



LIVEABLE NEIGHBORHOODS

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

APRIL 2015



## Liveable Neighborhoods Neighborhood News

Your neighborhood group information can be placed here.

If you would like newsletters made, contact our office at

(913) 573-8737 or email us at

[liveableneighbor@wycokck.org](mailto:liveableneighbor@wycokck.org). (NOTE: Email address change)

### BPU offers “Be More Green and Start Saving More of Your Green” Energy Efficiency Presentations for Community Organizations



As part of its on-going effort to promote energy efficiency and help customers reduce their energy costs, the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) is offering neighborhood groups, and other local organizations, the opportunity to schedule energy efficiency presentations at a time and location of their choice. Presented by BPU staff, this new interactive presentation is designed to help customers learn how to save money on their monthly utility bill by utilizing low cost/no cost and behavioral energy efficiency techniques as well as how to reduce their homes carbon footprint. The BPU energy efficiency team calls this approach, “ground zero”, with emphasis on energy efficiency from the basement to the roof.

Reducing a household’s monthly electric and water consumption can translate to dollars saved on a customer’s utility bill. Participants can also get information during these presentations on rebates for heat pumps; all electric rates and other helpful products and tools including how to schedule an appointment with the BPU Utility Efficiency Learning Center where customers can schedule one-on-one meetings to discuss additional ways to save on their energy utility costs.

To schedule an energy efficiency presentation for your local neighborhood/civic or church group, contact BPU’s David Allen at 913-573-9922 or [dallen@bpu.com](mailto:dallen@bpu.com).



We are very, very excited to announce the 2nd Tech Mob Tech-

nology Recycling Event! **On Saturday, April 11th**, we’ll be taking any and all e-Waste you can give us and refurbish it and recycle it in a responsible, mother-earth-approved way. The best part? We’ll do it for FREE! **All this recycling goodness will go down at:**

Connecting for Good  
NE Wyandotte Co. Community Tech Center  
2006 North 3rd Street Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Acceptable items include computers, laptops, keyboards, mice, speakers, hard drives, tablets, Netbooks, flat televisions, DVDs, VCRs, stereos, camcorders, cameras, games systems, printers, scanners, surge protectors, telephones, typewriters and adding machines. Large appliances - including refrigerators, washers, dryers, ovens and microwaves - will not be accepted.

If you have any questions about our Tech Mob Recycle Event, feel free to contact Connecting for Good at 816-559-7077.



### April Calendar of Events



**Friday, April 3, 2015**  
**Spring Holiday**



**Election Day**  
**Don't Forget to VOTE**  
**Polling Place Voting Hours:**  
**7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**



**4/11/2015 ~ 10th Annual Wyandotte County Ethic Festival**



**Saturday, April 11, 2015**  
 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 KCKCC Field House  
 7250 State Ave., KCK

- \* Free Admission
- \* Free mint tea and water
- \* Creative Children Corner
- \* Free Parking
- \*\* Ethnic Food
- \*\* (available for purchase)

**4/17/2015 ~ Adventures In Learning**



**(Shepherd's Center) Free**  
 Grace Lutheran Church 3333 Wood Avenue  
 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

913-281-8908 or [www.shepherdscenterkck.org](http://www.shepherdscenterkck.org)

Call for a lunch reservation. Join us for adventures in learning.  
 Meet a friend or make a friend.

**04/23/2015 ~ Liveable Neighborhoods Meeting**

Free—everyone welcome  
 Neighborhood Resource Center at 4953 State Avenue  
 8:30am-10:00am

**913-573-8737 or [liveableNeighbor@wycokck.org](mailto:liveableNeighbor@wycokck.org)**  
**(Note: Change in email address)**

Come learn about important programs and services available in your community. Also get updates on what's happening at city hall, the KCKPD and the WYCO Sheriffs Department.

**4/29/2015 ~ WYCO-SAP -April 29, 2015**

Join us for a viewing of the film *Divergent* followed by a discussion about the film, the book on which it is based, and healthy relationships. The discussion afterwards will be led by the Wyandotte County Sexual Assault Prevention Coalition.  
 6:00 PM—8:30 PM

Library: KCKPL - West Wyandotte Library  
 Location: Auditorium  
 Contact: Linda Wolford  
 Contact Number: 913-279-2202



## Celebrating Centenarians

**You are invited to Governor Sam Brownback's reception for Kansas Centenarian's, their families and caregivers.**

**1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15th**  
**Kansas State Capitol—**  
**2nd Floor Rotunda**

**Please RSVP to**  
**[Angela.deRocha@kdads.ks.gov](mailto:Angela.deRocha@kdads.ks.gov)**  
**Please include the Centenarian's name, home town, date of birth and location of birth in your RSVP.**



**KC C.A.R.E. One-Day Free Clinic**

The National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics

(NAFC) and the Kansas City CARE Clinic will be holding a one day free medical clinic event on **Saturday, April 18, 2015** in Kansas City, Missouri at the Bartle Hall Kansas City Convention Center for those in the area who have no or limited access to health care.

The Kansas City C.A.R.E. (Communities Are Responding Everyday) Clinic Event will offer free basic medical care and health education to the area's medically underserved. Being a volunteer at this event will give you the opportunity to help hundreds of people gain access to medical care they otherwise may not receive.

If you have any questions, please email [CARE@nafclinics.org](mailto:CARE@nafclinics.org).

We hope to see you in Kansas City!  
**Patients may call 800-340-1301 to schedule an appointment for the clinic.**

Bartle Hall Kansas City Convention Center  
 301 West 13th Street  
 Kansas City, MO 64105  
 Saturday, April 18, 2015  
 Volunteer Hours: 8:00am – 9:00pm



## Going Green Corner



### GOING GREEN WITH LAWN CARE



**W**ith spring time coming, we are looking forward to seeing all of the colors of early flowers, of green leaves on our trees, and of a nice green lawn. But we don't always think about how some of our lawn maintenance issues can impact our environment. For example, over application of lawn chemicals can result in stormwater runoff that carries toxic levels of chemicals or excessive nutrients in our streams, lakes and groundwater. Many fertilizers can threaten our ecosystem and pose health risks for humans, pets, wildlife and aquatic organisms. It is possible to minimize lawn

chemical runoff with actions such as:

- Go Natural: Consider compost or natural lawn chemical alter-

- natives.
- Landscape with Native Plants: They require less watering, fertilizers, pesticides, & care.
- Conduct a Soil Test: To determine type and amount of fertilizer if you use them.
- Follow Label Instructions: Read labels on lawn chemicals carefully.
- Fertilizer Location: Use caution on slopes & lawn edges so it doesn't wash away.
- Let fertilizer dry properly: Allow time for liquid chemicals to dry and don't use lawn chemicals before a heavy rain-fall.

Lawn care options involved with mowing your grass may also have environmental impacts. Many peo-

ple will bag their grass clippings and send them to the landfill. An alternative to bagging your grass clippings is to leave them on your lawn. Some are worried that grass clippings cause thatch in your lawn but research by K-State has shown that grass clippings do not cause thatch. In fact grass clippings can serve as a natural lawn fertilizer.

Some tips to consider when leaving grass clippings on your lawn include:

- Mow only when your lawn is dry.
- Cut grass regularly. Don't remove more than 1/3 total leaf length on one mowing.
- Maintain a sharp blade on your mower.

Another suggestion for lawn care is

to never blow and leave your grass clippings on the street or on your driveway. Grass clippings can then be carried away by rain water into storm drains which will enter and pollute local streams, rivers, and lakes.

Your lawn care can also impact air quality. Lawn mowers are a major air pollutant. You can reduce air pollution by scheduling regular maintenance and oil changes for your mower. In addition, mowing your lawn in the evening is recommended over mowing in the heat of the day.

**By Kirk Suther, Operation Brightside**



### 2015 Kansas City, Kansas Burn Permit Process

Residents in Kansas City, Kansas are allowed to apply for a burn permit for the time period of the month of April 2015 and the time period of October 16, 2015 through November 15, 2015 at any of the Fire Stations currently staffed by the Kansas City, Kansas Fire Department. Kansas City, Kansas residents are limited to one 3-day burn permit per burn period that allows for the combustion of one 10 foot by 10 foot or smaller pile of naturally occurring residential organic yard waste generated onsite. If you operate a business out of your home you are classified as a business and cannot participate. Applications must be received and approved at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of burning. Open burning with a permit is allowed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The resident doing the burning must be at the burning site at all times. Residents shall maintain a copy of the burn permit on site, an adequate water supply and/or fire extinguisher while conducting open burning. In no circumstance shall open burning occur within 15 feet of any building or within 15 feet from any one's property line. Piling of brush, tree limbs, grass and other organic materials are limited in size to 100 square feet at the base.

Each Burn Permit allows for one organic pile per permit, one permit per residential property. (yard waste generated such as tree limbs, leaves, weeds, brush and grass) All organic materials burned within the city limits of Kansas City, Kansas are limited to organic materials and/or burning without a permit shall be subject to Section I-7 (General Penalty, Continuing Violations) of the general provisions code of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/KCK.

At no time shall wire insulation, tires, rubber products, plastic, automobile products, paper, cardboard, construction chemicals, household chemicals or any other material that normally emits dense smoke, noxious odors or hazardous air pollutants be burned.

At any time, the Fire Chief or his designee may revoke burn permits or ban open burning. Weather conditions (high winds, low humidity) may make open burning too dangerous. Open burning may also be suspended when air pollution "Red Alert" days are declared by the Mid America Regional Council, MARC, and the Unified Government.

## YARD WASTE DROP OFF SITE OPENING FOR SEASON ON APRIL 10, 2015

### By Kirk Suther Operation Brightside

The Unified Government's Yard Waste Drop Off Site will be opening for the season starting on Friday April 10, 2015. The Yard Waste Drop Off Site is located at 3241 Park Drive in Kansas City, Kansas. The site will be open from April 10, 2015 through November on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. but will be closed on holidays and on weekends with holidays. The yard waste site is closed annually from December through March.

The Yard Waste Drop Off Site will accept only yard waste such as grass clippings, garden trimmings, leaves and branches. Recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, glass, cardboard, and aluminum are not accepted.

During operational hours, residents with a load of grass clippings, garden trimmings, leaves or branches can load them up and take them to

the Yard Waste Drop Off Site at 3241 Park Dr., Kansas City, Kansas. The Yard Waste Drop Off Site cannot accept stumps and logs larger than 12 inches in diameter or items more than four feet in length. Wyandotte County residents will need to show a proof of residency such as a driver's license. Commercially generated material will not be accepted.

Other alternatives for handling yard waste include:

#### Yard Waste Drop Off at Deffenbaugh Landfill:

Wyandotte County residents can also take their residential yard waste to the Deffenbaugh landfill in Johnson County free of charge with proof of residency. Deffenbaugh's landfill is located at 17955 Holiday Drive in Shawnee, Kansas. Residents with a load of grass clippings, garden trimmings, leaves or branches can load them up and dump them in a designated site at the landfill

without paying a tipping fee. Deffenbaugh cannot accept stumps, logs larger than 12 inches in diameter or items more than four feet in length. Commercially generated material will not be accepted.

#### Yard Waste is Taken with Weekly Trash:

Residents in Kansas City, Kansas can also dispose of yard waste in their regular weekly trash pickup. Leaves and grass clippings must be bagged and not in excess of 50 pounds per bag. Tree limbs must be tied in bundles not more than four feet long and not in excess of 50 pounds.



**Prevention is every 1's responsibility**

April is **Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month**

**GO BLUE 1 day 4.10.15**

Wear blue on this day to support Missouri's kids & the importance of prevention.

**1 childhood 4 every 1 all kids deserve a GOOD 1**

**Children's Trust Fund**  
Missouri Foundation for Child Abuse Prevention

**Missouri KIDS**  
All - Reach Out Now

**Missouri prevention partners**

ctf4kids.org

The Unified Government Public Health Department Is hosting a WOMEN'S HEALTH FAIR

**When: May 15, 2015**

**Time: 10:00 am-2:00pm**

**Where: John F Kennedy Center  
1310 N 10<sup>th</sup> KCK**

Here are just some of the things that we will be having at the fair: Breast exams (and if you qualify you will received a voucher for a free mammogram.) Cholesterol Check, Blood Pressure check, glucose check, and much more.