

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

MINUTES – February 18, 2026

The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) met at the Florissant Health Department on Wednesday February 18, 2026, called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Jules Blair, Ashley Bernaugh, Tony Maldonado, Cynthia Bauer, Sandi Meyer, Richard Rapp, Craig Andert, Karen Schmidt, Kevin Podmore

Excused:

Approval of Minutes: Ashley motioned for approval of January 21, 2026, minutes and seconded by Sandi, and unanimously approved.

Guests: None

New Business:

a) Social Media Strategy:

- Plans to launch an official EQC Facebook page
- Drafts for post will include recycling guidelines (from recycling center)
- Native plant recommendations and invasive species removal tips
- Tagline Discussion: may keep the old one or update later
- Prepare at least 3 posts before the next meeting.

b) Membership in Environmental Organizations:

- Commission proposed to join Grow Native or Wild Ones for \$90/year – preparing a request for this
- City can access classes, resources and seed-sharing programs
- Ability to advertise events and share educational content.
- This is viewed as a valuable tool for promoting sustainability in Florissant.

c) Cool Cities Program:

- Revisiting and updating the Cool Cities initiative for local businesses
- Update the questionnaire (last revised in 2007)
- Adding new sustainability questions but lowering compliance percentage to keep it achievable.
- Possible categories for scoring (energy, waste, green spaces)

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- The incentive for businesses – Window signs, social media recognition and inclusion in city publications

d) Coldwater Creek updates:

- Six homes in Cades Cove are being demolished due to radioactive contamination.
- Community engagement meeting scheduled for February 23 at Blackjack Firehouse 6:30
- Follow ups on remediation and community meetings.

e) Upcoming Events :

- Valley of Flowers and Fall Festival – opportunities to promote eco-tourism and environmental awareness
- Possible ideas – bird-watching guides and educational handouts.
- Electronic recycling April 11, 2026, 9:am – 1:00pm
- Paper destruction April 25, 2026, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

f) Additional Topic:

- Looking into pricing and design for recycling stickers for bins and yard sign stakes for recycling signs.
- Create a list of common and rare birds in Florissant for social media engagement

The meeting was motioned by Ashley, seconded by Craig, and then unanimously adjourned at 8:24 pm

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION
WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, March 18, 2026, AT THE FLORISSANT
HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT 7:00 PM.**