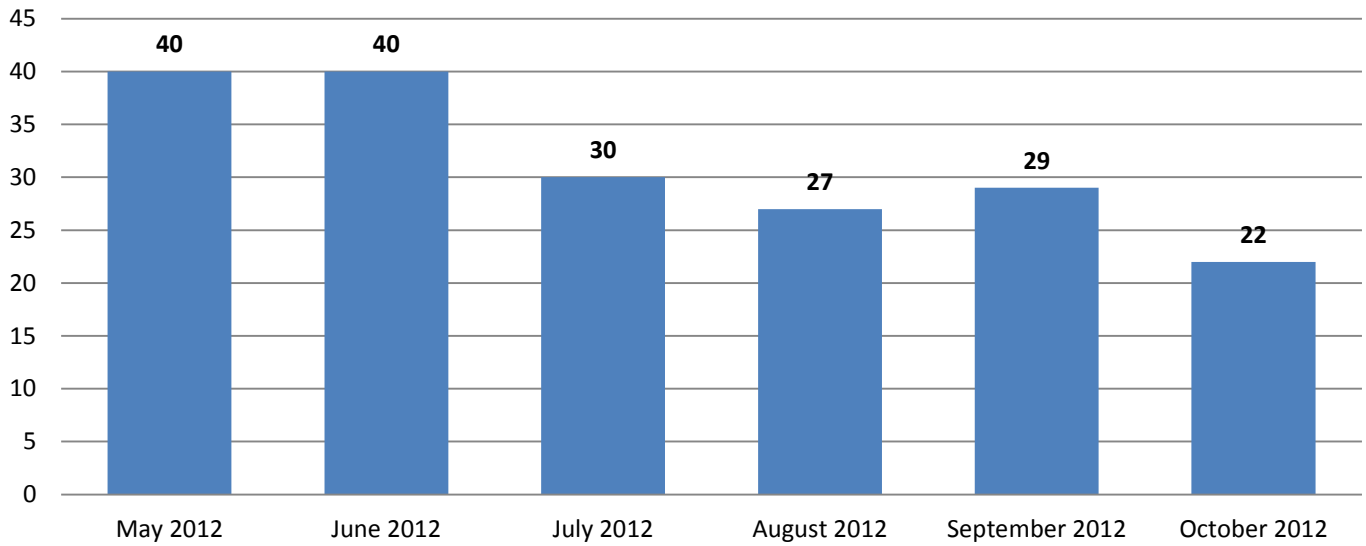
F.O.I.A. Request by Month Since June 2009



F.O.I.A Requests by Month Since June 2009

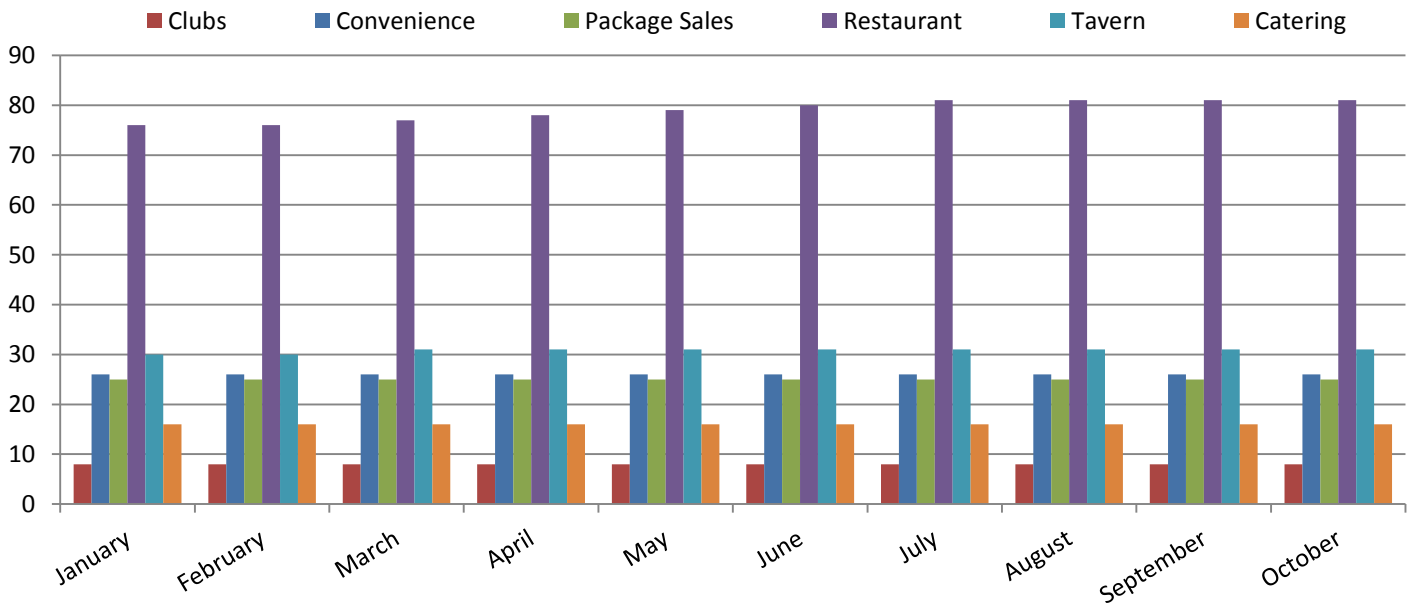
	2009	2010	2011	2012
January		90	91	65
February		70	54	88
March		69	95	93
April		60	70	100
May		64	76	100
June	48	68	88	115
July	37	67	78	112
August	55	62	67	136
September	49	65	74	85
October	50	64	72	132
November	30	80	75	
December	25	57	66	

Fiscal Year Number of Items on Council Agenda



Total Number of Items on Council Agenda for Fiscal Year: 188

Number of Liquor Vendors



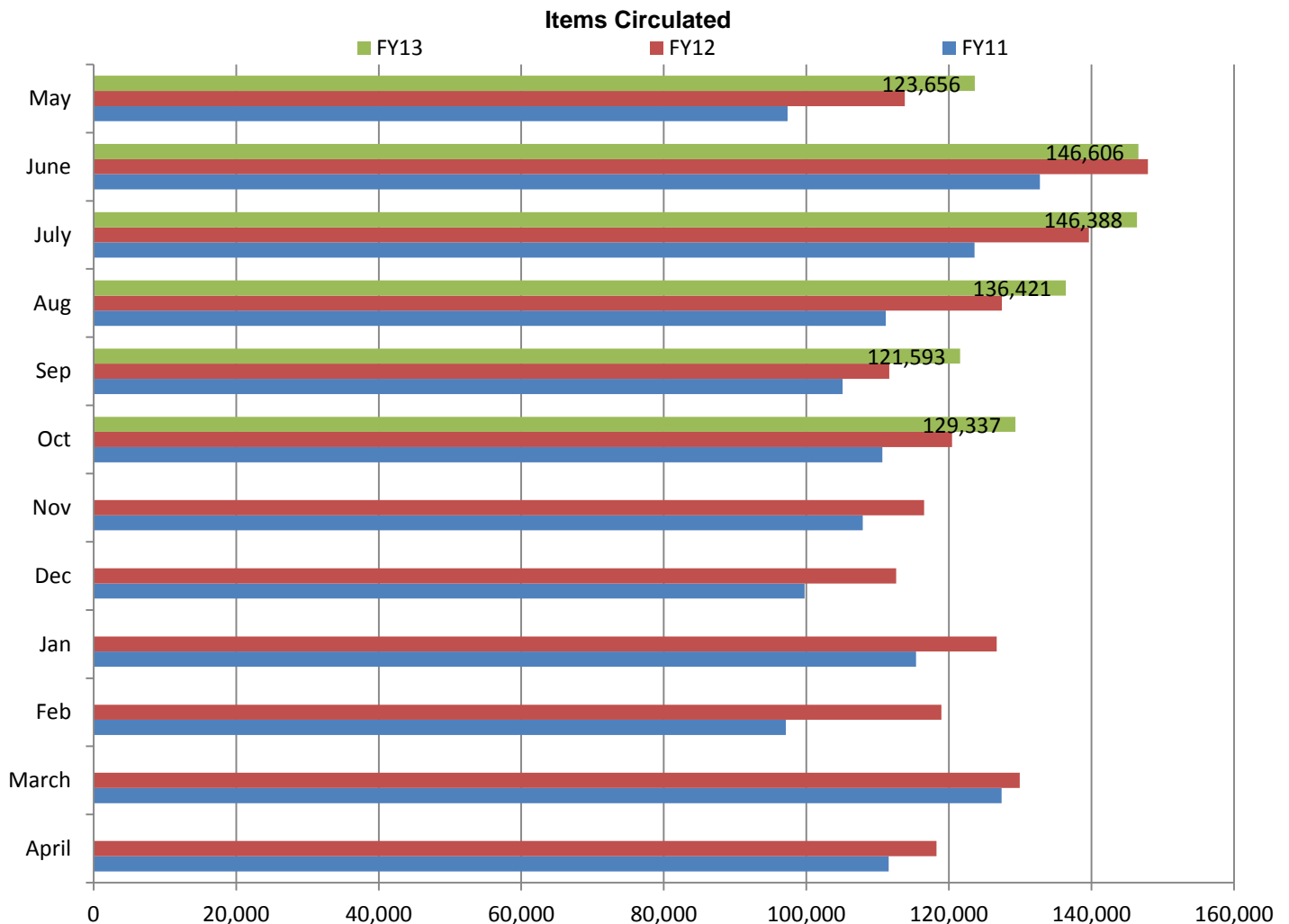
Total Number of Liquor Vendors in 2012 Calendar Year: 193

Library (semi-autonomous entity)

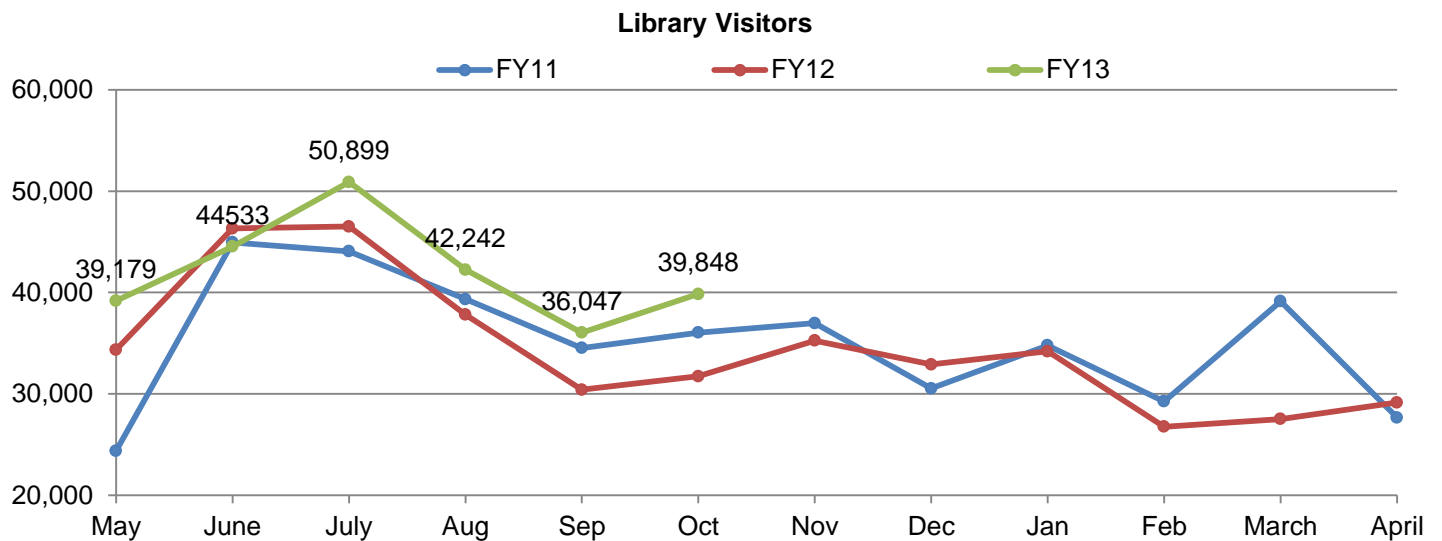
The Bloomington Public Library is governed by the nine member Library Board of Trustees and operates as a semi-autonomous governing entity. The trustees are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council for staggered three year terms. (75 IL5/4-1) The Library Board recommends and the City Council approves the tax levy requested to support the budget approved by the Library Board. (75 IL 5/3-5) The powers and duties of the board are to make and approve the policies that govern the operation of the library, to have control of the expenditure of all monies collected for the Library, to appoint and fix the compensation of a qualified librarian who in turn hires other employees as necessary and other responsibilities as outlined in 75 IL 5/4-7.

Circulated Items

In October, the Library lent 129,337 items including about 3000 digital downloads. This is about 7% more than the 120,449 items borrowed in October 2011. There were 39,848 visitors to the Library and Bookmobile in the month of October, up from 31,728 visitors last October. This brings the total visitor count to 245,062 for this year, substantially ahead of the 159,330 visitors to the library through October of last year.



Visitors



Staff answered 6,067 questions from customers this month:

Children's Programs in in the month of October:

Twin City Tale Spinners Present Spooky Trail Ghost Stories – 68 attended

Halloween Parade and Story Time – 174 attended

Lapsit story time – 10 sessions – 182 attended

Toddler story time – 4 sessions – 99 attended

Preschool story time – 8 sessions – 228 attended

Wiggle Giggle evening story time – 30 attended

2nd Saturday Family story time – 23 attended

2nd Monday Story Club – 5 attended

Tales for Tails – 2 sessions – 28 attended

Craft – 60 made

Milestones Preschool visit – 14 attended

Visited Brigham Head Start – 110 attended

Visited Little Jewels Day Care – 100 attended

Library table at Mid-State Reading Council Carnival of Reading – 200 attended

Library table at Center for Youth and Family Solutions Community Halloween Fair – 280 attended



Teen Programs and Attendance

Teen Advisory Board – 1 session – 2 attended
Teen Gaming – 1 session – 15 attended
Anime Now – 2 sessions – 20 attended
Star Wars Reads Day – 1 session – 7 attended
FabLab 3D printing – 1 session – 34 attended

Adult Programs and Attendance

Fiction Book Club – 1 session – 9 attended
Mystery Book Club – 1 session – 7 attended
Non-Fiction Book Club– 1 session – 7 attended
Wednesday Night at the Movies – 5 sessions – 61 attended
Open Lab computer assistance – 4 sessions – 10 attended
Downloading Ebooks, Nook – 1 session – 17 attended
Downloading Ebooks, Kindle – 1 session – 8 attended
Master Gardeners Prep for Spring – 1 session – 5 attended
Star Wars Reads Day – 1 session – 75 attended
Stress Management – 1 session – 5 attended
A Tale for Two Cities programs:
 Segregation/Discrimination in B/N – 1 session – 15 attended
 Who is Harper Lee? – 1 session – 17 attended
 Movie Capote – 1 session – 8 attended
 Movie Freedom Riders – 1 session – 9 attended



Compliments to the City

I just wanted to compliment you on the BIG TRUCK garbage collection and the crew that works on it. I lived in a small town that only did that twice per year, and in the meantime, the piles of junk that the regular garbage man would not take piled up all year and created quite the eye sore in some cases. Thank you for the service and your efforts in keeping Bloomington tidy!

Rachel Shipley

Ken Oleson, a resident of Woodhavens Dr., called in to issue a compliment. He stated that today he was out doing some work in his yard and the 3 gentlemen (Joe Martin, Keil Manns, and Nick Doage) on the garbage crew were the most pleasant and helpful City workers he has encountered. He said they smiled and helped him and he was very appreciative of that.

Letters and Comments of Praise for the Bloomington Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department in October, 2012.

Regarding Draw the Line:

“It was fun!” – Stephen Monk (via Facebook)

Regarding William Fitzsimmons:

“Glad we went.” – Daniel Yandel (via Facebook)

Regarding “The Price is Right Live”:

Todd Newton, host of “The Price is Right, Live,” wrote this on his Twitter account regarding the sold out October 6 BCPA performance:

“Woo-Hoo! C ya soon!RT [@artsblooming](#): "Price is Right, Live" is now SOLD OUT!

Looking forward to seeing [@ToddNewton](#) at the BCPA in two weeks!”

I had a blast tonight! – Brian Pihl

Regarding the BCPA’s Angel Ticket Program:

We all appreciate coming to see the great shows at the BCPA. The kids still talk about the performances. The Angel Program makes it possible for young people in the community to seek broader visions and enjoy the theatre! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

-Janice Cooper with Bloomington’s Urban League-

Regarding the Roseanne Cash Show

Wonderful Show! – Anne Boyden

It was an excellent evening on every level and I appreciate it. My next planned trip up is Birbiglia, but I may be up even sooner. I just like the way you program things there. – Tim Cain

Great sounding room. – John Leventhal

Regarding Parks Maintenance

Just wanted to let you know what a great job your team has done this year at McGraw Park with the landscaping, mowing, maintenance and keeping the park clean and safe. It is greatly appreciated by the neighbors of McGraw Park who are blessed to live near this wonderful facility

Thanks for a job well done

Jeff Payne & the McGraw Park neighbors

Regarding Miller Park Zoo

What a great time. – Charles L. Geigner regarding the Zoo Spectacular

One of my favorite exhibits!! – Anji McGuire (regarding the otter exhibit)

David,

We had a great Landlord Training event this past Saturday morning at the BCPA. The facility was set up beautifully and your staff (Mike and Tim) were available all morning to address whatever needs we had. It is such a blessing to have such a wonderful building to utilize for our community events. Please extend our appreciation to your staff for a job well done!

Sharon Walker, Code Enforcement Division Manager, City of Bloomington

Joel,

Sherry and I will be sponsoring again in 2013. The check is in the mail at this point and you should receive it presently.

We have made this decision primarily because our desire to sponsor the arts in our community. I must tell you that the fact that you and your wife are tremendous people and assets for our community also played a role in this decision.

I will of course, do some advertising and participate frequently by attending shows next year. Depending on how my year ends, I may send another check of the same amount.

We will figure out what program is available to sponsor but more importantly, I wanted to get you the money to start building your confidence surrounding the impending 2013 program success.

Thanks for the many courtesies you and your staff have extended to Sherry and I.

All the best,

Rick Galbreath

I just received a call from a resident that wanted to express her gratitude for her “lovely new recycling cart!” she says that she is very excited about it and can’t wait to begin using it! She said that we are all doing a wonderful job in getting this program going! Great job everyone!

Taneika Baker

Dear Mayor Stockton,

It has been our pleasure and good fortune to have moved to Bloomington last year. As homeowners, we have come into contact with members of your Public Works Department, i.e. Street & Sewer, Refuse, as well as Water Department personnel.

Allow me this opportunity to tell you how impressed we have been with their professionalism, and willingness to answer questions or help when called upon. Great people and wonderful representatives of this amazing community!

Their efforts have been very much appreciated, and we wanted to reach out to you with a sincere thank you.

Kevin & Pamela Kabureck

Good Morning Jim,

I would like to commend Jeff Raines on his **outstanding** work in getting the sidewalk replaced in front of and to the east of our Building. Thanks also to the City of Bloomington for seeing this as a needed project. We have a clientele that are in need of assistance and often walk to our facility, the condition of the sidewalks was a mess and Jeff did a tremendous job of not only making sure the job got done and right, but also keeping myself in the loop as to what and when things were to happen, so I could keep our staff informed to pass on to the clients. I know that Jeff was doing his job and often no appreciation is in order for that, but his assistance with this project enables people with needs to better access the resources. For that, we here at Mid Central Community Action applaud Jeff’s efforts. This is a sentiment that is shared by all of our staff and Management.

Perry E Mayer

Properties Maintenance Technician

My wife and I live on Hawthorn Lake Drive. Monday was collection day for garbage and recyclable materials. It was raining very hard when the collectors came (Kenny Herman, Patrick Gibson, and

Juan Rivera). All up and down our block they turned the bins and garbage cans upside down after the collection so they would not fill with water. This was very thoughtful of them on a day when it was certainly inconvenient for them to do so. Please thank them.

Harold Skillrud

Mrs. Berry, a resident of Hillside, called to express her appreciation for the crew that worked on Saturday to collect leaves. She also added that this crew was very efficient and did probably the best job that she has seen.

Greetings,

I need to take a minute to share a recent experience with you regarding the repair of the sidewalk in front of my house. The sidewalk was severely damaged due to bulging tree roots. I started talking with the City last year to determine the process to get it repaired. There was no money at the time, so I renewed my efforts at the beginning of this budget year.

In spite of some significant challenges, the job was completed. The process wasn't very smooth and there were changes in some key personnel. The key to completing the job was not the process, but the efforts of a couple of people, in spite of the process. Jeff Raines (Engineering Technician) personally took the steps needed to get the job done. During this repair process, he coordinated multiple work crews (including contractors) and took steps to personally fill the gaps between the work that needed to be done and the existing contracts to do the work. Jeff's efforts are the kind of "discretionary efforts" that separate the best from the good. He could have relied on the protection of the bureaucracy and been relative safe from accountability or consequences. Instead, he took the path of "just get it done because it's the right thing to do."

It is obvious that Jeff is supported by the professional business ethic of Jim Karch, who personally called me to explain the situation. He explained why it took so long, how the process has improved over the last year and the plans for improving the process even more with the help of professionals like Jeff. Jim also provided some perspective on some of the communication problems that we all endured during this process.

I understand people are more than willing to let you know when something doesn't go the right way, but I wanted to take a minute to let you know that something DID go the right way!

Thank you,

Dennis Gale

I just want to say, "Thank You" to your public service Street Division and Paving Crew for repairing the sunken pavement in front of 2009 and 2011 Park Place Dr. This crew did an excellent job and completed this work in a timely and friendly manner. At times, and being a municipal worker myself, it may appear that City crews are at the receiving end of bad press or public complaints. I just wanted to extend an appreciative gesture for the good service this department provided.

Tim Gillenwater
