



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2016

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City Teams Up with Gateways High School Students in Earth Day Activities

The City of Springfield is hosting two Earth Day activities with students from Gateways High School to celebrate, and help take care of, our natural environment.

Downtown Lighting

From 9-11:45 a.m., on Friday, April 22 students will be disassembling light heads, reusing much of the existing light heads, and sorting parts that cannot be reused into recycling bins. This effort is in preparation of continued upgrades to the downtown street lighting. Downtown street lights are being converted to LED to be more environmentally friendly and energy efficient resulting in electricity savings.

Students and City Staff will work together on disassembling light heads in the old Booth Kelly location at 303 S 5th Street, Springfield.

City Hall Plaza Planting

From 1-3 p.m., on Friday, April 22, students and staff will be planting woody vegetation and ground cover in the landscaped planter areas surrounding the water fountain at 5th Street and A Street.

Staff has been working with Council on various plaza concepts for downtown Springfield over the last couple of years. Much of the work has been done and the City is now ready for the planting of trees and shrubs in the planter beds around the perimeter of the new plaza paving.

Students will be planting more than 150 colorful shrubs and ground covers, spreading mulch, and potentially helping set up irrigation. These plantings will help beautify the plaza and anchor it visually to surrounding City building landscapes that already exist at City Hall the Carter Building and the Justice Center.

Additional information:

For Downtown Street Lighting: City Traffic Engineer Brian Barnett, 541.726.3681.

For City Hall Plaza Improvements: City Associate Project Manager Jim Polston, 541.726.3652.