

Livable Neighborhood News

April 2018



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- **Reminders**
Good Neighbor Trainings are the fourth Monday of the month at the NRC at 5:30PM!
- The next Livable Neighborhood meeting is April 26nd!



*Copies provided by the
Community Development
Block Grant*

Wyandotte County Ethnic Festival



The 13th Annual 2018 WYCO Ethnic Festival is Saturday, April 14, 2018 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the KCKCC Athletic Field House 7250 State Ave., KC. Kan. 66110. Travel the World for Free! At a global music, dance, and educational extravaganza! Free Admission!

WYCO Ethnic Festival is a community event to promote relationships and contact between people, and educate each other about our common humanity. We anticipate at least 1,000 attending the festival with at least 50 organizations, countries and ethnicities from Wyandotte County represented at booths and onstage entertainment. Clarence Small is our wonderful master of ceremonies. Last year we honored Eyyup Esen and Barbara Clark-Evans with the prestigious Legends of

Diversity award. Ethnic dance groups with beautiful choreography and costume include the Nartan Dancers, West of Marrakesh, St. Andrew Scottish Dancers, Sabor a Peru, Tikvah Dancers, S.V. Balutaler, Los Bailadores, Republic of China Dancers, and the ever popular Danny Hinds & Ayotunde Barbados Drumming and Dance.

Live performances include the internationally renowned Havartski Obicaj Croatian Orchestra; Allen Arias with his own flavor of Costa Rican guitar, cajon and voice; Roger Suggs, a nationally recognized hip-hop artist; Tez and Tam The St. Monica gospel music, Hmong Singers, and Deepa Realite Reggae Band.

The Creative Children's Corner often features multicultural educational themes. The area is coordinated by KCKCC's Intercultural Center Director, Barbara Clark-Evans, and Dr. Hira Nair, Coordinator of the KCKCC Education Program.

The food court offers delicious dishes from India, Peru, Malaysia, West African cuisine, Soul Food, Kenya, Mexico and Supreme Eatery. Filtered water and mint tea are available for free.

Everyone attending the festival receives a souvenir program with blank passport page at the back. These can be stamped at any culture booth. The first five to obtain 24 stamps or signatures should go to Karen Hernandez' Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. culture booth. Festival founder, Karen Hernandez will provide a wonderful festival prize.

We very much look forward to meeting new friends and welcome back those who enjoy the feeling of inclusivity that our festival provides.



Add us on Facebook and email liveableneighbor@wycokck.org to join our e-news!

2018 Kansas Burn Permit Process

Many residents think that it is local government's responsibility to maintain trees in the street right-of-ways. While this may be the case in some cities, in Kansas City, Kansas it is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and cut if necessary trees that are planted along the street right-of-way. One way residents can legally dispose of limbs is through open burning times.

Residents in Kansas City, Kansas are allowed to apply for a burn permit for the time period of the month of April 2018 and the time period of October 16, 2018 through November 15, 2018 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.

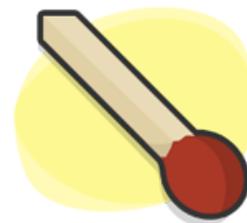
The owner of the property must apply for and sign the permit. A responsible party must be present at all times until the fire is completely extinguished. Residents shall maintain a copy of the burn permit on site and an adequate water supply and/or other comparable extinguishing resources while conducting 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, street, or sidewalk.

Each Burn Permit allows for one organic pile per

permit, one permit per residential property. All organic materials burned within the city limits of Kansas City, Kansas are limited to organic materials (yard waste generated such as tree limbs, leaves, weeds, brush, and grass) 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 rubbish, wire insulation, tires, rubber products, plastic, treated lumber, 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-sustained over 15mph, low humidity) may make open burning too dangerous. Suspension of open burning will be posted on the Unified Government's website and on the KCKFD web and Facebook pages. 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.



get a **burning permit**

Going Green With Lawn Care

With 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 storm water 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 alternatives.
- **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 rainfall.

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



Wyandotte County Recycling & Yard Waste Center

On April 5, 2018 the Wyandotte County Yard Waste Center will be open 4 days per week. Hours of operation for the Center are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday each week from April through November. From December through March hours each week will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The Center will be closed on holidays. The Wyandotte County Recycling & Yard Waste Drop Off Center is located at 3241 Park Drive, Kansas City, Kansas.

Clear, brown, and colored glass is accepted at the Center. The glass does not have to be separated by color and will be placed in the same container. In addition, other recyclables do not need to be separated and will be placed in one container. Other recyclable items accepted include newspapers, magazines, mixed office paper, cardboard, paperboard, food & beverage cans and plastics. Please remove recyclables from plastic bags before placing them into recycling containers. Please break down cardboard boxes.

But there are some plastic items that will not be accepted: No plastic bags. No plastic toys. No motor oil or other auto product container. No herbicide or pesticide containers. No Styrofoam materials such as peanuts, packaging blocks/sheets or cups. No plastic cereal box or cake box liner bags. No plastic 6-pack holders. No plastic pipe, PVC pipe. No plastic building materials or plastic sheet materials.

Wyandotte County residents can take grass clippings, garden trimmings, leaves and branches to the Recycling & Yard Waste Drop Off Center. The Center 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 yard waste material will not be accepted.

For more information about the Recycling & Yard Waste Center, during hours of operation you can call 913-371-2034. During other hours please call 913-573-8318 or 913-573-5400.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days

The schedule for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection days for Wyandotte County residents has been set for 2018. The site will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays: April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, and October 20.

Wyandotte County residents need to take their household hazardous products to 2443 South 88th Street in Kansas City, Kansas. (South on 88th Street from K-32) or (East of I-435 using Woodend exit near Kaw River) The HHW Days are not for business or nonprofit groups.

When bringing items to the collection site please label or identify all items. Items accepted include automotive products, home improvement products, household items, as well as lawn and garden products.

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, caulk & 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.

