



# Livable Neighborhood News

JULY 2018

## In This Issue

- *Night Out Against Crime*
- *Northeast Masterplan Meeting*
- *Shopping Tips to Reduce Food Waste*
- *2018 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days*
- *Proper Handling of Pet Waster*
- *Just Vote*
- *Right of way Mowing Changes*
- *4th Of July Impact*
- *Early Voting Centers*



## Reminders

**Good Neighbor Trainings are the fourth Monday of the month at the NRC at 5:30PM!**

**The next Livable Neighborhood meeting is July 26, 2018**

*Copies provided by the Community Development Block Grant*



## KCK NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7th, 2018

5:00PM TO 8:30PM

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY 18TH & RIDGE  
KANSAS CITY KANSAS



## Calling ALL Neighborhood Groups !

**Join the KCK NCPP (Neighborhood Crime Prevention Patrol) by showing your Neighborhood pride! We are asking for all of our groups to participate in this years NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME. Call the Livable Neighborhoods Office at 913-573-8737 or via e-mail at [liveableneighbor@wycokck.org](mailto:liveableneighbor@wycokck.org) to Sign-Up.**

**Deadline for Sign-Up by Friday, July 6, 2018.**

## Save the Date: Community Meetings for Northeast Area Master Plan Wednesday, July 18

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County-Kansas City, Kansas (UG) invites you to attend the upcoming public meetings for the Northeast Area Master Plan.

### Northeast Area Master Plan Community Meetings

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Meeting 1 – 12:00-1:30pm

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall  
Second Floor

600 North 7th Street Trafficway

Kansas City KS 66101

Meeting 2 – 6:00-7:30pm

Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall  
Second Floor

600 North 7th Street Trafficway

Kansas City KS 66101

We want your feedback on the Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure components of the Northeast Area Master Plan! Come see the recommendations for the plan and help us shape the final document. We will also be giving updates on the early action projects. The meetings will be an open house format, and you are welcome to come and go anytime during the scheduled meeting hours.

### For More Information

If you have questions or need further information about the Northeast Area Master Plan, please contact Zach Flanders, Unified Government Urban Planner, at [zflanders@wycokck.org](mailto:zflanders@wycokck.org) or 913-573-5759.



Add us on Facebook and email [liveableneighbor@wycokck.org](mailto:liveableneighbor@wycokck.org) to join our e-news!

## Shopping Tips to Reduce Food Waste



Every year, Americans are wasting approximately 133 billion pounds of food, and much of that is happening at home. Luckily, there are many great ways to reduce your impact on food waste, and one of the easiest is to shop smart and buy only what you know what you will eat. Here are some tips to get the best bang for your buck and reduce your food waste at the same time.

- **Plan your meals** – Buying a whole bunch of ingredients without a plan for how to use them is setting you up to throw away about half of what you just bought. But if you have an idea of what you want to cook for the week and make a list, you'll be more likely to buy only what you need, saving money and reducing waste at the same time. Win-win.
- **Take stock before you shop** – How many times have you bought more celery or milk without realizing you still had some at home? Buying more of what you already have wastes time and money, and at least some of that extra product usually goes to waste. *\*Exception:* if there's something on sale that you normally go through pretty quickly (think rice, canned vegetables, etc), stock up! Especially if it's nonperishable.
- **Never shop hungry** – If possible, try to have a snack or small meal before grocery shopping. You'll be less likely to make impulse purchases or deviate from your list. This tactic saves you money and prevents your eyes from being bigger than your stomach.
- **Don't be afraid of that ugly apple** – Just because that strawberry is a little lumpy or that carrot has a few extra legs doesn't mean that they aren't just as tasty and nutritious as their normal looking counterparts. In fact, these ugly fruits and

veggies have their own aisle in one French supermarket, and because they aren't your typical produce, prices are reduced, which is still a win for farmers who would just throw them away otherwise.

- **Shop smart** – It's easy to get overzealous about a favorite fruit or veggie and buy too much, so make sure you are buying only as much as you know you and your family will eat. Many people choose to buy smaller portions and go shopping more often. Whatever shopping method works best for you, try to be realistic about how much food you actually go through on a regular basis.
  - **Pay attention to "use by" dates but not too much** – Because these dates are not federally regulated or required on anything except baby formula, it is best to use them as a guide rather than a hard rule. Most producers use them as a quality mark and not a mark of food safety, so most things are still good to eat even after the date on the package. Your senses are a much better judge of whether something is still good to eat, so use your sight, smell, touch, and taste before deciding to throw something away.
  - **Put food away as soon as you get home** – Especially don't let perishable food sit out, as that can dramatically shorten its lifespan even after you put it in the fridge. Also try to put anything that needs to be used sooner rather than later at the front of the fridge where it's most visible so you use it first.
- Following these tips while shopping will not only reduce food waste in our community, but also help save you money. By buying only what you need and using common sense in the grocery store aisles, you won't waste your hard earned money by throwing away half of what you buy because you never got around to eating it.

## 2018 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days

The remaining schedule for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection days for Wyandotte County residents for 2018 includes July 21, August 18, September 15, and October 20. The site will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on those Saturdays. Wyandotte County residents need to take their household hazardous products to 2443 South 88<sup>th</sup> Street in Kansas City, Kansas. (South on 88<sup>th</sup> Street from K-32) or (East of I-435 using Woodend exit near Kaw River) When bringing items to the collection site please label or identify all items. Items accepted in-

clude automotive products, home improvement products, household items, as well as lawn and garden products. The HHW Days are not for business or nonprofit groups.

Automotive products accepted include auto batteries, brake fluid, carburetor cleaner, degreasers, gasoline & fuels, and used motor oil. In addition, residents can bring 10 car and/or pickup tires if the rims are removed from the tires. Home improvement products accepted include concrete cleaner, driveway sealer, furniture stripper, glue

with solvents, latex & oil based paints, paint thinner, putty, grout, calk & spackle, roofing tar, stain varnish & lacquer, turpentine, water-based glues, and wood preservatives. Household items include aerosol products, drain & oven cleaners, mothballs, nail polish remover, polishes with solvents, spot remover, and propane cylinders. Lawn and garden products include fertilizer with weed killer, herbicides, insecticides, pesticides, and rodent bait.

**For additional information call 913-573-8318 or 913-573-5400.**

## Proper Handling of Pet Waste

During a rainfall, water runs across rooftops, down driveways, streets and across parking lots and yards, picking up substances along the way. This stormwater “runoff” often contains materials such as pet waste. Runoff then washes down storm drains, eventually reaching local rivers and streams where it can pose significant risks to people and wildlife. Every time it rains, thousands of pounds of pet waste wash down storm drains into streams, rivers, and lakes.

A recent United States Geological Survey study of streams and creeks in the Kansas City region showed that bacteria associated with pet waste is the source of approximately 25% of the bacteria in samples collected from local waterways. When pet waste is disposed of improperly, water quality is not the only thing that suffers—your health may be at risk also. Adults working in their gardens, children playing outside and family pets are the most at risk for infection from some of the bacteria and parasites found in pet waste.

Many residents don’t realize how their everyday habits impact our region’s water quality. Even small amounts of pollution can add up to big problems when it comes from an area the size of

the Kansas City region. Leaving pet waste in yards and on streets can be hazardous for our neighborhoods and the environment. Remember: *if it’s on the ground, it’s in our water.*

### What can you do?

- Pickup pet waste from your yard. It is not a fertilizer.
- Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pickup and dispose of pet waste properly. When you dispose of pet waste in the trash, wrap it carefully to avoid spilling during collection.
- If you bury pet waste in your yard, bury it at least 12 inches deep and cover with at least eight inches of soil to let it decompose slowly. Bury the waste in several different locations and keep it away from vegetable gardens and water sources. Do not bury in clay soils.

Contact your local homeowners association about educating residents of picking up pet waste in their yards as well as when they walk their dogs in the subdivision.

**Source: Mid America Regional Council website on Water Quality**



Want to encourage nonvoters to vote? Research shows, it's all about personal contact. **Just Vote: Raise your voice!** uses small-group conversations facilitated by text to help young adults see themselves as people whose voice matters.

While the Just Vote project is based in Wyandotte County, anyone can use the platform anywhere in the metro. It's simple, free and available 24/7 in English and Spanish between now and July 15. Just text “KC Votes” to 89800, then follow the instructions.

Consensus and Livable Neighborhoods launched the Just Vote project in Wyandotte County, with funding from the Kansas Health Foundation, because fewer Dottes are registering and voting. In 2016, only 48 percent of people eligible to vote registered, and of those registered only 63 percent voted. That year, almost nine percent fewer residents voted than in 2014, despite the fact that the county’s population had grown.

The National Institute for Civil Discourse developed the text-based platform that is the basis for Just Vote. Designed specifically to appeal to young adults, it asks open-ended, nonpartisan questions, such as, “Talk about a time when you felt like your voice counted in your school, your community or your government.” When used during the 2016 presidential elec-

tions, it produced a 20 percent jump in voting among participants who initially said they didn’t plan to vote.

The Just Vote project will hold four events this summer, inviting young adults 18-35 for free food and conversation. Each event is sponsored by a Livable Neighborhoods Neighborhood Business and Revitalization Organization (NBR).

To register: <https://www.facebook.com/JustVoteKC/>.

The remaining date and location :

**July 12, Northeast.** 4-6 p.m., New Bethel Church Haven Center, 735 Walker Ave. Sponsored by Historic Northeast Midtown Association and the Community Health Council.



**Right-of-Way Mowing Changes**



The two most recent citizen surveys showed that overall street maintenance is at the top of the list for most residents in Kansas City, Kansas. Due to these results, the UG Public Works Department has made several operational changes to focus on the major priorities throughout the KCK community, such as curb replacement, making alleys functional again, and an improved pothole patching and street preservation program.

These types of operations require a real commitment and a disciplined approach at all levels and in order for the Engineering and Streets Divisions to right-size resources to tackle these initiatives, activities not within the core responsibilities such as right-of-way (ROW) mowing of private property has been eliminated. Residential homeowners have always been expected to maintain their ROW property so it is only fair to have the same expectation of property owners in other areas throughout the city.

With the support of the Board of Commissioners, the only ROW mowing by the street division that will continue into 2018 and beyond will be along publicly owned properties.

**Unified Government Offices Observe 4th of July**



**July Fourth Impacts Residential Trash & Recycling Services**



Deffenbaugh will be observing Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> as a holiday. Deffenbaugh will not be picking up residential trash or curbside recycling on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Kansas City, Kansas. Wednesday pickup will be done on Thursday. Thursday pickup will be done on Friday. Friday pickup will be done on Saturday. The holiday will not impact pickup of Monday and Tuesday service.



**Before Election Day: At an early voting Center**

If you prefer to cast your ballot in person, but still wish to do so before Election Day, you should stop into our office during the early voting period. We even offer evening and weekend hours to make voting more convenient for you. Even better, early voting in person is open to all registered voters and no application is required.

**Vote at one of our Early Voting Centers**

**Election Office: 850 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66101:**

July 31 through August 3  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, August 4 | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday, August 6 | 8 a.m. - 12 Noon

**KCKPD: 2100 Metropolitan Ave, Kansas City, KS 66106:**

August 1 through August 3  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, August 4 | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Eisenhower Rec Center: 2901 N 72nd Street, Kansas City, KS 66109:**

August 1 through August 3  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, August 4 | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

