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## Announcements...

### East-West Gateway Accepting Comment on Draft Unified Planning Work Program

Each year, East-West Gateway develops a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) document. This document specifies the work that the East-West Gateway Council of Governments expects to undertake in carrying out its mission during the fiscal year. Although the tasks and desired accomplishments before the agency are varied and diverse, the UPWP is the one document that is used to organize and unify all of the agency's work for the coming year. The development of the UPWP creates an opportunity for the policy-makers on the Board of Directors, the agency's advisory committees, and our funding agencies to review and consider East-West Gateway's many discrete activities in the context of the whole. The agency's Draft UPWP for fiscal year 2010 is available for review and comment at <http://www.ewgateway.org>. The document describes all of the funding the agency expects to receive and the work to be accomplished during the twelve months between July 1 and June 30, 2010. Comments or questions on the UPWP can be sent to: Royce Bauer, East-West Gateway Council of Governments, One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600, St. Louis, MO 63102 or [Royce@ewgateway.org](mailto:Royce@ewgateway.org). Comments will be accepted through May 19, 2009.

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### East-West Gateway Accepting Comment on Draft Public Involvement Plan 2009

Participation by the public is essential to ensure that the broadest range of views are considered in East-West Gateway's regional planning efforts. The agency's Draft Public Involvement Plan 2009 describes its work and discusses how it will continue to engage and involve residents on regional issues to ensure their meaningful participation. Reaching citizens who traditionally have not been involved is a significant focus of the Plan. East-West Gateway is requesting public comment on its draft community engagement policies from now through May 26, 2009, for regional citizens to notify us with suggestions, concerns or other comments related to its public involvement efforts. The Plan is available online at [www.ewgateway.org/CEPInfo/cepinfo.htm](http://www.ewgateway.org/CEPInfo/cepinfo.htm). Comments on the Plan can be sent to: Kevin Triggs, East-West Gateway Council of Governments, One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600, St. Louis, MO 63102 or [KevinT@ewgateway.org](mailto:KevinT@ewgateway.org).

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### Free Hazardous Waste Collection Events for St. Louis County Residents

The St. Louis County Department of Health has announced three upcoming household hazardous waste collections for residents of St. Louis County. Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or tax bill, will be required. Materials from businesses, not-for-profits, and governmental organizations are prohibited. Each collection will run from 8 AM - 3 PM. There is no charge. The dates and locations are:

- Saturday, May 9:- 800 Maryville Center Dr. at Highway 40
- Saturday, May 16 - St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, 1-270 at W. Florissant Ave.
- Saturday, June 6 - South County Mall

For a list of acceptable materials and directions to the above drop-off locations, go to [www.recyclesaintlouis.com/Spring2009HHWEEvents.pdf](http://www.recyclesaintlouis.com/Spring2009HHWEEvents.pdf).

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## Conferences and Events...

### April 26: St. Louis Earth Day Festival

The 20th Annual St. Louis Earth Day Festival – the oldest and largest Earth Day festival in the Midwest – will be held at Forest Park on the Muny Grounds from 11 AM - 6 PM. Go to [www.stlouisearthday.org](http://www.stlouisearthday.org) for the latest information on entertainment, vendor listings, and educational programming.

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### April 28: Aging in Place Initiative Workshop

As part of the Aging in Place Initiative, the St. Louis metro region was selected by MetLife Foundation, Partners for Livable Communities and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging to host one of a series of dynamic national workshops highlighting the opportunity to improve livability for persons of all

ages. "Designing Places and Spaces for Now and in the Future: Creating a Livable St. Louis Region for All Ages" will gather key innovators and representatives from across the region to help identify strategies to improve homes that are universally designed and communities that are welcoming for all. Attendees will learn how to JumpStart the Conversation on aging and apply for a special grant given to unique partnerships taking action on Aging in Place. The grants are intended to stimulate innovative action at the local level. The workshop is free and includes lunch and information on obtaining a JumpStart grant (\$1,000-\$2,500) to keep the conversation going. The workshop will be held at the Engineers' Club of St. Louis, 4359 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, from 9:30 AM - 2 PM. Space is limited and pre-registration is required for guaranteed seating. Registration deadline is April 21. Click on "Register for St. Louis Workshop" at [www.aginginplaceinitiative.org](http://www.aginginplaceinitiative.org) for more information and to register.

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### April 28: EPA Green Infrastructure Webcast

#### Models and calculators can help manage wet weather

Titled "Models & Calculators and Louisville Municipal Case Study" this webcast will feature two new topics in the green infrastructure webcast series—information on models and calculators, and a municipal case study from the City of Louisville. The webcast will be held from noon - 2 PM CT. The models and calculators discussion, led by Brian Busiek from Limno Tech, will discuss a variety of common and not-so-common tools that can be used in planning and design analyses for wet weather management. This presentation is an overview of how some of the models and calculators can be used in green infrastructure analyses, including estimating stormwater volume reductions via various green infrastructure techniques. The municipal case study will discuss how the City of Louisville is incorporating green infrastructure in their wet weather management plan to reduce CSOs, SSOs, and stormwater runoff. This presentation, by John Lyons from Strand Associates, is a summary of Louisville and the Metropolitan Sewer District's green solutions in their long term control plan. Register at [www.epa.gov/npdes/training](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/training).

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### April 30: How Will the Stimulus Plan Benefit St. Louis City?

A "Q & A Town Meeting" will be held at Emerson Auditorium, Harris-Stowe University, featuring Kelvin Simmons, Commissioner, Office of Administration; Barbara Geisman, Executive Director for City Development; and Ed Hassinger, MoDOT District Engineer, St. Louis Metro Area as panelists. Kacie Starr Triplett, 6th Ward Alderman will serve as moderator. The event will be from 6 - 8 PM, preceding by networking time from 4 - 6 PM. Sponsored by Missouri State Representatives Jamilah Nasheed, Chris Carter, Tishaura Jones, and Rachel Storch; Jinna Development Corporation; and Harris-Stowe University.

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### May 5: Free Emergency Response with GIS Workshop

This workshop, sponsored by the Mid-America Geographic Information Consortium (MAGIC) and the Missouri GIS Advisory Committee (MGISAC), is targeted at those individuals or organizations considering the use of, or utilizing GIS for emergency response - particularly, first responders and local government decision makers interested in improved decision support. The sponsors are also particularly interested in encouraging attendees from states other than Missouri - hoping for the exchange of ideas and the creating the opportunities for cross-border cooperation and assistance. The workshop is free. To view the workshop agenda, workshop logistics and to register, go to [www.msdis.missouri.edu/mgisac\\_emergency\\_response\\_workshop\\_reg](http://www.msdis.missouri.edu/mgisac_emergency_response_workshop_reg). Registration closes after 50 registrations are received or no later than April 30.

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### May 7: ASA Luncheon: Global Economic Forces – or Turmoil?

#### Russ Signorino and Bob Lewis present on leadership challenges for American statisticians

The St. Louis Chapter - American Statistical Association invites you to attend its monthly luncheon meeting to be held at Mosaic Restaurant, 1001 Washington Ave., downtown St. Louis beginning at noon. The Dutch treat and order off the menu luncheon is open to the public. RSVP is not required. Come listen and learn at the Russ & Robert (Russ Signorino and Bob Lewis) Show of the St. Louis Chapter-American Statistical Association as the two try their best to answer the following questions: The United States still has the world's largest economy for a single country, but at what cost? Are we maintaining our lead? Who's coming up behind at high speed? How intertwined in globalism has the nation become? Do our leaders really know what's going on and what to do about it. Can we continue to borrow from abroad to support our lifestyles? How deeply involved with foreign economics and immigration is greater St. Louis?

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## Conferences and Events Further Out

**May 27: Free APA Audio/Web Training: Great Plans, Great Communities** - You are invited to attend a free audio/web conference training session, Great Plans, Great Communities, to be held May 27 from 3 - 4:30 PM at the City of Chesterfield City Hall. Anyone with an interest in the subject is welcome to attend. Workshop description: Planning means clean water, efficient transportation, housing choice, community character, safe neighborhoods, and renewable energy. In this visually striking introduction to planning, community members and new planning officials learn about the range of planning and how it results in great communities. Let this program make the case for the importance and wide-ranging benefits of planning. RSVP to Marty Coad at (636) 537-4746 or [mcoad@chesterfield.mo.us](mailto:mcoad@chesterfield.mo.us) with your name, phone number and e-mail address. There will be no CM credits awarded for this presentation. The audio/web conference series is sponsored by the APA-St. Louis Metro Section.

**June 1-2: Midwest Energy and Climate Policy Conference** - The third annual "Midwest Energy and Climate Policy Conference at the Garden," at Missouri Botanical Garden will bring in experts from across the country to discuss federal and state priorities, proposed legislative and regulatory actions, the continuing efforts of the Midwest GHG Reduction Accord, corporate response to climate change, state and local efforts, private initiatives, financial carbon markets, green buildings, and many other issues. Sponsored by the Regulatory Environmental Group for Missouri (REGFORM) and local partnering organizations. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/dn62dw> for more information and to register to attend.

**June 8-12: Fundraising Institute at UM-St. Louis** - Since 1999, UM-St. Louis' Nonprofit Management and Leadership Program has helped thousands of area nonprofit leaders gain and improve their fundraising skills. This five-day institute takes place each year in June at the J.C. Penney Conference Center on the UM-St. Louis campus. In 2009 the focus will be on three vital topics: capital campaigns, grant proposal writing, and using technology in fundraising. Schedule: June 8: Integrating Technology Into Your Fundraising Toolbox (new); June 9-10: Successful Grant Writing; June 11: Effective Federal Grants; June 12: Campaign Readiness & Planning in Today's Economy. Discounts for multiple registrations. For more information, go to [www.umsf.edu/npmf](http://www.umsf.edu/npmf) or call (314) 516-6713.

**June 21-23: MWCC Conference - Climate Change, Solid Waste, Brownfields Among Tracts.** The Missouri Waste Control Coalition's (MWCC) annual conference will feature tracts on Climate Change, Solid Waste, Climate Change, Environmental, Brownfields and DNR Tanks. Mark Templeton, recently appointed director of the Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources, will be Monday's keynote speaker. The conference will be held at Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake Ozark. For detailed information and to register, go to [www.mowastecoalition.org/conferences.html](http://www.mowastecoalition.org/conferences.html).

**August 10-13: Visions of a Sustainable Mississippi River: Merging Ecological, Economic, and Cultural Values** - conference in Collinsville. This conference will attract diverse participants with interest in our nation's largest river, including stakeholders in the recreational, navigation, and agricultural sectors, researchers, and natural resource professionals. Alexandra Cousteau will deliver the keynote address. The conference will culminate with a special Policy Forum where recommendations will be delivered directly to key politicians and decision makers in the Mississippi River Basin. Register by June 30 to receive reduced rate. For more information and to register, go to [http://www.ngrrec.org/images/Visions\\_MSR\\_32709.pdf](http://www.ngrrec.org/images/Visions_MSR_32709.pdf).

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## What's in the News...

### In regional news...

#### BJC HealthCare Partners with Trailnet on TravelGreen Program

Trailnet is now working with BJC HealthCare to pilot the TravelGreen with Trailnet Program at two hospital campuses. Goals of the program are to increase awareness of cycling safety and to promote commuter cycling.

The program includes a survey to help identify the level and areas of interest in cycling among BJC employees. Trailnet will also offer a bike commuter education series and Lunch and Learn events at nearby locations.

The survey and educational classes are designed to encourage and equip interested BJC employees to participate in National Bike to Work Day on May 15 and to begin commuting on a regular basis.

The goal of the TravelGreen program is to increase the number of area residents who bike to work. The program also provides employers with educational and promotional materials as well as guidance on creating a workplace that supports and promotes cycling. The program also seeks to identify bike commuters with similar starting points and destinations for opportunities to bike-pool to work as a group. For more information on the TravelGreen with Trailnet Program, visit [www.trailnet.org/travelgreen.php](http://www.trailnet.org/travelgreen.php).

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## In national news...

### Zig-Zag Lines Painted on Roads to Slow Down Motorists

The Virginia Department of Transportation is painting zig-zag lines in the middle of traffic lanes in an effort to get motorists to slow down as they near a bike trail and pedestrian path.

"The Virginia Department of Transportation says it's part of a safety campaign to get drivers to slow down in a high pedestrian and bicycle area. The 500 feet of zig-zagging lines are painted..."

"It is a low cost strategy to get motorists to slow down as they approach the bike trail and pedestrian path," says VDOT's Mike Salmon. "While at first motorists may be a little disoriented, the main point is to get them to pay attention and slow down through that area."

Read the full story and view the zig-zag line at [www.wtop.com/?sid=1654423&nid=732](http://www.wtop.com/?sid=1654423&nid=732).

Source: *Planetizen Newswire*, April 23, 2009

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### New Report on Measuring City Park Value

The Trust for Public Land has spent five years developing a protocol for measuring the actual dollars-and-cents value of urban park systems, including tourism, property, environmental, direct use, health and community cohesion factors. You can read the newly released full report, complete with methodology, and learn some surprising results from the first five cities studied: Boston, Washington, D.C., San Diego, Sacramento and Philadelphia.

The report is available online at [http://qa0.org/ct/BpzAF2S1Zr2K/download\\_report](http://qa0.org/ct/BpzAF2S1Zr2K/download_report).

You can read the latest in park-related news at <http://cityparksblog.org>. The blog chronicling trends, best practices and ideas concerning urban parks around the country. City Parks Blog is a joint effort of the Center for City Park Excellence at the Trust for Public Land and the City Parks Alliance to chronicle the news and issues of the urban park movement.

Source: *TPL LandLink*, April 24, 2009

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### Study Finds Sidewalks and Amenities Key to Walking and Fitness

People who live within walking distance of amenities like stores, transit stops, and parks are twice as likely to get enough exercise to help them stay healthy as those who don't, according to a new study conducted by researchers at San Diego State University.

As reported in a *gantdaily.com* article, the researchers say that people who live in cities are able to walk or jog on them and that increases those people's chance of getting a sufficient amount of exercise (at least 30 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous activity at least five days a week). Researchers also found a strong correlation between sidewalks and exercise.

Read more at <http://www.gantdaily.com/news/71/ARTICLE/49260/2009-04-20.html>.

Sources: *planetizen.com* and *gantdaily.com*, April 20, 2009

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## Online Resources...

### Conference of Mayors' Best Practices for Vacant and Abandoned Properties

The current housing foreclosure crisis is adding to the number of vacant and abandoned properties in

many communities. Left unattended, these properties fall prey to vandalism, attract crime, and contribute to overall neighborhood decline. Not only do local governments face increased expenditures in the form of maintenance and service costs for these properties, they also lose considerable property tax revenue. To help local governments minimize the effects of property abandonment, the United States Conference of Mayors has compiled a report cataloguing successful abandoned property strategies from across the nation. The report, "Vacant and Abandoned Properties: Survey and Best Practices," contains 27 strategies that address foreclosure prevention, minimizing the effects of abandoned properties, and encouraging reuse of vacant properties. The report can be viewed in its entirety at [www.huduser.org/rbc/search/rbcdetails.asp?DocId=1877](http://www.huduser.org/rbc/search/rbcdetails.asp?DocId=1877).

Source: *Regulatory Barriers Clearinghouse*

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## Jobs...

### Director of Public Works/City Engineer

#### City of Bridgeton

The City of Bridgeton is accepting applications for the position of Director of Public Works/City Engineer. Applicants must have a degree in civil engineering from an accredited college or university and hold a valid license as a Professional Engineer in the State of Missouri. The candidate must have at least 5 years of experience in the following areas of public works administration: street maintenance, zoning, building code, capital improvement project, fleet maintenance and budget preparation administration. This position also acts as the Building Commissioner. This is a department head level position overseeing the activities of 35 employees. The City offers excellent fringe benefits. Salary range \$71,326-\$104,092, DOQ. Resumes must be accompanied by a completed application, available at [www.bridgetonmo.com](http://www.bridgetonmo.com). Submit to Thomas Haun, Administrator, 11955 Natural Bridge Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044. EOE

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### Court Assistant

#### City of Chesterfield

The City of Chesterfield is accepting applications for the position of Court Assistant. This is a clerical/accounting position for the Municipal Court. Work involves a variety of clerical and accounting functions, including but not limited to keyboard entry, accepting and opening the Court mail, processing payments and traffic tickets. Position requires collections of fines and attendance at evening court sessions approximately three times a month. Responsibilities include frequent contact with the public in person and by phone. Specific job responsibilities will be defined by the Court Administrator. Past experience in a municipal court preferred. High school diploma or GED supplemented by general clerical or bookkeeping training or legal experience is required. Typing skills require a minimum of 45 wpm. Starting salary is \$30,286 per year. Apply at Chesterfield City Hall, 690 Chesterfield Parkway West, Chesterfield, MO 63017. Mark applications, "Attention: Court Assistant". Applications are available at [www.chesterfield.mo.us](http://www.chesterfield.mo.us) under "Employment Opportunities." Position open until filled. EOE

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### Public Works Director

#### City of Arnold

The City of Arnold, a full-service community of 21,000 in the St. Louis metropolitan area, is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Public Works Director. Position performs administrative and professional work in planning, organizing and directing the Public Works Department, including sanitary sewers, streets, fleet maintenance and other public works projects and programs. Must have a minimum of five years current progressively responsible public works management experience. Must have a degree in civil engineering, public administration or related field; PE preferred. Salary is D.O.Q.; excellent fringe benefits. Send resume, salary history and listing of five professional references as soon as possible to: City Administrator, 2101 Jeffco Blvd., Arnold, Mo. 63101. EOE

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## Administrative Position, Part-time

### Grand Oak Hill Community Corporation

The Grand Oak Hill Community Corporation seeks an enthusiastic, well-organized individual interested in working for a small nonprofit organization. This is a part-time administrative position (up to 25 hrs/wk) reporting to the Executive Director. This position will be part of a friendly staff dedicated to improving quality of life in the surrounding South St. Louis City community. The office assistant performs administrative duties, including but not limited to office organization, information management, data entry, client intake and general receptionist work. The assistant must be able to work independently and with people of a variety of backgrounds. Computer and phone proficiency is required. Please submit resume to [maggie@grandoakhill.org](mailto:maggie@grandoakhill.org). EOE

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## GIS/Mapping Seasonal Employee

### City of Chesterfield

The City of Chesterfield is accepting applications for GIS/Mapping seasonal employee to assist with inspection, data collection and analysis related to infrastructure. High school diploma or equivalent required; ESRI/AutoCAD knowledge desirable. Hourly wage of \$12.00 for a maximum of 1,000 hours/year – work is 32 to 40 hours weekly in the summer or 16 to 24 hours weekly all year. Applications available at [www.chesterfield.mo.us/forms/admin/employment.pdf](http://www.chesterfield.mo.us/forms/admin/employment.pdf). Submit application and resume to: City of Chesterfield – Dept. of Planning and Public Works, Attn: GIS/Mapping Seasonal Employee Application, 690 Chesterfield Parkway West, Chesterfield, MO 63017. Open until filled. EOE

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## Manager, Transportation Systems Analyst III

### East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The East-West Gateway Coordinating Council has an opening for a Manager in its Transportation Systems Evaluation Department. Experience in transportation systems modeling and management is required. Responsibilities will include: model calibration, enhancing the transit model to meet FTA requirements, applying appropriate analytical techniques to forecast future travel needs and transportation system performance; developing and applying analytical techniques to assess the relationship of transportation, land use, and environmental policies and additional responsibilities. A four-year degree from an accredited university in either urban/regional planning, transportation planning, transportation engineering, or a closely related field with a minimum of five years experience is required. Advanced degrees may be substituted for one year of experience. The full job description is available at <http://www.ewgateway.org/aboutus/JobAds/jobads.htm>. The salary is based on qualifications and experience. The Council offers a competitive benefits package. Applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume to East-West Gateway Council of Governments, Attn: Human Resources, One Memorial Drive, Ste. 1600, St. Louis, MO 63102. EOE/AA

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## Grants...

### Community Connect Broadband Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community-Oriented Connectivity Broadband Grant Program is designed to provide financial assistance to furnish broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities where such service does not currently exist. Grant funds may be utilized to deploy broadband transmission service to critical community facilities, rural residents, and rural businesses and to construct, acquire, or expand, equip, and operate a community center that provides free access to broadband services to community residents for at least two years. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to entities serving communities of up to 20,000 inhabitants to ensure rural consumers enjoy the same quality and range of telecommunications service as are available in urban and suburban communities. The closing date for applications is June 19. Eligible applicants include localities, special district governments, 501(c)(3) nonprofits and businesses. For more information, go to [www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/commconnect.htm](http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/commconnect.htm).

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## Dollar General Youth Literacy and Back-to-School Grants

Dollar General annually offers support for youth literacy and school programs in areas served by Dollar General stores. The Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants provide funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations to help with the implementation or expansion of literacy programs for students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. Grants range in amounts up to a maximum of \$3,000 each. The Dollar General Back-to-School Grants provide funding to assist schools in meeting some of the financial challenges they face in implementing new programs or purchasing new equipment, materials, or software for their school library or media center. Grants range in amounts up to a maximum of \$5,000 each. Go to [www.dollargeneral.com/servingothers/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx](http://www.dollargeneral.com/servingothers/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx) for program information and application.

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## Quotes...

*"I love chicken waste!"*

Virginia Democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe, expressing his enthusiasm for technology that is the subject of experimentation at Virginia Tech to convert chicken manure to energy

Source: *Washington Post*

*"I figure if I really want to go someplace I can just rent a car."*

Tom Bates, the 71-year-old mayor of Berkeley, California, who has given up his 2001 Volvo for a transit pass and has been walking to work for the past year, saying he is "trying to reduce my carbon footprint to the absolute minimum"

Source: *San Francisco Chronicle*

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**<http://www.ewgateway.org/library/newsletters/newsletters.htm>**